

Chilton Village Neighbourhood Development Plan

2020 - 2031 Consultation Statement



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Contents

1.	Development of the Plan	
1.1	Background	3
1.2	Early consultations and establishment of a Steering Group	3
1.3	Vision and objectives	4
1.4	Proposed Plan area	4
1.5	Early development of the Plan	4
1.6	Open green spaces survey	5
1.7	Business survey	5
1.8	Village facilities and infrastructure survey	5
1.9	Village-wide survey	5
1.10	Summary and data utilisation	6
1.11	Draft Plan	6
2.	Pre-Submission Consultation	
2.1	Consultation approach	7
2.2	Consultation feedback	8
2.2.1	Settlement boundary	8
2.2.2	Local Green Spaces	9
Table 1	Overview of Reg 14 Comments and Responses proforma	10
3.	Appendices	
Appendix A	Community Engagement Register	17
Appendix B	List of statutory bodies and groups consulted	22
Appendix C	Pre-submission consultation publicity documents	24
Appendix D	Responses received from Statutory Consultees	29
	VWHDC and OCC	

1 DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN

1.1 Background

At a meeting on 2 September 2015, Chilton Parish Council considered an outline of the Neighbourhood Planning process, alongside alternative approaches to facilitate planning applications and future development within the village. This led to a recommendation to proceed with a process to establish a Chilton Neighbourhood Plan. Following a presentation by VWHDC on Neighbourhood Planning on 6 April 2016, the decision to proceed with a Plan was confirmed by the Parish Council.

From the outset, the Parish Council recognised the need to consult and gather views as widely as possible. In order to encourage community involvement throughout the village, a range of means was used to publicise the proposed and ongoing development of the Plan, including:

- Articles and notices in the Chilton Chronicle, the regular Parish Council newsletter which is hand-delivered to every home and most business premises;
- Flyers hand-delivered to every home and most business premises;
- Open public meetings held both in the Village Hall, in the older part of the village, and in the Community Room, in the newer part of the village.
COVID restrictions during 2020 proscribed indoor meetings. Public meetings during that time were instead held outdoors in the shelter of gazebos and where social distancing could be followed;
- Information regularly provided on the Parish Council website, including advance notification of Steering Group meetings and contact details for further information;
- Information posters placed on the village notice boards;
- A village-wide survey, to be completed either online or on paper;
- Stalls at Chilton monthly charity market;
- Notices on each of the three village Facebook groups: Chilton Village, Chilton Field, and Chilton Village Community;
- Various email correspondence

A full Community Engagement Register is included at Appendix A.

1.2 Early consultations and the establishment of a Steering Group

An article published in the Chilton Chronicle No 426 and a notice on the Parish Council website gave an introduction to Neighbourhood Plans and invited all Chilton residents to attend an open public meeting on 26 June 2016. Those attending the meeting were asked to register their interest and/or to volunteer to become involved in the development of a Plan.

Those who had expressed an interest in helping to develop a Plan were invited to form a Steering Group which was also to include Parish Councillors. The Steering Group comprised around thirteen regular meeting attendees; it included residents from both the older and newer parts of the village, three of whom were Parish Councillors. The Parish Council delegated authority to the Steering Group to make day-to-day decisions on the development of the Plan. Regular updates were given by the Chair of the Steering Committee at Parish Council meetings. As a qualifying body, the Parish Council itself approved the publication of the Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan on 20 June 2020 and the Submission version of the Plan on 13 January 2021.

Once the Steering Group was established, further consultations and surveys were conducted as summarised below and detailed in the Community Engagement Register.

The Steering Group met regularly, approximately every six weeks, throughout the process, with a pause of about three months during the COVID pandemic. All meeting agendas and minutes have been available to all via the Parish Council website.

1.3 Vision and objectives

Launch date: 16 December 2016

Objectives: To develop a vision and objectives for the Plan which would meet the requirements of Chilton residents and businesses.

Method: Draft vision and objectives were emailed to those who had previously expressed interest in neighbourhood plans for their review. The draft vision and objectives were then published in an article in the Chilton Chronicle No. 432, together with an invitation to a further public meeting on 10 January 2017 at which there was a presentation and open discussion. Attendee feedback was sought via consultation forms. A stall at the Chilton Charity Market on 10 February 2017 similarly presented the vision and objectives and invited feedback via consultation forms. Notices were placed on the Parish Council website and on the Chilton Facebook groups.

Outcome: Comments and responses received identified general support for both the vision and objectives with minor specific wording changes and some reordering to the list of objectives. At the first Steering Group meeting on 13 March 2017, the members discussed and modified the vision and objectives to reflect the responses to the consultation, and agreed a final, working version.

1.4 Proposed Plan area

Launch date: 24 June 2016

Objective: To consult with residents and reach agreement with VWHDC on the area to be covered by the Plan including, specifically, in relation to Severn Road and the WW II memorial.

Method: Steering Group meetings, Parish Council meeting, emails to all residents of Severn Road, meetings and email correspondence with VWHDC officials, submission of proposed Plan area to VWHDC, VWHDC website and Chilton village noticeboards.

Outcome: Despite overwhelming support from Severn Road residents to be included in the Plan area, there were implications resulting from the location of this area in the Harwell Strategic Enterprise Zone and Harwell Strategic Employment Zone. Although the Steering Group proposed that the Plan area should include Severn Road, following due process notification was received from VWHDC on 27 November 2017 that the formal designation of the Plan area would exclude Severn Road and the WW II memorial. Accordingly, the Plan area was revised to exclude Severn Road and WW II memorial.

1.5 Early development of the Plan

Launch date: 21 March 2018

Objective: To develop knowledge and understanding within the Steering Group as to what should be covered by the Plan, and to gain as much input from Chilton residents as possible so as to ensure that the Plan addressed the key areas of interest and concerns.

Method: Steering Group meetings, open Parish Council meeting, display stand and Q&A session for those attending royal wedding celebrations on Crafts End green and other village locations.

Outcome Having established a reasonable understanding of various options for inclusion in the Plan, the Steering Group decided to undertake a full and detailed survey of all Chilton residents.

1.6 Open green space survey

Launch date: May 2017

Objective: To determine how the community would wish to see the main green spaces within and around the village maintained and/or protected where possible.

Method: Initially, informal soundings and discussions with residents which led to the development of specific green space -related questions for inclusion in the village survey. Following on from the village survey, the Steering Group conducted a green spaces infrastructure audit to identify which areas in Chilton should be designated as Local Green Spaces.

Outcome The methodology identified the areas of open/green space that were important to the community and needed to be protected. An update on this work was provided in Chilton Chronicle No. 454 with contact details given for any questions.

1.7 Business needs survey

Launch date: Spring 2018

Objective: To determine whether there were any specific/immediate 'land use' issues that should be pursued when formulating Policies for inclusion in the Plan.

Method: Informal soundings and discussions with businesses based and/or with land/premises within the Plan designated area which, in turn, helped to identify specific business-related questions for inclusion in the village-wide survey.

Outcome: Although no specific business-related issues in connection to the development of the Plan were raised as a result of this exercise, it supported the Plan's objective to promote sustainable enterprise.

1.8 Village facilities and infrastructure survey

Launch date: Spring 2018

Objective: To determine needs and/or aspirations of Chilton residents and other users of village facilities, particularly with regards to local amenities.

Method: Informal soundings and discussions with village residents, followed by specific questions in the village-wide survey.

Outcome Helped identify specific areas of interest in relation to village amenities and public transport. The responses received were used to help develop associated policies as they emerged.

1.9 Village-wide survey

Launch date: 14 August 2018

Objective: To conduct a full housing needs and opinion survey of all Chilton residents. The survey should be accessible to all with the option to complete it either online or in hard copy.

Method: The survey was launched via announcements on all three Chilton Facebook groups; notifications in the Chilton Chronicle and the Chilton Broadsheet; village noticeboards, and the Parish Council website. It was issued in printed version and hand-delivered to all Chilton homes, and was also available online via the survey providers website. Copies of the survey were also made available in the church and in the Rose and Crown. Open village meetings to advertise and discuss the survey were also held at the village hall and community rooms on successive weekends. Meetings were advertised to all within the survey itself and via the three Chilton Facebook groups, the Chilton Chronicle, the Chilton Broadsheet and village noticeboards. At the meetings, maps and other literature were presented to attendees, and members of the Steering Group were on hand to discuss the survey and development of the Plan.

Outcome: The response to the survey was sufficiently comprehensive (203 completed survey questionnaires representing over a quarter of households) to give good confidence that Policies developed for inclusion in the Plan and based on those responses would accurately reflect people's aspirations and concerns. An update with initial observations arising from the completed survey was given in the Chilton Chronicle No. 452, together with an invitation to make any further comments, if required.

The findings of the survey were also assessed by the Steering Group as to underpin the vision and objectives of the Plan.

Key issues arising from the village-wide survey are addressed in the Summary and Data Utilisation section below.

