

NDP Vision and Strategy

Introduction

Mortimer has a distinctive rural character and sense of community with a wide range of services and thriving small business economy. It is this vision of Mortimer, now and in the future, that forms the fundamental and distinctive focus for the Neighbourhood Development Plan. In order to deliver such a vision it is also necessary to have a strategy. After widespread consultation the following statements have been derived which sum up this vision in a practical sense.

The Vision

The Plan will make it possible for people to live the whole of their lives in the parish if they so wish.

The rural character and setting of the village will remain with the minimum of intrusion on the existing surrounding green and agricultural space.

It is felt that such a vision picks up on the themes of:-

- Enhancing the range of housing to allow all types and ages of residents to be catered for.
- Retaining the rural approaches to the village
- Retaining open space between the Mortimer and other villages
- Retaining the best landscape and architectural features of the Parish
- Retaining easy access by non motorised means within the village and to the surrounding countryside
- Retaining and enhancing Mortimer's role as a service centre so that all the basic needs of the population can be met within the Parish

Strategy

In order to deliver such a vision it is necessary to have a strategy and the strategy that has been developed, after widespread consultation, is to:-

- Provide a range of homes matching the needs of people in the various stages of their lives – starter homes, homes for rent, shared equity, family homes and smaller homes/bungalows for older people to downsize
- Provide new developments close to the centre of the village (Near St John's church)
- Promote the infrastructure services of a modern and attractive parish – superfast broadband, schools, health and welfare services
- Encourage local employment opportunities and successful businesses

- Promote an attractive village centre to increase footfall to support the success of local shops
- Minimise the extension of the existing village envelope
- Maintain a compact village and disallow 'ribbon' style developments
- Encourage/enable walking and cycling to the village and reduce the need for car usage
- Enable new school and surgery provision, as required, at the heart of the village
- Maintain the rural approaches to the village
- Avoid closing the gaps between Mortimer and adjacent settlements

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