

Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan
6th July 2014 Exhibition and Budgens Feedback

August 2014

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Introduction

Mortimer is developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan to enable the community to contribute to the planning of the future development of Mortimer. A successful public meeting was held in St Johns' Hall during March. The next stage of consultation was an exhibition held on The Fairground on Sunday 6th July 2014. This was preceded by the Steering Group having a stall at the Fun Day on the previous day, primarily to encourage people to attend the exhibition. Comments made to the Steering Group at this stall have been included in this summary. Following the exhibition the displays were put up in Budgens and people were invited to record their views, these are also included in this feedback.

The aim of the exhibition was to give members of the community the opportunity to express their views on a range of topics that could be included in a Neighbourhood Plan (see Contents on the previous page for these topics). For each of these topics (e.g. residential development, infrastructure) there were a series of ideas, developed by the steering group and volunteers. Attendees were asked to indicate for each topic **up to three** ideas they strongly supported and **any** they were strongly against. The aim was to find which ideas had the greatest support and which were strongly opposed.

This document reports:

- a) general comments received on both days (please note: comments from the public have been transcribed as made and only represent the views of that individual.

- b) detailed feedback from the ideas. Each topic has been analysed showing the 'fors' and 'against' scores for each idea. These are listed in the order of highest 'fors' down to highest 'againsts'. The highest 'for' scores therefore show the ideas with the greatest support with individuals putting these as high priority. Lower 'for' scores and few or no 'against' scores show ideas that some put as high priority but few or none were strongly against. High 'against' scores show ideas that people did not generally support. Below the scores are the comments on that topic that attendees were invited to write on post-it-notes – transcribed as written.

About 70 people came and expressed their opinions on Sunday 6th July 2014. This cannot be considered as a representative sample of the whole of the Mortimer community because it is a small proportion of the population and also as a self-selecting group might have an over concentration of those with specific issues. The scores 'for' and 'against' should be treated therefore with caution. However they do give an indication of the issues that concern the community and their preferences. These will be followed up and researched. The feedback also indicates those ideas that were ambiguously expressed and where greater clarity is needed. These will be addressed before a wider and more formal consultation is undertaken.

Comments and Feedback

The following comments and views were expressed to members of the Steering Group and Volunteers at the Funday and the exhibition, and subsequently at the Budgen's exhibition.

Exhibition Process

- Some of the questions/ideas were ambiguous
- The ideas were too long in themselves and there were too many of them.
- Some answers were not 'correct' because people had not read the entire statement and had just reacted to the first bit of it.
- A current weakness is communication notably lack of website with feedback facility.

Specific Comments and Questions

- Where do the parish and West Berks councillors live in relation to possible development sites?
- Parish Councillors seen talking to a developer.
- Explain 'affordable housing' is social housing- not cheap housing to buy
- Does Mortimer really justify need for 40% of new housing units to be social/affordable?
- Need to distinguish between 'affordable', 'down-sizing', 'social housing' and to identify numbers needed for each class.
- Concern that there is a correlation between the introduction of social housing and an increase in crime/anti-social behaviour.
- Make forest accessible for cycling please Englefield
- The number of doctors cannot serve current population satisfactorily witnessed by long time to get routine appointment
- On the SHLAA there are a number of different colours in the legend that do not appear on exhibition day map,
- How does the environment agency get to know about flooding risks?
- The number of houses allocated to Mortimer is too many, the allocation of 'about 100' houses should be challenged.
- West Berks web site refers to 200 houses on the Horse and Groom site: this is of great concern.
- There was a preference for smaller scale developments, less than 12, large single development such as Mortimer Farm development considered to have had a detrimental impact of the quality of the village. Houses built in small clusters keep community spirit
- Several people commented that Horse and Groom site the obvious one.
- There is doubt about the ability of the NDP to control/direct developers.
- A developer emphasised importance of working with the developer.
- There seemed to be a general acceptance that there had to be development.
- Several people expressed concerns about infrastructure - mainly schools, doctors' surgery and station car parking.
- Most attendees supported the Mortimer NDP initiative.