1.10 Summary and data utilisation

The feedback from village residents and businesses, including that from open meetings, the comprehensive village-wide survey, green spaces infrastructure audit and other consultations, highlighted a range of issues to be addressed within the Plan, including:

- The need to protect Chilton's rural nature, as appropriate to its location withing the North Wessex Downs AONB;
- To protect green spaces within the Plan area for recreational use;
- Consistent with the VWHDC Local Plan, to examine where new development could be sited;
- To set out the preferred styles of new development;
- To maintain and improve village amenities and recreational facilities for all Chilton residents;
- To encourage sustainable enterprise consistent with the character of Chilton as a small primarily residential rural village.

The emerging survey results was presented to and discussed by the Parish Council at their meetings on 5 September, 3 October, and 7 November 2018. It was agreed that these results should be used as the foundation for developing the first draft of the Plan and the associated Policies.

1.11 Draft Plan

Draft texts were initially developed by individual Steering Group members and then reviewed at Steering Group meetings. Edits to the initial drafts were made as necessary to ensure consensus

within the Steering Group as a whole. The completed draft Plan was considered and accepted by the Parish Council on at a meeting on 20 June 2020.

2. PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATION (REGULATION 14)

2.1 Consultation approach

A comprehensive advertising campaign was held to encourage feedback on the draft Plan from all interested parties. The campaign included printed flyers delivered to all households, roadside banners placed at the entrances to both parts of the village, the draft Plan and appendices available for review on the Parish Council website, open ‘have your say’ meetings held outdoors (in compliance with COVID-restrictions) in both parts of the village, and regular posts and reminders on the three village Facebook groups.

The consultation period started on 7 September 2020 and finished on 26 October 2020, thereby giving all those that live, work or carry out business in the designated plan area seven weeks in which to express their views.

The objectives of the pre-submission consultation was to present the draft Plan and Policies to all Chilton residents and interested parties and address immediate queries, and to use the feedback received to develop final versions for formal submission to VWHDC.

The consultation comprised two key elements:

- Consulting those who live, work or carry out businesses in the designated area
- Consulting the ‘statutory bodies’ referred to in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (the Statutory Consultees), together with other bodies and social groups both within and beyond the designated area of the Plan

In support of the consultation, the Steering Group:

- Notified Chilton residents of the Plan and the open ‘have your say’ meetings via flyers hand delivered to all homes, including details of the meetings, the process including key dates, how to view the Plan documents and to respond, and a link to a feedback form;
- Made electronic copies of the draft Plan and related documents available via the Neighbourhood Plan dedicated section of the Parish Council website;
- Made hard copies available at the two open ‘have your say’ meetings, and from the Steering Group on request either by telephone or via dedicated email address;
- Accepted informal feedback, whether verbal or written, provided the individual was known to reside, work or conduct business within the Plan area

In parallel with the village-wide consultation, all statutory bodies with a potential interest in the Plan were identified and invited via email to submit their comments on the draft Plan.

Appendix B provides a list of the statutory bodies asked to comment on the Plan comprising Local Government departments and infrastructure providers, together with other parties and groups that the Plan could impact upon such as local councillors, neighbouring parishes and representative groups. Those bodies that responded are highlighted in the appendix in bold text.

The following information is provided to demonstrate the methodology used to develop this Consultation Statement:

- Copies of the consultation publicity approach letters/emails and flyers are included at Appendix C
- All feedback received both from the village consultations and the statutory bodies is summarised in the table at Table 1 (Reg 14 Comments and Responses proforma), together with what if any remedial action was taken as a result.

2.2 Consultation feedback

Chilton is a small village comprising some 670 dwellings and hence the expectation was that, despite considerable publicity both prior to and during the consultation period, the feedback would be relatively modest in number terms and this proved to be the case. Perhaps for similar reasons, the feedback from the statutory bodies was also relatively modest.

The table below provides an overview of the responses received:

- Residents: 13
- Local businesses: 1
- Landowners and/or their agents: 2
- Local organisations: 2
- Statutory bodies/Interested Groups 7

It will be seen from Table 1 (Reg 14 Comments and Responses proforma) that for the most-part the feedback from the consultation exercise was concentrated on minor textural issues in the Plan documents, and where necessary have all been amended. Other feedback, including from the statutory bodies, while generally restricted to generic observations nevertheless resulted in the recommendation by the Steering Group of a number of relatively modest changes to the Plan and associated documents.

The full responses received from VWHDC and OCC are set out in Appendix D.

Two recommendations from VWHDC were received which the Steering Group, on consideration, elected not to implement are as set out below:

2.2.1 Settlement boundary, Comment 12 of VWHDC Reg 14 comments

VWHDC comment: Having recognised there are benefits and consequences to drawing a development boundary, VWHDC states they can be inflexible and unhelpful. The boundary may add pressure to sites that currently serve an important function such as for amenity and public open space.

Steering Group response: The development boundary was proposed in response to feedback from Chilton residents, and in accordance with the strong views expressed that gardens and other infill within the village should be preferred sites for any new development. The boundary was developed in accordance with principles pre-agreed by the Steering Group. A comprehensive review of potential local green spaces has highlighted a number that should be protected by means of allocation as Local Green Spaces, which gives confidence that any pressure emanating from the existence of the development boundary to develop these important public open spaces can be

resisted. Furthermore, the nature of the village with two distinct residential areas either side of the A34 with an open countryside corridor in between makes defining the boundaries of built-up areas more important if an unambiguous interpretation of the agreed principles is to be achieved. In view of these considerations and to reflect the large majority view expressed by the Community, the Steering Group agreed unanimously that there should be no change to the Plan.

2.2.2 Local green spaces, Comment 27 of VWHDC Reg 14 comments

VWHDC comment: The front garden of Chalk Hill on Main Street is a fairly important open space within the village centre and reinforces the rural character of the street. Unspoilt paddocks permeating the village core are important and this area could be considered as a Local Green Space,

Steering Group response: Whilst the Steering Group agreed the area is a fairly important open space within the village, in further discussion with VWHDC and noting the area was part of a private residence it was established that there was insufficient evidence to support the designation of Chalk Hill as a Local Green Space. The Steering Group agreed unanimously that there should be no change to the Plan.

Table 1: Reg 14 Comments and Responses proforma

Ref	Consultee/ Respondent	Status	Section	Comments	Steering Group response/action taken
1 - 4				Not used	
5	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 3	Comment 37: Recommendation of change to text on use of graveyard in Green Spaces	Text amended as per VWHDC comment 37
6	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 3	Comment 38: Recommendation of change to text reference to NPPF	Text on page 2 changed from paragraph 77 to paragraph 99, in line with plan S7a
7	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Whole plan	Comment 1: Change wording in Plan to Local Green Spaces where word Local omitted to be consistent with NPPF designation	Text amended per VWHDC comment 1
8		n/a	S6b & S7a	Comment 1: When reviewing ref 7 above two references to green spaces were not appropriate to change to Local Green Space	Changed the reference in the plan from “green space” to “space”, where it was not appropriate to be “Local Green Space”
9	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Whole App 3	Comment 1: Change wording in Appendix 3 to Local Green Spaces where word Local omitted to be consistent with NPPF designation	Text amended per VWHDC comment 1
10		n/a	App 3	Comment1: When reviewing ref 9 above a number of references to green spaces were not appropriate to change to Local Green Space	Changed the reference in Appendix 3 from “green space” to “open space”, where it was not appropriate to be “Local Green Space”.
11	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Exec Summary	Comment 3: No reference to Objective 9 in the Executive Summary reference to policy development	Reference included as per VWHDC comment 3
12	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	1a	Comment 4: Remove reference to VWHDC in statement on examiner	VWHDC removed from text
13	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	3e	Comment 13: Policies P1 & P2, suggest remove the word “resulting” from both policy introduction paragraphs	Word “resulting” removed in 2 places on introduction to policy paragraphs
14	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S7	Comment 25: Suggested removal of detail relating to play area’s at Village Hall and Community room as a duplication from Community Facilities Section	Removed the 2 paragraphs as recommended
15	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S9 Exec Summary	Comment 2: Recommendation to include a separate section for community issues/actions	Inserted new section 9 and references in the plan objectives table within the Vision Statement in the Executive summary. Numbering made consistent with rest of plan. Executive Summary aligned with style and text

