

Dear Sir/Madam

We have recently become aware of the Local Plan Draft for Anna Valley, Red Rice and Upper Clatford. Although overall it has positive aspects and whilst we do not object to an appropriate number of small affordable homes we feel that the following suggestions would enhance this plan considerably.

We have been part of and active in our wonderful village community for 60 years and feel it is important for it to maintain its independence from both Andover and Goodworth Clatford . We are currently equipped to be in a Tier 4 but not part of a Tier 3 settlement as we do not have the 6 key facilities it requires. We feel it is inappropriate to be linked with Goodworth Clatford. It is not safe to walk or to cycle to Goodworth Clatford as no footpath/cycle path exists, the road is full of fast traffic particularly at certain times of the day and there is a dangerous bend for pedestrians and cyclists on the road between the two villages. For this reason we do not cycle or walk to the shop in Goodworth Clatford and have to use our car as the bus service is totally inadequate.

Our village has many special features eg rare habitats, such as former water meadows, chalk streams ie Pillhill Brook and River Anton which should be preserved and protected as part of the Local Gap and our Local Green Spaces. Habitats on the edge of the village are also very important for wildlife.

Currently, we enjoy walking through the green spaces in our village in order to access the shops in Andover along the existing footpaths. If the proposed development occurred we would no longer do this but would always take the car there and have to drive to visit scenic areas as we would no longer be able to enjoy our own. Obviously, increasing car use and discouraging walking is not in keeping with current environmental and physical and mental health concerns.

John and Caroline Moodie

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