

Planning Policy

From: Clerk Penton Mewsey <clerk.pentonmewsey@parish.merseyside.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 September 2018 17:41
To: Planning Policy
Cc: FWDsmillen; FWDPenton Mewsey Clerk
Subject: Issues & Options Consultation for the next Local Plan
Attachments: Penton Mewsey Parish Council Responses to Issues and Options Paper.pdf

For the attention of the Planning Policy Team.

Dear Sir, Madam

Please find enclosed Penton Mewsey Parish Council's response as requested to the document Issues & Options Consultation for the Next Local Plan July 2018. This has also been sent to you by hard copy.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us
regards

PENTON MEWSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Penton Mewsey Parish Council

11th September 2018

Reference: Penton Mewsey Parish Council's Response to Issues and Options Paper:

We have concentrated our replies on those questions that seem most relevant to our parish for the following reasons: –

1. A number of questions seem to require specific knowledge and information about the planning system, and statistics to which we do not have ready access nor the specialism to assess.
2. The current local plan has only been adopted for two years and while we understand the need to review and to take into account new requirements from central government, the question that remains is what has changed since adoption that requires new policies?
3. On the whole we believe current policies serve rural communities such as ours very well and require only careful policing and monitoring and perhaps strengthening in part.

Specific Questions asked of all Penton Mewsey Councillors:

Q1: What is good about living and/or working in Test Valley?

- Relatively low crime rate, easy access to rural areas and excellent highways for easy access to cities and airports.
- Perfect blend of countryside and urban areas.
- A fairly good mix of light industry combined with rural agriculture.

Q2: What could be improved about living and/or working in Test Valley?

- Improve local bus services.
- A303 westbound improvements should be made.
- It seems all towns and cities are suffering from high street shop closures. This requires a forward-thinking sensible approach.

Q3: What should the Local Plan aspirations be for the next 20 years?

- To maintain the qualities identified at Q1

Q4: Should the Local Plan's housing requirement be consistent with Governments standard methodology? Do you have any evidence to support your view?

- Yes, it should be consistent; no evidence to support.

Q5: Should the Local Plan increase its housing requirement to help support economic growth? If yes, do you have any evidence to support this?

- Yes, agree but is there enough new business opportunities to be supported?

Q6: Do you think the HMA boundary is broadly right? If not, how and why do you think it should be changed?

- We consider it to be correct.

Q9: How should the settlement boundaries be defined in the Local Plan?

- Yes, as now; they need very close definition to preserve the locality

Q10: Do you think we should continue with seeking up to 40% of new homes to be affordable, or should we change the percentage?

- Insufficient knowledge to make a judgement.
- What constitutes affordable housing?

Q11: What should the trigger be for seeking affordable housing?

- See Q 10

Q12: Should we allow market housing on rural affordable exception sites?

- Yes, but closely defined

Q13: How should we meet the requirement for Self-Build plots? Should it be as part of sites over a certain threshold or separate sites?

- Separate sites are vital otherwise they are in danger of being taken over by other influences, such as part of a large building development.

Q14: Should we establish a policy that covers dwellings in the countryside which are of exceptional quality?

- Not clear what is intended

Q15: Should the Council change its approach and set out a requirement that certain sites should provide for the needs of such groups as the elderly?

- No

Q16: Should we include a policy that requires a mix and type of housing, or should the housing market inform what mix and type of housing to build?

- Yes, there should be a mix. Local councils should have the say in the type of housing and priority given to young locals who can prove a connection to the area.

Q17: Should we restrict the size of replacements and extensions to dwellings in the countryside to keep a range of dwellings?

- Permission should be relevant to adjacent and local properties and not excessive in size relation to the plot.

Q21: Should the Local Plan set out a definition of rural worker? And if so what should it include?

- No, as could be too restrictive?

Q22: How do you think we should best meet Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show people's needs?

- Permanent sites have proved to be unworkable in the past; temporary sites may be a better option.

Q28: What provisions or controls should be made relating to people working from home?

- Limits on noise or nuisances for local residents in surrounding areas and thought given to any increase in unwanted traffic on local roads.

Q33: Should we continue to retain the principle of Local Gaps? Should we define specific boundaries or a more general policy which aims to avoid coalescence?

- Yes, definitely retained as these are vital to the survival of small villages in rural areas especially and act as a buffer to unwanted large developments

Q34: Should the Local Plan identify and designate Local Areas of Green Space or should this be undertaken via Neighbourhood Plans?

- The Local Plan otherwise communities without Neighbourhood plans will suffer

Q36: Should we identify suitable sites for renewable energy, including onshore wind, in the Local Plan?

- Yes; however, this may prove interesting due to the nature of some locations.

Q40: Should the local plan be specific on the type of open space to provide or should it take account of existing provision/ future requirements?

- It must take account of future requirements and be fit for purpose in both size and quality

Q41: Should we continue to set a per dwelling or per hectare standard for recreational open space provision on residential developments? Or, should the Council require the provision of recreational open space on residential developments to be based on the needs set out in the Playing Pitch Strategy?

- In our view concentration should be on both

Q45: How do you think the Council should be making provision for parking within new development?

- Adequate parking based on size of household and building. More spaces should be allocated perhaps in specific designated areas close to homes in order to alleviate the issue of on street parking.