16		n/a	Exec Summary	Comment 2: Following from 15, the recommendations for Community Issues in the Executive Summary and S9 did not align	Recommendations made the same in both Executive Summary and S9
17	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S2	Comment 6: Map not clearly showing location of Chilton	Replaced figure 2.1 with revised map
18	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S3d	Comment 7: Unclear meaning of statement about the future of the settlement boundary	Statement changed to reflect the recommendation of VWHDC
19	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S3e	Comment 8: Principle 1 recommendation to add wording	Additional wording added as recommended
20	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S3e	Comment 10: Principle 8, unclear meaning of statement about the inclusion of granted planning permissions outside the settlement boundary	Additional wording added as recommended
21	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S3e	Comment 11: Figure 3.7 increase size of map for clarity	New map included in landscape orientation and without employment zones
22	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S4.1	Comment 9: Unclear as to the identification of location of employment sites	New map included showing the location of employment sites
23	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S3e Exec Sum	Comment 14: Policy needs to be in line with VWHDC Local Plan 2031 Policy CP4	Policy revised to align as requested
24	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S4b Exec Sum	Comment 16: Recommendation to clarify the policy meaning	Policy enhanced as required
25	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S7a	Comment 24: Recommendation to add additional words to clarify why the areas are not to be designated Local Green Spaces	Wording amended to clarify why these 2 areas are not included as Local Green Spaces
26	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S7b	Comment 27: Clarification that land owners have been consulted on designating areas of land as local green spaces	a. Opening sentence changed to confirm land owners consulted and responses summarised in the Consultation Statement b. 3(a) Clarification of ownership of Historic Village Green
27	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S7 Exec Sum	Comment 27: Reference to Policy 8 should be P8	Both places in plan corrected
28	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S10	Comment 28: Definition of affordable housing needs amending in glossary	Definition corrected
29		n/a	App 1	Appendix 1 amendments	Changed footer to refer to S1.4
30	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1	Comment 32: Recommend that character area be mapped into coloured zones	Map included after S6.1
31	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1 1.1	Comment 15: Further Clarity on "in keeping" with the downland character of the AONB	Reference to AONB management plan and additional description included in S1.1 of appendix 1

					Reference made in Plan S3 Built environment 3e Settlement boundary principles with policy P2
32	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1 1.2	Comment 33: Change reference to high buildings	Wording changed as suggested
33	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1 1.2	Comment 29: Suggestion to look at benefits of plot sizes/character and boundary treatments	Additional paragraph included
34	ID21 ID24	VWHDC Stat Cons Resident	App 1 1.4	Comment 34: Make reference to a listing of non-designated heritage assets to be included in S3 pf plan	References made to this listing in the appendix
35	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1 2.2	Comment 35: Some photographs show buildings 2.5 storey in height with attic accommodation, text says 1.5 storey	Amended text in appendix to clarify
36	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1 2.3	Comment 36: More detail required for historic rural pre 20 th century buildings	Amended text in line with VWHDC suggestions for each style of property
37	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1 5.2	Comment 31: Comment from conservation team regarding more flexibility in approach	Amended text in line with VWHDC suggestions for replacement buildings
38		n/a	n/a	Plan cover (photos) refers to Public Consultation and dated September	Changed to Post S14 Consultation and dated December
39		n/a	App 3	In Appendix 3 "evidence" line sometimes not completed	Changed to include "No additional evidence presented" where appropriate.
40		n/a	App 3	Some references to page numbers in the main document in Appendix 3. Note, page numbers in main document change with additional content or amendments	Page number references removed (section numbers remain)
41	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S5		Inserted new first paragraph
42	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S5a		Inserted revised S5a wording
43	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S5b	Comment 18: Suggestions for rewording by Ecology Team	Inserted revised S5b wording & table
44	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons OCC Stat Cons	Policy P4	Comment 19: Suggestions for rewording to Policy P4 Remove location of any badger setts.	Revised words; references to map/table removed. Policy copied to Executive Summary
45	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S5c Fig 5.2	Comment 20 & 21: References to making figure 5.2 (map) clearer/more specific to show areas of screening more clearly	Revised map inserted into plan
46	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Policy P6	Comment 22: Take out reference to local plan from policy and place in text	Policy revised as advised Policy Copied to Executive Summary

47	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Policy P2	Comment 15: Need to refer to the evidence of “downland character”	Additional reference to AONB Management plan Chapter 2
48	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Policy P3	Comment 17: Delete final paragraph of policy P3, to be in line with Local Plan 2031, core policy 29	Paragraph deleted as recommended
49	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	App 1	Comment 30: Query concerning Chalkstone/Clunch building material. Is this evident within the village	There is no known material of this type within the village - any reference in Appendix 1 removed
50	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	S3e	Comment 12: Recommendation of removal of development boundary from the plan	Noted, no change to plan. Reasons outlined in Consultation Statement 2.2.1
51		Steering Group	S3	Enhancement of detail re listed buildings	Additional words added to paragraph before Table 3.1 Additional words in paragraph after Fig 3.3 Additional paragraph after Fig 3.4 Additional paragraph after Fig 3.8
52	ID15	OCC Stat Cons VWHDC Stat Cons	S3	Respondent ID 15, Lead Archaeologist, Recommendation to include a policy on historic and heritage assets Comment 5: Need to split policy to reflect heritage nature of the village	New “Policy P3 – The Historic Environment” added into the document and the Executive Summary Policy numbers adjusted accordingly Plan Objectives summary table in Executive Summary updated
53		VWHDC Stat Cons	S6g P7	Comment 23: Relates to Community assets, recommendation to move detail from policy to text, and to amend policy as adequately addressed within Local Plan 2031 DM Policy 9	Amended S6g to include references to Local Plan. Policy P7 simplified as per VWHDC recommendation. Executive Summary Policy P7 changed
54		n/a	S3	n/a	Amended listed buildings chart to include summary descriptions and inserted non designated heritage asset buildings listing with summary description. Table numbers adjusted to reflect insertion
55		n/a	App 1 S1.4	n/a	Inserted full tables of Listed Buildings and Non-Designated Heritage Asset Buildings into Appendix 1 with references changed in the main plan
56		n/a	App 3	n/a	Spelling of road named Limetrees corrected throughout appendix 3 (from Lime Trees)
57		VWHDC Stat Cons	S7b	Comment 26: Need to remove impression of the area being an extensive tract of land and clarify that it is local in nature	Wording revised to show compliance to NPPF criteria
58	ID1	Resident	7	Should the recreation grounds by the church and at Chilton Fields be designated as Local Green Spaces?	It is considered that the protection already given to these areas of land (which is owned by the Parish Council) is adequate to ensure their long-term use as public amenity areas.

59	ID2	Business	8b	Suggest improved non-vehicular route from the village to the service station.	This has been addressed as a Community Action at Section 9d.
60	ID3		4b	(1) Suggest the visual and environmental impact of planning proposals is considered as well as impact of noise, odour and increased traffic. (2) It is unclear whether there are any areas in which planning proposals for Sustainable Business Development would be unacceptable.	(1) It is considered that an explanation/definition of visual impact would be subjective, and environmental impacts are already covered. No changes made. (2) There are no such areas. Any proposal would be judged in terms of compliance with P3 and VWHDC local plan policies.
61	ID5	Resident	5c	Supportive of Plan as a whole. Propose anti-noise surface on A34 should be renewed.	Maintenance of A34 is out of scope of the Plan. The Steering Group is however in agreement and will forward these comments to the County Councillor via the Parish Council.
62	ID5	Resident	8f	The importance of maintaining excellent broadband and other IT developments should be made more prominent.	The text already says that the provision of high-speed broadband is 'an essential requirement for the sustainability in rural areas, day-to-day living, promotion of community wellbeing and recreational activities'. The broadband speeds in the village are currently adequate and there is no reason to believe they will not be maintained or improved. No further action required. Acknowledge older part of village less well served.
63	ID6	Resident	6c	Request for a safe cycle space in the village.	There are section 6 monies already allocated for improvements to the existing facilities. Any improvements will be managed by a Parish Council working party and no doubt subject to public consultation prior to defining the design. This suggestion will be forwarded to the Parish Council for due consideration as part of any such future project.
64	ID7	Resident	Plan	The whole document looks excellent and we thank the committee for their work.	Thank you for the support. No action required.
65	ID7	Resident	ES	The Executive Summary states "The A34 trunk road bisects three settlement areas" but the locations of these settlement areas is not immediately clear.	The Executive Summary is necessarily abbreviated. Full discussion is included in Section 3e. No change required.
66	ID8	Resident	6	Chilton needs a village shop; pedestrian access to the service station is via a track across a field.	Improvement to the service station path has been addressed as a Community Action at Section 9d.
67	ID9	Resident	Plan	The Plan seems most thorough and informative. We support it, with thanks to those who put it together.	Thank you for the support. No action required.

68	ID10	Business/ Land Owner	7b	The respondent does not accept the proposal to designate the area of land opposite Chilton Primary School as a Local Green Space.	A separate meeting with the respondent has taken place, in order to gain an appreciation of the other's views. The Steering Group discussed and agreed to leave this proposed Local Green Space in the Plan, and to further clarify the case against PPF criteria at Section 7b.
69	ID11	National Grid Stat Cons	1d	Confirmation that National Grid has no assets in the Neighbourhood Plan Area	No action required.
70	ID12	EA Stat Cons	Plan	General guidance given which indicates no need to contact the Environment Agency again.	No action required.
71	ID14	Resident	6c	A request for practice football goals at Chilton Field	As per respondent ID6. There are section 6 monies already allocated for improvements to the existing facilities. Any improvements will be managed by a Parish Council working party and no doubt subject to public consultation prior to defining the design. This suggestion will be forwarded to the Parish Council for due consideration as part of any such future project
72	ID15	OCC Stat Cons	8a	Improvements to walking and cycling routes and connections between the two could be addressed should the money be available.	Addressed as a Community Action at Section 9d.
73	ID15	OCC Stat Cons	Plan	Support for a village shop is noted.	Policy P4 of the Plan supports further retail outlets in the Garden Centre. Improvements to the pedestrian path to the service station is addressed as a Community Action at Section 9d.
74	ID16	Historic England Stat Cons	Plan	Consultee has no wish to comment.	No action required.
75	ID17	Thames Water Stat Cons	Plan	Consultee has no comments specific to Chilton.	No action required.
76	ID18	Resident	Plan	Very supportive of Plan.	Thank you for the support. No action required.
77	ID19	Community Group	Plan	Very supportive of Plan.	Thank you for the support. No action required.
78	ID20	Community Group	Plan	Very supportive of Plan.	Thank you for the support. No action required.