Budgens

- Mortimer does not need to expand any further.
- ‘Neighbourhood Plan’ change lead to led. (1st sentence.
- Why was the latest exhibition not properly notified to every household?
- Description of land that the owners/agents have put forward for consideration for building/planning as within/without/adjacent to the village envelope is not an option to describe where the sites are located.
- Well done the committee in publicising and promoting the need for an NDP. The suggestions are all worthwhile and I applaud the need to preserve a distinctive rural character for the village

Topic Ideas Ranking

The Mortimer Vision

Idea	For	Against
The parish and village shall continue to be approached through working agricultural land, woodland, native trees and hedges, river etc. maintaining the distinctive rural character and feel of the village and its physical separation from adjoining communities	48	0
Developers will demonstrate how their proposed development reinforces Mortimer’s rural character. They will set out how their proposals adhere to the policies in this Plan and the spirit of those policies. Their proposals must include details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context and character of the village including its historic heritage• Connection with the countryside, maintenance of rural feel and quality• The inclusion of facilities for the community that have the potential of improving the quality of life for the village residence e.g. pedestrian, cycle ways, open spaces, provision of semi-mature and mature native trees and hedges	31	0
Roads, footpaths, street lighting, fencing, road signage, etc. will reflect a safe, friendly, country village feel rather than an urban or suburban feel	20	1
A network of well-maintained public rural footpaths and bridleways and protection of habitats and sites for country flora and fauna shall be preserved and enhanced	20	1
Future development shall reflect the historic heritage, appearance and scale of existing buildings; where possible, avoid the demolition of older, traditional buildings.	11	0

Developments of greater than 4 units should be designed to enhance and reflect the essential rural characteristics that the community wishes to retain and enhance, avoiding what would be considered urban or semi-urban design	11	0
The design of new developments should reflect the typical building architecture, designs, decoration and density of the parish	8	0
Commercial development of industrial engineering, office blocks, warehousing will not be permitted. Reuse of farm buildings will be encouraged	6	1
Roads within the village will not have traffic calming speed humps	11	14
Major developments (greater than 4 units) shall be within 800 metres of the village centre connected by footpaths and cycleways contain open spaces and mature native trees and hedge rows	6	15

Comments

- We need chicanes not speed bumps
- Major developments ... question is ambiguous: If there developments of more than 4 houses then should be next to centre and with open spaces and pedestrian access

Budgens

- Particularly important that Mortimer doesn't lose its rural character. Detailing of homes etc. very important.
- Do we really want to support/encourage the inflated "Clarkson's Cockroach"/"c=Chelsea tractor" type vehicles that have become fashionable. They don't fit well in the country rods/lanes, and we are not going to widen them are we?
- 5,7,8,9,10 are of particular importance to me.
- Yes to all except no opinion on 8.
- Generally agree but lighting will not be increased.
- Maintaining woodland should be of the utmost importance.
- I would like any developer top be encouraged to provide fruit trees/bushes for the community nto pick from (e.g. at boundary edges)
- Does the plan relate only to housing? Can we designate areas for wildlife e.g.wild flower meadow, community orchard.
- I think all points are almost equally important to retain the character of the village.
- We should develop a nature reserve in the parish to balance the negative habit impact of development for example Brewery Common, Summerlug Common.
- In fill housing gives the greatest sense of urbanisation which reduces the rural character that we are trying to preserve.
- Very important that homes are built to relate to the area.
- Very important to ensure Mortimer stays a rural village.

