

I write in relation to the draft Local Plan and the presumed removal of the majority of planning protections and policies that are currently in place to protect existing towns and villages from sprawling, ill thought out development.

Goodworth Clatford is a small Village of circa 360 households. The draft plan, as it reads currently, does not mention the settlement boundary of the village, or any area. This is naturally of great concern as it allows developers, of which we have an avid one, to bring forward any site they wish for consideration, and based on the draft local plan, no site is out of bounds.

It is also silent on green space, local gaps, preserving villages through separation etc. Whilst we are not against any development, we very strongly feel that any large scale developments within Goodworth Clatford would have detrimental effect on the cohesive community which makes the Village what it is. Goodworth Clatford, along with any village, can accommodate natural growth, indeed the Village needs smaller starter home type houses, but large scale development, which is what the draft local plan seems to infer, would be hugely damaging to the area.

The grouping of Goodworth Clatford with Upper Clatford, Anna Valley and Red Rice is also bizarre at best. Whilst the villages share a School, along with a large number of children who come from outside the catchment, the other 4 main facilities are present in both villages. To group the villages together suggest ulterior motives for the grouping to ensure all 4 areas are in the same Tier. The only way TVBC could justify Goodworth Clatford as having a 'good' bus service is to group us with Upper Clatford and use their bus service to tick the box for Goodworth Clatford. We have two outbound buses to Andover in the morning at 9.23 and 12.23, with a return service in the middle at 11.31. This is on no use to anyone who needs to work, get to appointments, or ferry children around. There is no way this could be described as 'good' by either a lay person, or in a legal challenge. To suggest the residents of Goodworth Clatford can use the bus services in Upper Clatford is also ridiculous. It would involve a ½ mile walk along a 40mph road, with no pavement and blind corners – if this is what TVBC consider to be access to services then we have a problem! Using a Church as a core facility is also completely unjustified. It is common knowledge that the church population is dwindling and also used by a very narrow demographic of the population. The core facilities used in the 2016 Local Plan are far more relevant to modern life.

The draft local plan seems to contradict itself on climate change, the environment and pollution. On the one hand it talks about reducing the use of the private car, then it suggests increasing development in outlying areas with very poor, or no public transport. It also talks about the need to protect the environment, but simultaneously refers to allowing development on agricultural land – at a time when food security is a growing and serious concern.

Goodworth Clatford voted in our Neighbourhood Plan in 2016. This was a democratically prepared document, which followed the correct legislative process required by TVBC to

allow it to have merit. The draft Local Plan ignores these documents entirely. The draft local plan reads as a very undemocratic document, where the policy has already been decided and the plan has been written to fit and ensure it can be delivered. As far as Goodworth Clatford is concerned the proposal in the plan could potentially mean more houses, on areas previously protected, potentially interrupted landscapes, damage to the local environment, more pressure on the roads, increased private car use, potential loss of village identity, boundary and separation with surrounding villages, further damage to the water catchment area along the Pillhill Brook and River Anton and increased pressure on an already overwhelmed water and sewerage system. Villages must be protected from local sprawl or the identity of the Test Valley will be eroded.

I would urge TVBC to look again at the Tiering system and question how and why they have put Goodworth Clatford with 3 other areas. Goodworth Clatford is a village in its own right, as is Upper Clatford. Both have shops, a pub, sports facilities and a village hall. There is no reason for the grouping and there is no pattern to the grouping when you look at other villages that are far more connected but not grouped. I.e. Chilbolton and Wherwell. Goodworth Clatford should be in Tier 4 and would not be in Tier 3 if it were not grouped.

Kind regards,

Katie Shorter

██████████

██████████

██████████████████

██████████

This e-mail message is confidential and for the use of the addressee only. If the message is received by anyone other than the addressee it must be deleted. Internet e-mails are not secure as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, arrive late or incomplete and may contain viruses.

Fisher German accepts no liability for viruses contained in this e-mail or changes made to the message. Fisher German LLP is a limited liability partnership, registered number: OC3175

A list of members' names is available for inspection at the registered office, [REDACTED]

SAVE PAPER - Please do not print this e-mail unless absolutely necessary.