79	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	Page 25	Having recognised there are benefits and consequences to drawing a development boundary, they can be inflexible and unhelpful.	No action taken. Please see Consultation Statement Section 2.2.1
80	ID21	VWHDC Stat Cons	P8	A front garden on Main Street could be considered a Local Green Space.	No action taken. Please see Consultation Statement Section 2.2.2
81	ID22	Resident	Plan	Fully support the Plan.	Thank you for the support. No action required.
82	ID23	Resident	Plan	Fully support the Plan.	Thank you for the support. No action required.
83	ID24	Natural England Stat Cons	5 & Pol P4	Consultee provided general advice and suggested reviewing the Plan against the plan developed by another village.	The suggested plan was not considered appropriate to Chilton. No further action taken.
84	ID25	Land Owner	3e	The Steering Group is requested to consider including specific open areas of land within the settlement boundary.	It was the view of the Steering Group that extending the settlement boundary in this way would be contrary to the VWHDC Local Plan Parts 1 and 2 as well as to the vision and objectives for the Plan. Chilton is wholly within the North Wessex Downs AONB and is also defined as a 'smaller village' within the VWHDC Local Plan. Both these points place severe limitations of allowable development, and consistent with these limitations the Neighbourhood Plan is not proposing any new housing development sites.
85	ID26	Resident	Plan	In agreement with the Plan and consider it should be approved.	Thank you for the support. No action required.

Stat Cons = Statutory Consultee

Appendix A - Community Engagement Register

DATE	ENGAGEMENT	GROUPS INVOLVED	PURPOSE/OUTCOME
2 Sep 15	Chilton Parish Council meeting	Chilton Parish Council	Outline of Neighbourhood Planning process and alternatives to arrive at PC recommendation to proceed
6 Apr 16	Chilton Parish Council with VWHDC	Chilton Parish Council VWHDC (Ben Davis, Charlotte Colver, Emma Wright)	Presentation by VWHDC on Neighbourhood Planning. Decision to proceed
June 2016	Article in Chilton Chronicle No.426. Notice on Chilton Parish Council website	All Chilton residents	Introduction to Neighbourhood Plans and invitation to public meeting
21 Jun 16	Open Public Meeting, Chilton Village Hall	All Chilton residents	Introduction to Neighbourhood planning. Invitation to register interest and/or volunteers
16 Dec 16	email	Those who previously expressed interest in neighbourhood plan	Publish draft vision and objectives for comment. Publish Invitation to public meeting
Jan 2017	Article in Chilton Chronicle No. 432 with draft vision and draft objectives. Notice on Chilton Parish Council website and Chilton community Facebook pages	All Chilton residents	Publish draft vision and objectives for comment. Publish Invitation to public meeting
10 Jan 17	Open Public Meeting, Chilton Village Hall	All Chilton residents	Presentation and open discussion of draft vision and objectives. Distribution and completion of consultation forms
2 Feb 17	email	Those who previously expressed interest in neighbourhood plan	Invitation to form Steering Group. Presentation of modified vision and objectives. Invitation to steering group meeting.
10 Feb 17	Stall at Chilton Charity Market	Attendees at Chilton Market	Presentation and open discussion of draft vision and objectives. Distribution and completion of consultation forms
13 Mar 17	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Those who expressed interest in volunteering	Confirmation of willingness to stand as steering group members. Discussion of feedback and agreement of modified vision and objectives. Discussion of options for neighbourhood plan area
17 Mar 17	Meeting with VWHDC Officials	Stephen Druce, Ben Davis, Will Sparling	Discussion on proposal for Neighbourhood Plan Area
30 Mar 17	email	Contact for Severn Road residents	Request for response from Severn Road residents whether they wish to be included in Neighbourhood Plan designated area.
5 Apr 17	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group VWHDC: Ben Davis, Will Sparling	Discussion on proposal for Neighbourhood Plan Area – Implication of Harwell Strategic Enterprise Zone and Harwell Strategic Employment Zone
24 Apr 17	email	Contact for Severn Road residents	Overwhelming support from Severn Road residents to be included in Neighbourhood Plan designated area: 9 replies from 12 houses; 8 in favour; 1 neither in favour or against

9 May 17	email	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Terms of Reference, proposed designated area and supporting statement submitted for approval by Steering Group
14 Jun 17	Chilton Parish Council meeting	Chilton Parish Council	Parish Council approval of proposed designated area, supporting statement and Terms of Reference
20 Jun 17	email	Planning Policy, VWHDC	Formal submission of proposed Chilton Village Neighbourhood Plan area
03 Jul 17	VWHDC Website and Parish Notice Boards	General public	Formal publicity period on proposed neighbourhood plan designated area. 3 July 2017 to 14 August 2017
15 Sep 17	email	Planning Policy, VWHDC	Invitation received to comment on draft VWHDC response to proposed designated area. VWHDC wish to exclude Severn Road and the World War II memorial
15 Sep 17	email	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Invitation to comment on draft VWHDC response to proposed designated area.
29 Sep 17	email	Planning Policy, VWHDC	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group provides response to VWHDC revised plan area excluding Severn Road and WW II memorial
27 Nov 17	email	VWHDC	Email notification received from VWHDC included formal designation of plan area, i.e. excludes Severn Road and WW II memorial
21 Mar 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Discussion on outline plan proposals and topic leads. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
11 Apr 18	Chilton Parish Council Annual meeting	Open Parish Meeting	Outline structure of Plan agreed
2 May 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Presentation of draft action plans. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
19 May 18	Village Green	Crafts End and other villagers	Display stand and Q&A on Neighbourhood Plan for those attending royal wedding celebration
13 Jun 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Consideration of development boundary principles and of questions for village-wide survey. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
2 Aug 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group VWHDC: Sam Townley, Ben Davis	Finalisation and approval of survey; village events and other means to publicise survey. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
14 Aug 18	Entries to three Chilton Facebook groups	All Chilton residents	Notification that a village survey is planned and will be available on line and in hard copy
Aug 2018	Chilton Chronicle	All Chilton residents	Notification that a village survey is planned and will be available on line and in hard copy, and that a village meeting is to be held in the Village Hall on 29 Sept.
Aug 2018	Chilton Broadsheet	All Chilton Residents	Slip inserted to inform all that a second meeting is to be held on 3 October in the Community Room
W/c 10 Sep 18	Survey issued in printed version delivered to all Chilton homes and online version available via SurveyMonkey	All Chilton Residents	To gauge views of all residents in relation to the Plan.

W/c 10 Sep 18	Parish Noticeboards	All Chilton Residents	Notices to raise awareness of the survey and upcoming meetings
W/c 10 Sep 18	Entries to three Chilton Facebook groups	All Chilton Residents	To raise awareness of the survey and upcoming meetings
W/c 10 Sep 18	Parish Council website	All Chilton Residents	News item to raise awareness of the survey and upcoming meetings
19 Sep 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Update on survey responses; arrangements for community engagement meetings; green spaces toolkit. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
19 Sep 18	Chilton Chronicle	All Chilton residents	Reminder that a village survey is planned, and that village meetings are to be held in the Village Hall on 29 Sept and in the Community Room on 3 Oct.
29 Sep 18	Village meeting in Village Hall	All Chilton residents and those with interest in the village	Maps and other literature presented to attendees, with members of the Steering Group on hand to discuss the survey and development of the plan.
3 Oct 18	Village meeting in Community Room	All Chilton residents and those with interest in the village	Maps and other literature presented to attendees, with members of the Steering Group on hand to discuss the survey and development of the plan.
31 Oct 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Initial analysis of survey responses; green spaces and traffic noise. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
Dec 18	Chilton Chronicle No. 452	All Chilton residents	Update and initial observations from the Survey, with invitation to make any further comment if required.
12 Dec 18	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Green spaces survey; allocation of sections of Plan to individual members, for drafting. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
23 Jan 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Green spaces; progress update on drafts of Plan sections. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
Feb 19	Chilton Chronicle No. 454	All Chilton residents	Update on work planned, including green spaces audit and ecological survey, and contact details for any questions.
6 Mar 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Progress update on drafts of Plan sections; mapping; green spaces. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
17 Apr 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Progress update on Plan drafting, mapping, and green spaces form. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
29 May 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Development of Policies; updates on mapping and green spaces form. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website.
8 Jul 19	VWHDC Policy Writing Workshop	Various members of Steering Group	To improve understanding of criteria for effective and acceptable Policy development.
10 Jul 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Progress update on draft Policies, green spaces form completion and mapping. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website

