

BAMPTON PARISH PLAN STEERING GROUP

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Local Plan Review Consultation
Forward Planning
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18th March 2014

BAMPTON PARISH PLAN

Dear Sirs

Following a community engagement programme Bampton Parish Plan was published in December 2013. It encompassed the views and aspirations of the residents based on returns from 57% of the households representing the views of 865 individuals. The Plan has since been adopted by Bampton Town Council. The full plan also includes a section recording the views of the pupils from Bampton School and adds a refreshing dimension to it.

At your Local Plan Review consultation in Bampton on 29th January you confirmed you had copies of the Parish Plan and would take the views expressed in it into account. In this context it may be easier to consult the plan together with its supporting information electronically on the town's web site at www.bampton.org.uk/council-parishplan

Whilst generally inhabitants of Bampton Parish wished to see improvements in amenities and facilities most wanted to see the character and traditions retained with any housing developments being restricted and catering for the needs of the young, elderly and those on low income. Concerns were expressed on lack of employment opportunities, parking, communications, dog fouling and security but most were content with the quality of local shops, refuse collections and existing transport facilities. Actions were identified to address the concerns raised and to replace or improve the Riverside Hall and improve the Recreation Ground / Motte. These views should be taken into account in considering the Local Plan Review, more specifically:-

- o Residents support Bampton being reclassified a Village in the proposed Local Plan. Previously proposed development in Bampton should be reviewed to reflect the changed status. In particular the proposed new development at Newton Court should be reconsidered particularly with the increased congestion of that area with the re- location of the Post Office. Using the site to provide a car park for the Post Office would solve many current problems highlighted in the Plan.
- o Concern was expressed about the policy to include commercial developments with housing in particular the proposed Morebath Road development site is unsuitable for commercial development due to poor access and refusal of national carriers to service the area.

- Home to school transport costs/times are likely to be costly and lengthy for parents of children in any proposed new developments as Bampton School is already heavily subscribed as is the next nearest school is at Bolham over 6 miles away.
- At a recent meeting residents were advised that the current medical practice is currently operating at it's limit and further demand would impact on cover and services.
- Employment of those housed in the proposed developments is unlikely locally and no high speed broadband currently exists for home working so extensive home to work travel would be required for those housed in the proposed developments.
- Using your guide of 1.7 cars per household then there would be an increase in traffic from the existing proposals of over 330 cars all having to travel to school, shop, work and play. This would bring an unacceptable increase in traffic to Bampton and it's surrounding roads with their already known problems.
- The overwhelming majority of residents believe that whilst new housing is required, particularly affordable housing, it should be achieved by conversion of redundant buildings and developments of less than 10 proprieties (Analysis of population loss shows it is due mainly to shortage of affordable housing)
- The proposed new developments suggested for Bouchier Close and South Molton Road are hardly low impact developments and would, therefore, appear to contravene Mid Devon's Spatial Strategy.
- The proposed addition of a total of 144 new homes for Bampton in the draft Local Plan plus the 51 proposed at Shillingford, within the Parish represents an increase in the current around 700 Household Parish of addition of over 20% completely changing its character. This scale of development would appear to contravene Mid Devon's Spatial Strategy which states that 'Development of Villages will be managed for low impact and at a scale commensurate with that of the existing village'.

I understand that the proposals in the draft Local Plan for villages and rural areas exceed your actual requirements for the Local Plan and so we would ask that you take note of these **collective views of the residents and these significant objections when considering if it is necessary to include any of the currently proposed developments in the final Local Plan.**

Yours sincerely

Alan Woolley

Alan Woolley
Chairman Parish Plan Steering Committee.