Residential

Idea	For	Against
No development will impinge on the open spaces within the village envelope (The Fairground, Alfred Palmer Memorial Field, Windmill Common, Summerlug)	42	0
New development will contain a range of types of house to meet the needs of the population, particularly for those wishing to downsize and for the young wishing to remain in the village	42	1
Housing development within the current village envelope will be encouraged provided it is sympathetic to the Mortimer style and in conformity with the Village Design Statement	32	9
Any extension of this envelope should be relatively small and maintain clear separation from neighbouring communities	16	0
Sites for new developments will be within or adjacent to the current village envelope	7	4
The tenure split of affordable housing (between social rented and intermediate affordable) will reflect needs of the current population of the Parish	14	1
Greenfield sites should be restricted in size	10	0
Greenfield sites should be restricted in number	5	0
New development will include the provision of amenity open space	5	1
Affordable housing will be provided on site in line with WBC policy (40% on large Greenfield sites, 20% on sites less than 10 dwellings)	10	4
20% of dwellings on new developments in excess of 10 dwellings will be 2 bedroom single storey properties and contain a restricted covenant preventing development of the roof space (ie: to provide a supply of such dwellings)	7	6
New development should be close to the village centre and well served by cycle ways and footpaths to encourage walking and cycling and discourage the use of cars for journeys within the village	7	14

Comments

Exhibition

- Thoughts should be given to number of cars and good parking and road provision is added
- What is the point of having a “settlement boundary” if it can be moved at will?
- Affordable housing must be for local people only. *[moved by reporter from commercial think it must have been put on commercial by mistake]*
- If residential housing can be located above businesses to reduce number of houses then this is a good thing. *[copied from commercial as relevant for residential]*

Budgens

- We have to stop somewhere, we can't just continually keep building indefinitely, we are too many people as it is.
- At present it is virtually impossible for young people and their family to either buy or rent in the village. Although a couple will be working, their joint income is not adequate for a mortgage. Any social housing should be offered to local residents and not from outside the area.
- The land behind the Horse and Groom allocated for development:
 - Why not build a combined infant and primary school there central to the village?
 - Then build the new houses on St Johns School and St Mary's School, instead
 - This would move St Mary's into the centre of the village allowing most children to walk to it, drop off of infants and primary school children at the same time and eliminate all the traffic problems outside the current St Mary's school at drop off and pick up time. The new school could then be big enough to cope with the influx of children into the village with the new family sized housing.
- Proposals are too awful to contemplate. There are not enough services for people who live here already. We need schools, new surgery, car parks.
- Support 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10. Rather than large houses being built maybe small terraces.
- 1,2,3,5,7,8,9 very important.
- Mortimer is no longer a village many new comers are not country people, but townies wanting a country address. The village is never quiet – but busy and noisy. We are full, to bursting. New builds do not in any way reflect the original architecture of the village. It is no longer in many ways a pleasant place to live.
- Mortimer does not need more larger expensive houses. If we must have more please make sure there is provision for younger couples in their home village and not make them family and friends to get a foot on the housing ladder.
- I'd like to receive more information and attend future meetings. We've lived here for 17 years and want the village to retain its charm but still be a viable and sustainable community. Being swamped with new homes and larger developments is not conducive to this.
- Can't wait my children need affordable housing. You rich buggers got yours.

Commercial and Employment

Idea	For	Against
The services provided by the Post Office and bank are essential to local business	56	0
The employment opportunities provided by the village infrastructure (pre-schools, schools, doctors' and dentists' surgeries, fire station, library, pubs and food outlets) are very important to the economic wellbeing of the village	35	2
Any new business premises must have adequate parking facilities	24	1
Broadband speeds available in the village will keep up with the available technology so as to support local business	21	2
Changes to the public transport system are needed to improve residents' employment opportunities	11	0
Mortimer currently has the right number and mix of shops and will continue to do so	10	4
The provision of residential units (flats) above commercial premises will be encouraged	6	2
Business premises will be kept as such unless conversion to residential use is the only financially viable option	5	2
As farm buildings do not require planning permission prior to construction, change of use of farm buildings to commercial will be restricted to 30% of gross floor area of all outbuildings at time of first application of change in use	4	1
As more part-time jobs are needed in Mortimer, preference will be given to commercial development for businesses which would employ more part time workers than full time workers	4	1
Shared workshop or office space is needed to support micro businesses	3	0
More childcare provision (a nursery) is needed in Mortimer	5	4
More workshop and light industry units will be developed in farm buildings	7	8
Mortimer needs more office space (in units for less than 10 employees)	0	11