5 Aug 19	Meeting with VWHDC official	Deborah Bryson and Steering Group members	To discuss progress of the Plan and review of draft Policies
Aug 19	Chilton Chronicle No. 460	All Chilton residents	Update provided that text is being drafted and policies being prepared based on survey feedback
4 Sep 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Progress update on draft Policies; development of draft Plan. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
16 Oct 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Progress updates on draft Plan and Policies. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
11 Nov 19	Meeting with UKAEA	Stephen Druce, Chris Broad and Steven Moss (UKAEA)	Preliminary meeting to discuss who to approach regarding designating the UKAEA land in front of the school as a Local Green Space
27 Nov 19	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Green spaces, progress update on draft Plan. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
8 Jan 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group; VWHDC: Deborah Bryson	Initial feedback on draft Plan. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
19 Feb 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Review and agree changes to draft Plan in light of VWHDC feedback. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
Feb 20	Chilton Chronicle No. 465	All Chilton residents	Update on milestones achieved and next stages, including the consultation phase
20 Jun 20	Chilton Parish Council meeting	Chilton Parish Council	Plan accepted by Parish Council and moved forward for consultation
22 Jul 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Proposed Outline Plan for Regulation 14 Consultation agreed; finalisation of draft Plan documents Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
11 Aug 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Consultation process and arrangements. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
Sept 20	Flyer	Delivered to all Chilton residents	To give details of consultation process, link to draft Plan and invite comments
Sept 20	Parish Council website	All Chilton residents and interested parties	Draft Plan and appendices for review/comment
Sept 20	Direct emails re draft Plan and consultation	Regulation 14 database addressees	To invite comments
19 Sep 20	Three village Facebook pages	All Chilton residents and interested parties	Reminder of upcoming gazebo event
20 Sep 20	Gazebo event Village Hall	All Chilton residents and interested parties	To view hard copies of draft Plan and discuss with Steering Group members
25 Sep 20	Three village Facebook pages	All Chilton residents and interested parties	Reminder of upcoming gazebo event

23 Sep 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Review of first gazebo event; update on consultations. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
26 Sept 20	Gazebo event Community Room	All Chilton residents and interested parties	To view hard copies of draft Plan and discuss with Steering Group members
23 Oct 20	Meeting with Harwell Campus and their Land Agents	Stephen Druce, Chris Broad meeting with Peter Canavan and Steven Sensecall (both of Cater Jonas) and Duncan Rogers (Harwell Campus)	To discuss the proposal of designating the area in front of the school as a Local Green Space. The Harwell Campus were not supportive of this area receiving further potential limitations to development through Local Green Space designation beyond the extant protection afforded by being within the AONB.
28 Oct 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Consultation progress and feedback received. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
Nov 20	Meeting with VWHDC officials	Stephen Druce	To discuss the next steps of the formal consultation process.
11 Nov 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Consultation progress update; changes to Plan to reflect feedback agreed. Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website
16 Nov 20	Meeting with VWHDC officials	Stephen Druce, Chris Broad	To clarify changes needed to the Plan in accordance with VWHDC's response to the Reg 14 consultation
2 Dec 20	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Agenda and minutes available on Parish Council website

Appendix B – Statutory and other bodies

PLANNING & RELATED INTERESTED BODIES

Oxfordshire County Council
South Oxfordshire District Council
Vale of White Horse District Council
West Berkshire Council
VWH District Councillor 1 - Blewbury & Harwell
VWH District Councillor 2 - Blewbury & Harwell
Oxfordshire County Councillor
West Ilsley PC
East Ilsley PC
East Hendred PC
Upton PC
Blewbury PC
West Hagbourne PC
Harwell PC
The Coal Authority
Homes England
Natural England
Environment Agency
Historic England
Network Rail – Asset Protection
Network Rail – Town Planning
Highways England
Marine Management Organisation
BT
EE
Three
EMF Enquiries - Vodaphone & O2
Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS England
Avison Young (on behalf of National Grid)
National Grid
Cadent (if relevant)
Scottish and Southern Energy Power (if relevant)
UK Power Networks
Thames Water - Developer Services

BUSINESSES AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACTED

Voluntary bodies

2nd Chilton Scout Group
All Saints Women's Group

Bodies representing religious groups

All Saints Church Chilton

Amenities

Chilton Primary School

Bodies which represent interests of disabled people

Stroke Association

Businesses

The Rose and Crown
CYO Seeds Ltd
Horticultural Trades Association
Chilton Garden Centre
Chilton Antiques & Collectables
Berkshire Downs Filling Station
Chilton Accommodation
Prospect Farm
Impel Equines
David N Carlisle
Harwell Campus Management
Rutherford Appleton Laboratories
G H King

1. Consultation Flyer

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – *Have your say!*

7 September 2020 to 26 October 2020

CHILTON DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

With the support of Chilton Parish Council, and input from the local community, the Chilton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have produced a draft Neighbourhood Plan.

They would greatly appreciate feedback on the draft from those who live, work or who have businesses in the plan area before the Plan is submitted to the District Council.

***This is your opportunity to comment on
the draft Plan for Chilton.***

Neighbourhood Development Plans contribute to the planning process and allow local people to have a say in the priorities for development in their area.

In producing the draft Plan, the Steering Group has sought to develop content and policies which address the vision and objectives agreed following the public consultation in 2018.

Plan Vision Statement

The vision is for Chilton to be a small, primarily residential village, within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty safeguarding its historic downland character whilst promoting sustainable development, and improving local facilities to meet the needs of its residents throughout their lives.

Where the Draft Plan can be viewed

For those who are able to, we recommend accessing the draft Plan and supporting appendices on the official Chilton Parish Council website:
<http://www.parish-council.com/Chilton/neighbourhoodplan.asp>

An opportunity for discussion with members of the Steering Group, and viewing paper copies of the Plan, will also be provided on two occasions:

- 10:00-13:00 on Saturday 19 September at Chilton Village Hall (OX11 0SH)
- 10:00-13:00 on Saturday 26 September at the Community Room, Chilton Field (OX11 0UE).

Both these events will be held outside, under the cover of gazebos, and in accordance with the appropriate advice for ensuring protection against Covid-19.

If none of the above arrangements are suitable then arrangements for viewing a hard copy of the Plan can be made by contacting Stephen Druce, the Neighbourhood Plan Coordinator, via the email address chiltonplan@gmail.com or by telephoning 01235 834285.

The Consultation Period

The consultation period will start on **7 September 2020** and finish on **26 October 2020**.

How to Comment

- Use the response pro-forma which is available on the website <http://www.parish-council.com/Chilton/neighbourhoodplan.asp>
- or, please send your comments to the email address chiltonplan@gmail.com, noting whether you are resident, work or have a business in the area, and quoting the section number within the plan to which your comments relate.

Privacy Policy

Responses (either by pro forma, via emails, or on paper) will be stored by the Coordinator and used by members of the Steering Group solely for the purposes of developing the Chilton Neighbourhood Plan. Responses may be included in subsequent documentation developed to support the Plan. Names of individual respondents will **not** be disclosed in documentation supporting the Plan, but may be referred to as originating from someone who resides, works or has business in the area.

Unless advised to the contrary the Steering Group may reproduce photographs taken during consultation events in documentation supporting the Plan.

Thank you, and we look forward to receiving your feedback.

Chilton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

7 September 2020 to 26 October 2020.

2. Email sent to statutory consultees, businesses and other interested parties

Chilton Draft Neighbourhood Plan

From: Chilton Plan <chiltonplan@gmail.com>

To: (email address)

Dear (Named Contact where known),

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – *Have your say!*

7 September 2020 to 26 October 2020

CHILTON DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

With the support of Chilton Parish Council, and input from the local community, the Chilton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have produced a draft Neighbourhood Plan.

***This is your opportunity to comment on
the draft Plan for Chilton prior to submission to the VWHDC.***

Plan Vision Statement

The vision is for Chilton to be a small, primarily residential village, within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty safeguarding its historic downland character whilst promoting sustainable development, and improving local facilities to meet the needs of its residents throughout their lives.

Where the Draft Plan can be viewed

The draft Plan and supporting appendices can be accessed on the official Chilton Parish Council website:

<http://www.parish-council.com/Chilton/neighbourhoodplan.asp>

The Consultation Period

The consultation period will start on **7 September 2020** and finish on **26 October 2020**.

How to Comment

- Use the response pro-forma which is available on the website <http://www.parish-council.com/chilton/neighbourhoodplan.asp> and return to the email address chiltonplan@gmail.com
- or, please send your comments to the email address chiltonplan@gmail.com, noting whether you are resident, work or have a business in the area, and quoting the section number within the plan to which your comments relate.

