

Planning Policy

From: Louisa Lynch
Sent: 11 September 2018 14:14
To: Planning Policy
Subject: response to Issues and Options

As a resident of the local area (Hookwood Cottage, SO51 9BZ) it has been brought to my attention that currently TVBC are in the process of requesting feedback from residence for the new Local Plan.

I have read the documents and completed the online survey and would like to provide the following feedback to be considered.

Ampfield to me provides the perfect combination of a rural setting whilst being close to local amenities that are easily accessible by car, bus and train. There have been a number of developments in recent years in the area, both small and large and these have provided a range of housing including affordable housing and smaller properties to enable younger families or lower income families live here too. Although I see the importance of adding further housing over the coming years it is extremely important that this isn't at the detriment of the wider community. There is a lovely village atmosphere in Ampfield and filling the area with further new builds will destroy the rural feel. I believe that TVBC have approved developments that are sympathetic to the surrounding area and enhance surrounding properties/businesses and I hope that this continues. The current plan mentions "Local Gaps" and I think this is one of the most important guidelines to retain in the new Local Plan.

The local Gaps in our area provide the residence with walking/hiking environments where we can educate our children on farming and wildlife and provide a safe environment for our local nature habitats, these are of great benefit to us. On a practical level the green areas clearly define the suburbs surrounding us stop the area changing from a rural environment to a more urban one.

We benefit from having a primary school and community hall and I look forward to using the school shortly for my youngest daughter. We also benefit from great pubs and restaurants and it would be lovely to see additional small shops or a post office close by.

Regards

Until the 14th of September 2018 Test Valley are inviting the public to comment on how the new Local Plan for development in our area will take shape. With the pressure to build more houses and with developers owning options on several bits of land in Ampfield, it is important to voice our opinions. The

current format of having a policy on "LOCAL GAPS" i.e.; separation between villages e.g.: between Valley Park and Ampfield are all going to be rediscussed. Local gaps currently have high importance in the current plan, and therefore it becomes hard for developers to build on countryside in these gaps. With the pressure to build houses this is all up for discussion with the new plan. Reducing the importance of local gaps means that it will be easier for developers to buy up countryside and develop. Please email TVBC to voice your support for Ampfield's local gaps (between valley park and Ampfield being the most vulnerable)