Comments

1. By making it easier to travel by public transport more people can work in Reading or Basingstoke.

2. Improve use and provision of public transport removes the need for more parking.
3. No village meeting facilities are available so could never host a village meeting.
4. Meeting rooms with facilities available to hire on ad hoc basis.
5. No noisy businesses!
6. Why is there no nursery in Mortimer yet 2 preschools? More child care is needed.
7. If residential housing can be located above businesses to reduce number of houses then this is a good thing.

Budgens

- Does not have the right mix of shops or restaurants
- /pubs – need better quality more upmarket
- Services provided by Post Office and bank essential
- Small business area a good idea.
- I'd like to receive more information and attend future meetings. We've liver here for 17 years and want the village to retain its charm but still be a viable and sustainable community. Being swamped with new homes and larger developments is not conducive to this.

Infrastructure Services and Amenities

Idea	For	Against
24 mbps broadband should be available to all those that want it	39	1
Expand the size of the medical and dental facilities in line with a growing and changing population	38	1
Extend gas services to the whole village.	13	2
Expand the St Johns school site to enable an increase in number of pupils	12	6
Provide allotment site	10	6
Provide the amenities (e.g. space) for the Introduction of up-to-date practice for the delivery of health and care services	8	2
New developments shall provide a broadband infrastructure guaranteeing a minimum speed of 24Mbps and able to grow to 300mbps for each new residential or commercial building	8	2

New developments of more than 10 dwellings shall include a child safe play area	7	2
New developments of more than 10 dwellings will provide cycling and walking routes that are no more than a 10 minute walk (about 800m) from the centre of the village (The Post Office)	7	10
Relocate St Mary's school close to the centre of the village	10	25

Comments

- **Health**
 - What about parking for the Doctor's surgery? Already too small and dangerous where cars park along road instead.
- **Welfare**
 - Provision of free-standing gym equipment for adults on the fairground
 - Gym equipment on the fairground for adults and young people to use free of charge – won't have to join a gym then
- **Schooling**
 - Provide safe walking and cycle routes to St John's, St Mary's and Willink. No need to relocate St Mary's if safe to get there which it isn't currently
 - St Mary's relocation – Where? Remotely possible? Remotely practical?
 - Move both schools and surgery to Palmer Memorial Field. Comment on suggestion "Ridiculous children need activities community needs its teams"
- **Other (Services)**
 - No point in extending gas services when ES pipelines charges £2000 to connect from the road to the house
 - What is the reason? Is it important? (Think this refers to gas service to whole village)
 - Sewage is there need for improvement. Water, gas, electricity, schools, health is there capacity for 100 houses? Has a survey been carried out on current capacity? If not will financial input be submitted to improve any of these not fit for purpose.

Budgens

- Improve the football club and get them funding to improve facilities.
- Leave the schools and improve the parking.
- Do not expand St John's. We want a small school.
- Provide car parking for St Mary's.