Privacy Policy

Responses (either by pro forma, via emails, or on paper) will be stored by the Coordinator and used by members of the Steering Group solely for the purposes of developing the Chilton Neighbourhood Plan. Responses may be included in subsequent documentation developed to support the Plan. Names of individual respondents will **not** be disclosed in documentation supporting the Plan, but may be referred to as originating from someone who resides, works or has business in the area.

Thank you, and we look forward to receiving your feedback. Chilton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

3. Email Response Pro-forma

<p>Chilton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan Public Consultation 7 September to 26 October 2020 Email Response Form</p> <p>Comments on the Chilton draft Neighbourhood Development Plan, prior to submission to the District Council, are welcome from all who live, work or have businesses in the Plan area.</p> <p>Full copies of the draft Plan, and the Privacy Policy, are available for viewing on the Chilton Parish Council website http://www.parish-council.com/chilton/neighbourhoodplan.asp</p> <p>Please return your comments to the email address: chiltonplan@gmail.com</p> <p>Thank you</p>

Name	Click or tap here to enter text.		
Status (Please indicate Yes/No as appropriate)	Resident	Work	Business
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

Section Number of Plan relating to comment	Click or tap here to enter text.
Comment	Click or tap here to enter text.

Section Number of Plan relating to comment	Click or tap here to enter text.
Comment	Click or tap here to enter text.

Section Number of Plan relating to comment	Click or tap here to enter text.
Comment	Click or tap here to enter text.

Appendix D: Responses received from statutory consultees VWHDC and OCC

D1: VWHDC

Planning services

HEAD OF SERVICE: ADRIAN DUFFIELD



Contact officer: Deborah Bryson

deborah.bryson@southandvale.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 422600

26 October 2020

Chilton Neighbourhood Development Plan – Comments under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (As Amended)

Thank you for giving the Council the opportunity to offer formal comments on your draft neighbourhood plan. We would like to take this opportunity to compliment you on the preparation of a very thoughtful and well produced plan.

Having seen a complete draft, along with the evidence base, we are able to offer further advice under our duty to support neighbourhood plans. Our response focusses on helping the plan meet the basic conditions as specified by the regulations.

We are committed to helping this plan succeed. To achieve this, we offer constructive comments on issues that are considered to require further consideration. To communicate these in a simple and positive manner, we produced a table containing an identification number for each comment, a description of the relevant section/policy of the NDP, our comments and, where possible, a recommendation.

Our comments at this stage are merely a constructive contribution to the process and should not be interpreted as the Council's formal view on whether the draft plan meets the basic conditions.

Yours sincerely

DBryson

Deborah Bryson
Senior Planning Policy Officer (Neighbourhood)

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
1	General comment	'Local Green Space' designations are a specific designation outlined in the NPPF, as such they should be referred to by the correct terminology. There are some instances of them being referred to as 'Green Spaces' within the Plan and the appendix document. The terminology should be checked for consistency and updated to 'Local Green Spaces' throughout the documents.
2	General comment on Community Issues	There isn't a separate section which deals with community issues or explains what they are. For clarity we would recommend including a separate chapter/section at the end of the document with an explanation of what community issues/actions are (and that they don't have the same standing as planning policies). There are examples of this type of wording in other neighbourhood plans in the District. Where topic areas do not have any planning policies attached to them and relate solely to community issues, they could be included in this community section/chapter with the suggested community action included in a box (of a different colour to the planning policies for differentiation). If a topic area has both policies and community issues within it, the Plan should reference the fact there is a community issue/action attached to it in the relevant section. This would help continuity and tie in the green table on page 6.
3	Executive Summary (page 5) Attention has therefore been focussed on these objectives (1, 3, 4, 6 and 7) and policies developed to reflect the community needs.	Objective 9 has not been mentioned within the executive summary and for completeness it should be referenced in the appropriate location. It is believed that it should be incorporated within the section which refers to policies being developed.
4	1a. Background to the Plan (page 10) Once approved by the VWHDC's independent examiner	Please note that the Examiner is independent (as stated). As such they are not affiliated with VWHDC. Please remove reference to VWHDC in this sentence.
5	Objective 9 (page 12) To promote sustainable enterprise consistent with the character and history of Chilton in its setting as a small	Comment from Conservation Team: It is noted that the vision and objectives mention the historic environment within the parish, but it is unclear how the vision is being carried through into policy. It is not clear whether

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
	primarily residential rural village.	objective 9 is about enterprise or about character and history. Perhaps this could be separated into two policies, one for heritage and one for sustainable enterprise. Although there is no conservation area in Chilton, there would be a benefit to identifying any buildings of historic interest that are not listed.
6	Figure 2.1: Chilton in relation to nearby settlements and administrative boundaries (page 14)	The map does not clearly show the location of Chilton in relation to nearby settlements and administrative boundaries. We recommend highlighting the neighbourhood area (as done in Figure 1.1) for clarity.
7	Section 3d. Settlement Boundary (page 24) Should at some future point there be a deficiency in housing land allocations within the Vale then this may result in changes to defined settlement areas.	It is not clear what is meant by this statement. Is it referring to the 5YLS and speculative applications? Please note, if VWHDC cannot demonstrate a 5YLS when considering speculative applications, the NDPs settlement boundary policy would also be seen as out of date. We recommend rewriting this sentence to clarify the intent.
8	Principle 1 (page 24) Given the status of Chilton as a smaller village in the VWHDC Local Plan the boundary should be drawn fairly tightly around the existing built-up area and no new allocations for housing or other land uses incorporated	Core Policy 4 of the Local Plan 2031 states: "limited infill development may be appropriate within the existing built areas of these settlements, or if it is allocated within an adopted Neighbourhood Development Plan or future parts of the Local Plan 2031". It does not preclude new allocations for housing coming forward. We recommend adding 'until they are built out' to the end of the principle. See comment on Principle 8 for further information on waiting for new development to be built out before including within the settlement boundary.
9	Principle 5 (page 24) Existing areas of employment and business that are detached from or peripheral to the village should not be included but instead they should be clearly identified for that purpose.	It is unclear what benefit identifying employment areas on Figure 3.7 holds. The settlement boundary policy to which Figure 3.7 relates does not refer to employment areas and therefore including them on the map could cause confusion. It is recommended that the employment areas are removed from Figure 3.7. These areas can be mapped separately if relevant for a different policy.
10	Principle 8 (page 24) The boundary should be drawn consistent with existing planning permissions, recent refusals and appeal decisions.	It is not clear what this principle is referring to. Does it mean that it should include granted planning permissions that have not yet been built out within the settlement boundary?

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
		<p>Please be aware of the potential unintended consequences of including sites which have been approved at planning application but not yet built out within your settlement boundary. One relates to the schemes being revised once the Neighbourhood Plan is made; the inclusion of such sites inside the boundary may lend support to less sensitively designed schemes on these sites. Another is the inclusion of what may be green/open space on the edge of the site being considered as within the settlement boundary where it would otherwise be considered outside of the boundary if the settlement boundary methodology was applied after the scheme has been built out.</p>
11	Figure 3.7 (page 25)	<p>The map is of a large area and for clarity it would be useful for the map to be larger/more zoomed in so that the boundaries can be seen in more detail.</p>
12	<p>(page 25) The boundary is consistent with the planning decisions for new housing developments made since 2014 as shown in Table 3.2.</p>	<p>There are both benefits and consequences to drawing a development boundary and these need to be considered carefully. However, we consider that settlement boundaries can be inflexible and unhelpful. The boundary may add pressure to sites that currently serve an important function such as for amenity and public open space.</p> <p>If applications are already being decided in conformity with your intentions, then there is no additional benefit to introducing a settlement boundary and we would recommend its removal as Local Plan policies are adequately addressing the intent of the policy.</p>
13	<p>Introductions to policies P1 and P2 (page 27) The resulting policy</p>	<p>It is not clear what the policy is a result of. We recommend removing 'resulting' or providing clarity regarding what determined the inclusion of the policy.</p>
14	<p>Policy P1 – Location of Residential Development (page 27) Limited new residential development within the existing three settlement areas, as defined in Figure 3.7, may be permitted, where it is in accordance with the Plan</p>	<p>Local Plan 2031 policy CP4 states, in regards to smaller villages: "Proposals for limited infill development will be supported where they are in keeping with local character and are proportionate in scale and meet local housing needs, and/ or provide local employment, services and facilities."</p> <p>Policy P1 as currently worded loses some of the detail included in CP4. It is also unclear what is meant by 'in accordance with the Plan' – is this referring to the Local Plan, Development Plan or neighbourhood plan?</p>

