

Feedback from Public Launch of NDP 20th March 2014 St John's Hall

Questions at the Meeting

- When does a village become a town?
- Would we be able to stop the possible development of Wokefield golf course?
- Should we be doing a joint NDP with Burghfield?
- Should we be doing a Hants/West Berks NDP?
- What authority has an NDP got to control developers?
- What was happening about current issues of parking etc?
- Various people asked about developers having to pay
- What makes up housing in terms of the SHLAA numbers does it include flats?
- Could gardens be big enough to grow own veg?

Feedback cards:

"We don't want to 'sanitize' the rural environment. More street lights provide light pollution"

"To consider: extending gas supply to village edges."

"Thank you for your sterling efforts so far. Regarding item 4 – the vision I agree wholeheartedly with the inclusion of 'environmental' conservation in the list, but I would advise against getting too detailed and specific eg the inclusion of 'climate change'. There is no way that a climate change policy can be relevant to an area the size of a Parish, as such it is an irrelevance in terms of the NDP. Please avoid distracting and possibly divisive single issue meters."

"Maintain existing green spaces in village centre. Adequate parking required for new homes(3 bed – 2 spaces?) Avoid linking of Mortimer with adjacent settlements. Dwelling densities need to be related to available infrastructure (existing or planned) Improved cycle/paths between Mortimer and local settlements."

"I think the key aim of the NDP should be to increase the resilience of the village. There will be more floods, more interruptions to the electricity supply, more problems with food production and distribution. Infrastructure, space for growing food, cycle lanes, adequate parking at the station to encourage rail use, extension of the No2 bus service to station, etc, etc is needed."

"Greener Mortimer: could we include in our vision:- a commitment to protecting our environment, in the village and beyond and be conscious of our village 'footprint' more direct bus routes and bus to train to reduce car usage. Encourage re-cycling more. Encourage self-sustainable energy; could Mortimer create its own electricity putting solar panels on all south facing roofs (there are precedent) better use of land to produce local food and a farmers market (incl organic) cycle ways around the village. Tree planting programme, proven to soak up water and reduce flooding. Involve school children – projects;interactive website."

“I would like to see:- Better links to the station, a bus service (regular) to and from the rail station from the village centre. More recreation space, play equipment for example – a playground on the APM field.”

“Include requirement for properties to encourage working from home – consultation with local employers looking for more working from home.”

“Design guide, to include orientation suitable for solar pv and thermal and a presumption in favour of these. Space for food growing – plot size/allotments”

“Commercial: Internet (Broadband) Mobile phone signal”

“Use local societies for expert knowledge eg local history society. No more houses please and no more modern buildings eg new Budgens is not in keeping with village Victorian feel. “

“Agree with change of use rule: commercial premises should not be able to change to dwellings. At present new retails are only able to start when another closes.”

“Any development must include additions to the infrastructure, ie doctors, schools, broadband as they can't cope at present.”