- When considering expansion of medical facilities adequate parking needs to be a priority.
- NHS dental services for adults as well as children please.
- Does the school need to be relocated? Why not just expand and put a car park behind.
- Is it realistic [to relocate St Mary's] Would a more realistic idea be to make each school1 form entry from reception to yr6 (primary0 with extension to St John's.
- [New developments of more than 10 dwellings shall include a child safe play area] very good idea please do it.
- Increase NHS dental care availability and dentistry – but whyhas this not yet happened?
- Priority requirements
 - Cycling and walking for health
 - 24 mbps broadband essential
 - Extend gas services.
- Relocate schools together and expand.
- Allotments would be wonderful and provide healthy exercise.
- There is an obvious allotment site by St Mary's Church. This was offered up by Englefield but vetoed by the people in the house by St Mary's – what a shame that there is nimbyism here.
- Priority
 - Health
 - Welfare
 - Broadband
 - Schooling
- 6 and 7 would benefit me the most as work from home.
- Better quality broadband would be a great boost for the whole village. I hear that Burghfield is now connected to the Infinity network, but there are no plans in the pipeline for Mortimer. Why?
- Already urgent that Mortimer surgery increase its number of doctors available and if that means they need a bigger site then so be it. Unacceptable delays for regular/non-urgent appointments currently minimum of 9 days.
- Yes please [to relocating St Mary's] and sort out the parking.
- Expand [St John's] to where? They have already lost too much playground, children need play areas as well as classrooms.
- Consider a new combined primary and infant school behind the Horse and Groom central to the village. St Mary's children can walk to school more easily, one drop off time so massively reducing traffic and parking congestion at St Mary's collect time.
- Doctors, schools increase in line with new development.

- Include impact assessment on train station parking, schools and doctor's surgery please.
- Can we have a building for a nursery to cater for full time working parents.

Transport

Idea	For	Against
Provide additional car parking space at the station.	29	3
New developments will provide each residential unit with sufficient off-road parking space to minimise the need for on-road parking	25	3
Provide increased bus services to the station instead of increased station car parking	25	7
Planning applications for residential development should demonstrate that there are suitable safe, convenient and direct footpaths and cycle routes to the principal village facilities	14	0
Link the various neighbourhood areas within the village through new and enhanced pedestrian and cycle links	9	5
Shared-use footpaths/cycle ways will be included in road designs.	8	2
Additional pedestrian crossings will be provided at key points in the village centre	4	1
New housing developments will not be more than a 10 minute walk (about 800m) from the centre of the village (i.e. the Post Office).	8	12
Provide more car parking in the centre of the village	4	13
Speed humps should not be used to manage road traffic speed	9	22
Vehicles parked at the roadside provide the best speed management feature.	4	28

Comments

- **Car Parking**
 - Residents park on the roads even if off-road parking provided as many homes have 2 or 3 cars
 - Fix station car parking pricing so people actually use it instead of making more

- Re bus service to station extra parking
- Regular bus service from the village to the station at least at peak times (X 2)
- Bus service from one end of the village to the other on a regular basis to allow access to the station
- The minibus service or a bus service to and from the station is the most important to help parking and traffic problems through the bottom of the village
- If you increase parking you will discourage walking/cycling to the railway station or bus use./
- **Footpaths and Cycle Ways**
 - Footpaths and cycle ways will not increase the overall capacity of the already overloaded main village thoroughfare
 - Walking children to St Mary's school from the village is a scary and dangerous thing at the moment
- **Road Design**
 - Traffic calming, what alternatives are there?
 - I prefer traffic calming other than speed humps e.g. chicanes
 - Street parking is dangerous it does not slow traffic down
 - How can you better enforce 30mph on the Street. Someone will be killed soon. More development = more traffic = more risk
 - Quality of the footpath from the village to the station is woefully inadequate for amount/type of foot traffic, significant safety concerns about width of pathway along The Street
 - If children walked to school it would cut down on pollution and parking
 - No more car parking and enforce car parking restrictions will reduce car use in the village
 - Maintenance on the pavement to the railway station needs urgent attention – hedges to be cut back hard, width of pavement by clearing the dirt and leaves to reveal the pavement urgently.
 - Parking both for the school and train station are severely strained – how will it be overcome with further development
 - Village should keep station car park revenue
 - Attend to all the cyclists riding on public footpaths and pavements
 - Plan road networks carefully where volumes of vehicles join existing roads from new development
 - Provide bus to collect children and take to school (minibus and multiple runs would work
 - Plan to stop our country lanes becoming dangerous rat runs

Budgens

- Provide better parking at the surgery.
- We must provide safe cycle and walking route to St Mary's and/or a school car park or bus service.

