

Dear Test Valley

We have looked at the Local Plan draft and feel it offers many positive ideas and aspirations. As residents of Anna Valley/Upper Clatford, we have some comments and suggestions:

Our parish (Upper Clatford) has been labelled as a Tier 3 settlement which we feel is incorrect. We have a small farm shop but the local school and post office are in Goodworth Clatford which is only easily accessible by car so cannot be classed as a local amenity. The road between the settlements is unsafe for cyclists and walkers and public transport is very infrequent, so not useful. Tier 4 settlement status would be much more appropriate.

There is a strong sense of community in Anna Valley/Upper Clatford which is protected, at present, by the Local Gap Policy. This is highly valued by residents. Many people take advantage of the scenic countryside, for example, walking or cycling through green areas, past Rooksbury Lakes, into Andover, or just using the natural areas to enjoy walking and cycling in a peaceful environment, full of birdsong.

A Local Green Space policy will help to preserve the area's increasingly rare habitats and species, particularly along the Pilhill Brook, which includes grazing marsh and historic former water meadows.

The Pilhill Brook should be treasured as a pristine chalk stream and any sewage discharge, likely with new developments, must be minimised. If any development occurs, adequate wastewater infrastructure is imperative.

I hope that you will consider our comments which very much echo the feelings of all residents, as demonstrated in our recent Neighbourhood Plan.

Regards

Chris and Sue Hyslop

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