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
		It is recommended that the wording reflects the Local Plan policy wording and references 'support' for these proposals (in place of these proposals being permitted).
15	<p>Policy P2 – Design Styles for Development (page 27)</p> <p>Development, or other land use proposals, in open country locations outside of the Chilton settlement areas are required to be in keeping with the downland character of the North Wessex Downs AONB.</p>	<p>Further clarity on what would be considered 'in keeping' with the downland character of the North Wessex Downs AONB is needed. Please refer to where this is set out in the evidence base.</p> <p>Please see comments from the Conservation Team in relation to Appendix 1 below.</p>
16	<p>Point 3 of Policy P3 – Sustainable Business Development (page 29)</p> <p>Introduction of small retail units within the Garden Centre site. New units to serve local domestic needs would be welcomed.</p>	<p>It is unclear whether the second sentence refers solely to units on the Garden Centre site, or if it is a more general ambition. If it is the latter, the second sentence should be separated to its own bullet. If it is the former we recommend amending the wording so this is clear. For example 'introduction of small retail units to serve local domestic needs would be welcomed within the garden centre site'</p>
17	<p>Policy P3 – Sustainable Business Development (page 29)</p> <p>Change of use of larger scale employment facilities such as Horticulture House and the Garden Centre, particularly any development whose operations would bring additional traffic to local roads, would not be supported</p>	<p>The policy as currently worded goes beyond Local Plan 2031 Core Policy 29, which states: "where there is no reasonable prospect of land or premises being used for continued employment use, a mixed use enabling development which incorporates employment space should first be considered. If a mixed use scheme is not viable, the extent to which the proposed use generates new employment will be considered in determining the relevant planning application."</p> <p>It is recommended that the last paragraph of the policy is deleted.</p>
18	<p>Figure 5.1 (page 30)</p> <p>Known badger setts and bat roosts are marked on Figure 5.1.</p>	<p>Comment from Ecology Team:</p> <p>Figure 5.1 is used to illustrate the location of a number of features within the Parish. The text suggests that Figure 5.1 shows the location of badger setts and bat roosts. Badgers are a protected species under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, they are protected primarily for welfare reasons due to badger baiting. As a result of this illegal activity it is normal best practice not to make the location of badger setts public. We recommend removing the sentence "Known badger setts and bat roosts are marked on Figure 5.1." and replace it with something</p>

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
		like "A number of protected mammal species are found in the Parish including badgers and several species of bat"
19	<p>Policy P4 – Natural Environment – Flora and Fauna (page 32)</p> <p>To minimise damage to the flora and fauna of the Plan Area the VWHDC Local Plan policy LPP1 CP46 must be followed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where possible development proposals should ensure that existing wildlife habitats are not harmed.eg chalk downland such as Grim’s Ditch. 2. Where possible development proposals should preserve hedgerows and verges as “wildlife corridors”, e.g. the established hedge which runs from Chilton south (the “Bargeway”) and connects to the Ridgeway. 3. Development proposals should aim to avoid areas identified as rich in flora and fauna as shown in Fig. 5.1. and should incorporate where feasible hedges to link to established wildlife areas, so that birds, insects and mammals will be encouraged into areas being developed 	<p>Local Plan Part 1 Core Policy 46 deals with the intention of points 1 and 2 of Policy P4 and states:</p> <p>“These habitats will be given due weight in the consideration of planning applications. If significant harm to these sites cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts) it will be expected that mitigation will be provided to avoid a net loss in biodiversity or, as a last resort, compensation will be required to offset the impacts and achieve a net gain in biodiversity.”</p> <p>Part 1 of Policy P4 goes beyond CP46. It requires development to ensure all existing wildlife habitats are not harmed, although it is noted that flexibility has been added to the policy in the form of ‘where possible’.</p> <p>Expecting all existing habitats to be protected is overly restrictive/onerous as all land could be considered to be a habitat.</p> <p>It is recommended that this part of the policy is deleted, areas of ecological value are identified and protected within part 3 of Policy P4.</p> <p>The areas identified on Figure 5.1 and referred to in part 3 of the policy are mapped as being circular and quite large. Is the entire circle identified as rich in flora and fauna? As development is asked to avoid these areas these areas should be refined to reflect the specific locations. Alternatively, the policy should clearly identify that the areas are approximate and be made more flexible to account for this.</p> <p>Furthermore, the reference to Local Plan Part 1 Core Policy 46 should be addressed within the supporting text rather than the policy itself.</p>
20	Figure 5.2 (page 33) with areas marked that are important for noise screening	There is reference to areas of screening both above and below the figure, however the map does not show any green hatched areas to indicate screening. The omission should be rectified as the areas of screening are referred to within the corresponding policy. The map should be amended to show the areas of screening clearly.

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
21	<p>Policy P5 – Mitigation of Traffic Noise (page 33) Development on areas shown in Fig. 5.2 to have high noise levels, mainly to the SW, W and NW of the development area east of the A34, should incorporate screening and planting to reduce traffic noise levels</p>	<p>The explanation within the policy for which areas within the neighbourhood area have high noise levels is not clear. It is recommended that the area in question is mapped more explicitly. This could be included within Figure 5.2 in a similar manner to what was done within Figure 6 in the made Drayton Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
22	<p>Policy P6 – Avoidance of unnecessary light pollution (page 34) Developments must follow the VWHDC Local Plan LPP2 DP21. In particular</p>	<p>The reference to the Local Plan policy should be addressed within the supporting text rather than the policy itself</p>
23	<p>Policy P7 – Community Infrastructure (page 43) Proposals which assist with the delivery of new or enhanced facilities to the benefit of the community will be supported in accordance with VWHDC Local Plan Policy LPP2 DP8.</p> <p>In particular, proposals further enhancing the village hall and community room facilities for the use of groups with varying ages and abilities, and further play facilities for children and young people will be encouraged.</p> <p>Any proposed change of use or redevelopment of the Rose and Crown Public House will be refused, unless the proposal can demonstrate a significant enhanced value to the community in accordance with the VWHDC Local Plan Part 2 policies DP8 and DP9</p>	<p>The policy deals with two separate aims and consequently loses some of its clarity.</p> <p>The references to the Local Plan policies should be addressed within the supporting text rather than the policy itself.</p> <p>It is recommended that the first two paragraphs are merged (without the reference to the Local Plan policy).</p> <p>The third paragraph relates to the village’s public house. The intent of this section is adequately addressed within Local Plan 2031 DM Policy 9 which states: “Proposals that would result in the loss of a Public House will only be permitted where it can be clearly demonstrated that: i. the retention of the public house is not economically viable and it can be demonstrated that all reasonable efforts have been made to sell or let the property as a public house on the open market at a realistic price, and ii. there is no reasonable likelihood of a suitable alternative facility or service of benefit to the local community making use of the building.” The third section of Policy P7 introduces more restrictive requirements and is overly onerous. It is recommended that this paragraph is deleted in its entirety. This would also help with the clarity of the policy as a whole.</p>
24	<p>Open and Green Spaces (page 44)</p>	<p>It is not clear why this paragraph has been included and/or if these areas are being designated as Local Green Spaces. It is</p>

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
	<p>Two large open spaces, that is the recreation ground adjacent to Chilton Church and the large open recreation area in Chilton Field do represent areas of particular local significance because of their recreational value.</p>	<p>recommended that this sentence is extended to clarify the situation, for example: 'however it is not felt that they comply with the criteria within the NPPF and therefore have not been taken forward to be designated as Local Green Spaces.'</p>
25	<p>Open and Green Spaces (page 45) Recreation Ground Adjacent to Chilton Church Chilton's recreation ground sits in an elevated position on the edge of the older part of the village. The village hall is located here together with parking for 40 cars. There is a fenced area providing play equipment for young children and a larger unfenced area offering older children a good variety of play equipment suitable for their age. There are also four traditional type swings which have been well maintained over a considerable number of years and remain popular. Three benches and two waste bins are provided. There is an area of hardstanding suitable for skates and skateboards with a sports wall marked out for practising ball skills. There are also two netball/basketball posts to practise scoring. The sports pitches, used for football, drain well and remain viable even in wet conditions. Recreation Area at Chilton Field There is a large unfenced area at Chilton Field dedicated to recreation, exercise and dog walking. This lies on Chilton Field Way adjacent to the community room. The community room has parking</p>	<p>For the most part, this information replicates detail included within the earlier community facilities section in chapter 6. There is no need to reiterate it in this section. It is recommended that this section is deleted (from 'Recreation Ground Adjacent to Chilton Church...' to... 'A toddler play area is fenced and located next to the community room'). The final paragraph can be added to the end of the paragraph on page 44.</p>

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
	<p>for twelve vehicles</p> <p>There is a play area suitable for older and teenage children with a variety of equipment and also an outdoor gym area for teenage/adult use, recently installed and offering an opportunity for a good physical workout. A toddler play area is fenced and located next to the community room.</p> <p>Both these recreational areas are owned and maintained by the Parish Council and already have restrictions on their use that would prevent further development.</p>	
26	4. Open Space opposite Chilton County Primary School (page 47)	This is the largest of the proposed Local Green Spaces and could be considered an extensive tract of land. We would recommend more evidence is needed to clarify that it is local in nature.
27	<p>Policy 8 – Local Green Spaces (page 48)</p> <p>The areas designated as Local Green Spaces are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hill Piece Green; 2. Crafts End Green; 3. Historic Village Green; 4. Open Space opposite Chilton Primary School. <p>Figure 7.1 shows the location of designated Local Green Spaces</p>	<p>It is not clear whether the landowners of the sites identified have been contacted and consulted on the proposal to designate their land as a Local Green Space. We would recommend this is undertaken, if you have not already done so.</p> <p>The Policy is numbered as ‘8’ whereas all the other policies are prefixed with ‘P’. For consistency the policy should be renamed ‘Policy P8’.</p> <p>Comment from Conservation Team:</p> <p>The front garden of Chalk Hill on Main Street is a fairly important open space within the village centre and reinforces rural character of the street. Unspoilt paddocks permeating the village core are important and this area could be considered as a Local Green Space.</p>
28	<p>Affordable Housing (page 53)</p> <p>There are three categories: <i>social rented</i>, <i>affordable rented</i> and <i>intermediate</i> housing. These are provided</p>	<p>Comment from Affordable Housing Team:</p> <p>At the end of the first paragraph of this definition, it is worth noting that the eligibility is also determined by meeting relevant, district based, local connection criteria.</p>

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
	for eligible households whose needs are not met by <i>market housing</i> . Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices.	