- Increase size of station car park. Revisit the plan to build a new car park on the other side of the bridge. The objections were without merit.
- It is extremely important to have more parking the rail station. The trains are a great asset to the village but parking is putting people off using them as much as we would like.
- Consider a new combined primary and infant school behind the Horse and Groom central to the village. St Mary's children can walk to school more easily, one drop off time so massively reducing traffic and parking congestion at St Mary's collect time.
- Car parking capacity alone is not the problem at the station. People do not fill up the station car park, they are choosing to park on the road to avoid the car parking charges. Negotiate with British rail reducing the car parking charges and people, will use the station car park. Capacity required may be less than originally considered.
- 10 yes please.
- Priority
 - 9 very much required.
 - Point 3
 - 10 No speed humps
- The first thing we need is a proper car park for St Mary's school. The existing parking along the street is dangerous, more especially since the onset of double yellow lines outside the Cinnamon Tree. One day there will be a serious accident.
- Why not speed limits to 20mph past the two schools?
- Priority areas
 - 4
 - 7
 - Car parking 1 and 9 – this is a must
- The plan needs to consider the traffic issues already in the village, the speed the lorries go down the street.
- We must get a 20mph speed limit outside the schools at drop off and pick up times.
- Desperately need something on the Street to stop the speed of cars once they have come through the traffic lights.
- The amount of heavy lorries through the village has become a lot more.
- I agree about speed humps having an urban feel but traffic calming is needed to maintain a rural character rather than a dormitory village which is not safe for children to walk to school or for rural, leisure activities such as walking, cycling and horse riding and which encourages a 'rat-run' feel to the village at rush hours.
- Encourage transport companies to provide a daily service to Tadley for connection to Hampshire.

Green Infrastructure

Idea	For	Against
Priority will be given to protecting and enhancing the countryside from inappropriate development	48	0
New developments will respect the natural contours of a site and protect and sensitively incorporate natural features such as trees, hedges and ponds within the site	27	1
The visual impact of new development when viewed from approaching roads, existing communities and the surrounding countryside will be minimised by the use of site appropriate landscaping, screening and mature tree planting	19	1
A “Greener Mortimer” is included in our vision with a commitment to protecting our environment, in the village and beyond, and be conscious of our village ‘footprint’	19	1
New developments will be designed to minimise the visual impact between the development and the countryside	14	0
New developments will be designed to keep noise levels (pollution) to a minimum	9	1
New developments will not cause pollution of water courses and seek to minimise air pollution (e.g. increased traffic and traffic exhaust fumes)	9	1
Specified planting programmes of native arboreal species and green spaces will be an integral part of any significant new housing development	6	0
Rural pathway network will be extended as appropriate in order to provide direct access to the countryside, significant village locations and wild life habitats	6	2
Amenity open space (defined as open space which provides informal activities and visual enhancement to residential areas) will be a prerequisite of any proposed development plans	6	3
The preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations	3	1
Additional street lighting will only be provided in the essential interests of safety and be so designed to not increasing light pollution and the environmental impact that lighting may cause	26	15
Significant new developments connect to the green spaces and woodland in the village.	0	14

Comments

- Any new development must include for considerable improvements in footpath quality from/to station and village and school. Current footpath in the Street is woefully inadequate.
- Large scale developments – such as Strawberry Fields – change the essential character of the village. Housing should be in more small scale “garden grabbing” sites
- Provide equivalent amount of land for solar energy (out of sight) to reduce energy bills for the village
- No street lighting

Historic Environment and Landscape Character – Lighting comments.

- Please no intrusive or unnecessary lighting to ruin a dark village e.g. floodlights, shop signs out of hours, security lighting
- Disagree [with dark village] but only on safety reasons: What about part-time street lighting to make paths safe in the evening but off at night

Budgens

- Very important to ensure Mortimer stays a rural village.
- Particularly important that Mortimer does not lose its rural, character. Detailing of how etc. very important.
- The plan needs to consider the traffic issues already in the village, the speed the lorries go down the Street.
- We should be looking at community energy projects like our advanced brethren in Scandinavia instead of the backward, stick in the mud British nimbyism culture we have at the moment.
- Street lighting is essential for crime reduction and safety of the elderly. Probably mandatory on new developments.
- Valued tree area – copse at Summerlug – protects us from street kids using as a race track now and again.

