

Malcolm Carter

From: Sue Hill <hill.1455@btinternet.com>
Sent: 05 November 2015 06:31
To: coordinator@ashtonkeynesneighbourhood.com
Subject: Village plan

Dear Coordinator

I am emailing my views about the draft Neighbourhood Plan and concerns relating to the proposed development of the green field site in Gosditch at the rear of Ashton Keynes school.

The recently produced draft Ashton Keynes neighbour plan is providing the local community, through open debate and consultation, the opportunity to develop a shared vision about future developments in the area. This has been rooted in both maintaining and enhancing the local village character and the environment it provides for its residents and visitors as well as recognising the ongoing need for sustainable and affordable housing solutions.

My family have been a part of this village for over 100 years and my uncle is now nearly 90 years old having lived here all of his life. Following my mothers death my brother and I now own 2 houses in Park Place one of which our uncle lives in.

Over the years we have seen many developments in this village including our own in the grounds of 3 Park Place to provide at the time the only affordable and appropriate solution for my mother as she became older and was on her own.

Many of the other developments have however over time taken away many of the greenfield sites that we enjoyed when we were growing up.

The draft Neighbourhood plan in our opinion sets out an excellent way forward of future proposed developments on defined and agreed brownfield sites. This protects the village feel and at the same time enables contained development that residents support.

The area of the proposed development in Gosditch on a greenfield site totally undermines the principle of local population involvement and engagement and responsive and socially aware residents. Key sustainability elements in this current Governments policies and strategies.

This area in Gosditch has been an important ecological and neighbourhood area throughout the length of time my family has been in this village. It has provided not only

- an enhanced environment and activity opportunities for the local school which is thriving and achieving excellent results but which has limitations on its ability to expand its intake
- a unique opportunity for residents and visitors alike to enjoy the Thames river path walk in a country side setting within the village boundary and without the need to cross a very busy road. This area is at the very core of the Thames running through this village as expressed by many external visitors (including international visitors) who walk the path and experience entering the village through this route into church walk.

The proposed development in our opinion would significantly detract from the character of Gosditch, the river walk and the view and surroundings enjoyed by the next generation as they learn and develop at the local school. It would also mean greater traffic on a very limited road infrastructure and the building of houses on a potential flood plain.

I hope that these views together with those of other residents are taken into account such that the right decisions are made on something that will fundamentally change the character overnight of this village.

With grateful thanks

Professor Sue Hill
Cross Cottage
Park Place
Ashton Keynes

Sent from my iPhone=