Chilton Neighbourhood Development Plan: Appendices 1 to 4

Ref.	Section/Policy	Comment/Recommendation
29	General comment from Conservation Team on Appendix 1	Consider whether there is a benefit to looking at plot sizes/character and boundary treatments. We note that informal picket fencing and hedgerow are a predominant form of boundary treatment in the historic core. Some areas are more spacious and greener than others. The historic core has a more irregular urban form than the later phases of expansion.
30	General comment from Conservation Team on Appendix 1	It is queried if chalkstone/clunch is the earliest building material in the village? Note that we are in the chalkland vale. Consider what materials are really locally distinctive and whether this material is something that should be better revealed/ invested in in future.
31	General comment from Conservation Team on Appendix 1	Some of the character areas are not of architectural interest or merit and these areas may offer opportunities for appropriate scale 'contemporary individual' housing and some innovation. Consider more flexibility in this approach to allow for some innovation and good quality new design.
32	General comment from Conservation Team on Appendix 1	We recommend that the character areas are mapped into coloured zones to make this information more accessible.
33	Appendix 1, section 1.2 (page 1) There is an absence of high, dominant or crowded buildings.	Define what is considered 'high' and what is considered 'crowded' within this context. Or change wording to ' respecting the scale and grain of existing/adjacent development '.
34	Appendix 1, section 1.4 (pages 1 and 2)	Consider clearly identifying all the buildings that are considered to have heritage value (but are not listed buildings). These might be considered 'non-designated heritage assets' under the NPPF. Also consider whether any of these buildings may now be considered 'listable'. Note 'The Yews', '1 & 2 Lavender Cottages'
35	Appendix 1, section 2.2 (page 3)	Please note that some of the photographic examples show buildings 2 ½ storeys in height with attic accommodation in the roof. Consider

	There are a number of single storey dwellings in Chilton, but dwellings are mainly one and a half to two storeys in height with traditionally pitched roofs. <i>Developments must be commensurate with surrounding buildings and should not be a storey higher</i>	setting out why is it important to respect general scale eg. To preserve the hierarchy of buildings within the village, eg. Place Farm House and the Church are high status buildings, larger buildings constructed within their setting could diminish their significance within this setting.
36	Appendix 1, section 2.3 (page 3)	This could do with some more descriptive detail. Note vernacular buildings of stone or timber framed construction, many with handmade ruddy-orange bricks, some with patterns made with alternating courses of stretchers and headers with grey-blue vitrified bricks. Some examples of decorative tile hanging. Buildings predominantly lower status cottages of 1 ½ storeys with the attic space lit by small dormer windows.
37	Appendix 3 (page 25) Burial of the dead	We recommend amending the wording to 'burial and interment of cremated remains' in lines 5 and 9
38	Appendix 3 (page 80) The following areas of land were examined against the criteria in Paragraph 77 of the NPPF in order to identify those spaces suitable for designation as Green Spaces:	The appendix refers to paragraph 77 of the NPPF. This should be updated so it refers to the correct paragraph (as has been done within the Plan itself).

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE FOLLOWING CONSULTATION:

District: Vale of the White Horse

Consultation: Chilton Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-submission draft)

**This report sets out Oxfordshire County Council's
view on the draft Chilton Neighbourhood Plan.**

Annexes to the report contain officer advice.

Overall View of Oxfordshire County Council

Oxfordshire County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft pre- submission Chilton Neighbourhood Plan.

We note that the area covered by the Neighbourhood Plan does not include Harwell Campus, it having been specifically excluded at the time that the neighbourhood plan area was designated in 2017.

The draft Plan makes no housing allocations in line with its classification as a 'Small Village' in the VWHDC Local Plan Part 1. We understand that the Chilton Field development of 275 dwellings was built 2010-2014 and there were 18 dwellings built at Pegasus Close in 2019. However, provision for limited development is made through Policy P1 within the existing settlement areas. We also note that Policy P3 supports new or enhanced employment opportunities.

The Plan identifies roads which do not have pavements and we suggest that improvements to walking and cycling connections within the parish are added

to the infrastructure improvements list. We also suggest inclusion of a policy about the need to improve these connections within the parish.

The Plan highlights the heritage of Chilton, however there are no plans or objectives relating to the preservation and enhancement of the parish's heritage assets. We recommend the inclusion of a policy on the historic environment.

Detailed Officer comments can be found in Annex 1.

Officer's Name: Helen Whyman

Officer's Title: Planner

Date: 23 October 2020

ANNEX 1

Team: South and Vale Locality

Officer's Name: Rebecca Crowe

Officer's Title: Transport Planner

Date: 02/10/2020

Comments

8a. Road Networks, page 50

'Housing in the village is accessed by local roads east and west of the A34. Some roads do not have pavements, and some are partially paved. In particular, both Church Hill and the stretch of Lower Road from the Rose and Crown to the A34 underpass are main thoroughfare routes for the east side of the village, including buses, but neither has pavements and are shared by both vehicles and pedestrians.'

OCC Comment: Improvements to walking and cycling in the parish, such as the roads mentioned in point 8a (page 50), could be added to the parish's list of infrastructure improvements, should money become available. It may also be worth adding a policy about the need to improve walking and cycling connections within the parish.

Team: Mineral and Waste Planning Policy

Officer's Name: Anna Herriman

Officer's Title: Mineral and Waste Planning Policy Officer

Date: 22th September 2020

Comments

Thank you for consulting the Oxfordshire County Council Mineral and Waste Planning policy team on the above neighbourhood plan. There are no safeguarded mineral and waste site within the boundary of the neighbourhood plan. However, I would like to make you aware that the neighbourhood plan is in close proximity to Prospect Farm, a safeguarded waste site, which is outside the neighbourhood plan area to the east. You might like to take this into account whilst preparing the plan.

Team: Archaeology

Officer's Name: Richard Oram

Officer's Title: Lead Archaeologist

Date: 30th September 2020

Comments

Although this Neighbourhood Plan highlights the heritage of Chilton there are no plans or objectives relating to the preservation and enhancement of the parish's heritage assets, including both built heritage and archaeological remains.

We would therefore recommend that the Neighbourhood Plan is amended to include a policy on the historic environment as set out below.

The Historic Environment: The parish's designated historic heritage assets and their settings, both above and below ground including archaeological sites, listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas will be conserved and enhanced for their historic significance and their important contribution to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.

Proposals for development that affect non-designated historic assets will be considered taking account of the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019).

Team: Environment Strategy

Officer's Name: Nick Mottram

Officer's Title: Group Manager, Environment & Heritage

Date: 1st October 2020

Comments

Lighting of roads and streets, which would fall within OCC's interests, has the potential for adverse effects on the AONB.

Paragraph 5b on page 30 notes that Figure 1 includes the location of known badger setts. Reading the subsequent description on page 31 suggests that isn't the case but it would be good practice to not even suggest that the circled areas might be the location of setts. Badgers are a protected species subject to illegal persecution and such information is usually presented in confidence. Noting that badgers are present generally in the parish is appropriate.

Team: Infrastructure Policy

Officer's Name: David Early

Officer's Title: Transport Planner

Date: 30th September 2020

Comments

Referring to 4b Sustainable Opportunities, I note that in the village survey conducted in June 2018, respondents were asked how happy they were. I note that the free text comment suggests that many were in favour of improved local shopping facilities within walking distance. Some form of community village shop selling basic groceries and fresh produce seemed to be preferred over facilities attached to a service station.

The village shop option would provide a very useful facility, particularly as there was strong support given to promoting home based working from respondents. It would also help if such a facility also provided newspapers and cycle parking nearby to encourage an element of active & healthy travel.

On 8b, Footways, Bridleways & Cycleways mentions access to the Ridgeway National Trail. It is good to hear that maintaining access to the Rights of Way and surrounding countryside was perceived as a high priority for 96% of respondents.

It is also helpful to see the reference to Harwell Oxford Campus Bicycle User Group.

The County Council has an interest in these matters, and has produced Walking and Cycling Design Standards which are available online. We are currently working to prepare updated standards.