

I am writing in response to the TVBC Draft Local Plan

The plan categorises Anna Valley and Upper Clatford in Tier 3 of the Settlement Hierarchy, this is based on the assumption that residents have access to the facilities in Goodworth Clatford which I do not believe is a reasonable assumption. It is not safe for pedestrians or cyclists to travel safely to Goodworth Clatford because of the long stretch of road between Upper Clatford and Goodworth Clatford that has neither pavements nor street lighting. The bus service is too infrequent to be a viable option. This means that many residents are only able to access Goodworth Clatford by car or not at all if they do not have their own transport. This disadvantages the elderly, those with disabilities and those on low incomes and does not meet the plan's objectives relating to Climate Change and Transport and Movement.

In my opinion Upper Clatford and Anna Valley should be classified as a Tier 4 settlement because the parish does not have all six of the key facilities required for Tier 3 status.

The plan does not commit to the preservation of the Local Gap and the areas of Local Green Space secured in the Neighbourhood Development Plan, this could result in the building of over 100 new homes in the area. There is a need for affordable housing but the size of any development must take account of the facilities that will be needed by families moving into the area, the infrastructure required to support additional housing and the impact on the environment.

- The villages of Anna Valley and Upper Clatford do not have the facilities needed – there is no school and only a very small farm shop. The facilities at Goodworth Clatford are only accessible by car.
- A stretch of the Pillhill Brook runs through the village. This is a rare chalk stream - there are only about 200 in the world, and we have a responsibility to protect this natural feature. Any development in the area must either be limited to prevent damage to the stream or supported by adequate infrastructure for dealing with wastewater.
- The countryside surrounding Upper Clatford and Anna Valley currently contributes to the well-being of residents and to the biodiversity of the area. It includes areas of grazing marsh and historic former water meadows. Any development would reduce this benefit and have a negative impact on climate change and air pollution.

The preservation of the Local Gap and the Local Green Space policy in the Plan would ensure that any development could be supported by the area and did not have an adverse impact on the environment.

Kind Regards,
Paul Bishop

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