Flooding

Idea	For	Against
New developments will not take place on sites that have a historical record of flooding unless effective measures to reduce groundwater, surface or river flooding for 1-in-30 year events (taking in to account climate change predictions) are an integral part of the development	39	1
New developments of greater than 5 units will incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) that effectively reduces the risk of surface water, groundwater and river flood risk in the immediate area, and downstream for 1-in-30 year events taking in to account climate change predictions	33	1
New developments will incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to reduce run off risk, and facilitate the storage and reuse of grey water	28	1
Practical and effective longer and short term plans for 1-in-30 year events (taking into account climate change predictions) to reduce the known current risks of property flooding in the parish will be developed	16	0
Encourage the use of permeable hard surfaces for areas of roads and pavings	14	3

Comments

- Will building works in Burghfield effect Mortimer? Knock on effect exacerbating the flood problems here.
- The proposed site MOR001 already floods adjacent houses in the Avenue. Any development will inevitably increase the problem X2.
- 1 in 30 is far too often. 1 in 30 is uninsurable.
- Should be 1 in 200, 1 in 30 is high insurance
- 1 in 30 is far too small. You should be planning a 1 in 500 as a minimum. Speak to hydrologic about this.
- 1 in 30 is not long enough. X 4
- 1 in 30 year event not enough. Should be a minimum of 1 in 100
- Less emphasis on design storms and more on recent historic flood events for use in a calibrated catchment hydraulic model to really see what is going on. Design storms are outdated.

Budgens

- Site developments are not the only issue. The village was close to being cut off last winter
 - A4 side roads over railway and canal were flooded to prohibitive depths and closed
 - Theale swing bridge route was flooded and closed
 - Burghfield Road was closed (and on the national news) while the army recued the electrical, station.
 - I presume the railway station end of the village had its usual problems
 - I didn't check routes to Aldermaston, but Froude's Lane was closed and Aldermaston was also on the national news and around 2007.

Design Principles, Sustainable Construction and Energy Efficiency

Idea	For	Against
The design of new development will be sympathetic to the 'Mortimer style' and in conformity with the Village Design Statement	31	0
New developments will not be in areas prone to flooding	20	0
Sufficient provision will be made for parking in new developments	20	0
Any enhancement to infrastructure will incorporate existing rural paths and bridleways and, where appropriate, new facilities including permissive rights of way should be created in order to improve access to the rural hinterland of the village	19	0
No development will obstruct or adversely impinge on the open spaces that give the area its rural character, e.g. views of the Fairground from the surrounding area	15	0
New developments will make generous provision for open green spaces which are linked to the wider natural environment and accessible to the public	13	0
The use of renewable energy sources will be encouraged	7	0
Sustainable Drainage System (SUDS) principles will be used in new developments to minimise flood risk and enhance biodiversity	7	0
Street clutter will be minimised	5	0

Native trees local to the area will be incorporated in the street scene	4	0
Sustainable waste management will be provided in new developments, principally by having adequate storage space for refuse bins and incorporate	4	0
The space provided in each dwelling must as a minimum meet, but ideally exceed, the minimum standards recommended by the RIBA in <i>The Case for Space (2011)</i>	4	0
All development will be designed to minimize the use of energy and clean water	4	0
Layouts for new development will be designed to the highest possible standard and make sensitive use of local topography	3	0
Adequate storage space must be provided in all new homes	3	1
All new development will meet the Sustainability and Energy-saving Standards outlined in the Local Plan even though this will increase the cost of development	3	1
Careful consideration will be given to the orientation of the principal spaces in new development so that account is taken of future climate change, with passive solar gain and energy efficiency maximised	2	1
Garages must be built in direct association with the houses whose inhabitants may be expected to use them. They must be spacious enough to accommodate modern cars and bicycles	5	5
New developments will provide streets comprising shared surfaces for vehicles and pedestrians. Such streets should incorporate self-enforcing speed reduction measures other than road humps	1	18

Comments

- The requirements for a percentage of ‘social housing’ was a disaster for the village when criminal elements were imported from elsewhere. Small developments avoid this problem

Biodiversity

Idea	For	Against
No agreed development will adversely impinge on the open spaces surrounding the village	33	1
The rural landscape will be retained and, where appropriate, enhanced so as to increase the biodiversity of the area. In particular Biodiversity Opportunity Area 13 as identified by the Berkshire Local Nature Partnership should be protected and enhanced	31	1
Developments which provide open spaces and community woodland, and connect these spaces with others in the village and that have defined areas for public access to such spaces, will be permitted. Developments that do not contain these features will need to demonstrate why including them would not be feasible	26	1
Planting programmes for new developments will incorporate native trees and specifically species local to the area	13	1
Existing ponds and watercourses will be retained and enhanced	11	1
Fragmentation of habitats will be avoided	11	1
Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes will be incorporated in all developments so as to aid sustainability and to increase biodiversity	11	0
Sustainable design of development (including infrastructure) will be encouraged/required, e.g. wild life corridors, green roofs and walls	7	1
New or improved habitats will be created alongside access routes	5	0
Wildlife bypasses and roosts in new development will be provided	2	0
New or improved habitats will be created alongside access routes	2	1
A network of interconnected wildlife corridors will be drawn up and incorporated in any future development	2	5
The sub-division of existing large gardens in the village (i.e. 'backland' development) will be discouraged and will be permitted only when it can be demonstrated there would be no unacceptable impacts on flora and fauna	15	14

Comments

- Reference to sub-division of existing ... “Good if reduces overall houses needing to be built
- If building in back gardens then allotments become very important
- Large scale development and biodiversity are incompatible

Historic Environment and Landscape Character

Idea	For	Against
Mortimer will be retained as a ‘dark’ village and as such new developments will not have any street lighting	56	8
The visual impact of all new development will be minimised by the use of site-appropriate landscape bunding, screening and mature tree planting	21	0
All ancient monuments and listed buildings will be conserved and enhanced for their historic significance and their importance to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place	20	1
The present views over the Fairground will not be compromised in any way	19	4
Development must make a positive contribution to the distinctive look of the village	18	3
The visual impact of new development on views from the countryside must be minimised	10	1
All development plans will include a condition survey of all existing trees and hedgerows and an outline of measures to be taken to protect them during construction	9	1
Development must relate well to its site and its surroundings	8	0
All development plans must consider near and distant views of the development from the principal public vantage points showing existing landscaping and that proposed to be established after 10 years to demonstrate that present views are not adversely affected	For 8	2
Proposals for development that affect non-designated historic assets will be considered taking into account of the scale of	3	0

any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage assets.		
All development plans will show how areas to be retained for open space and/or woodland will be managed in the future	5	3
New development will be required to fund new information boards and signage for the landscape areas and heritage assets e.g. view point on Pitfield Lane and way marked walks around the area	1	4
Farmers will be encouraged to retain traditional agricultural practices and field patterns	11	7
The historic environment will be made more accessible to walkers and cyclists by the creation of new permissive paths where possible	0	5

Comments

1. With reference to “ near and distant views ...” identified specifically woods behind Strawberry Fields woods at the bottom of Long ? (can’t read).
2. Please no intrusive or unnecessary lighting to ruin a dark village e.g. floodlights, shop signs out of hours, security lighting
3. Disagree [with dark village] but only on safety reasons: What about part-time street lighting on make paths safe in the evening but off at night
4. How long will long term landscape management be enforced and checked?

Budgens

- Support all the points.
- No houses taller than the status quo.
- No 3 storey townhouses.
- Very important that homes are built to relate to the area.