

Planning Policy

From: Jane Wright
Sent: 13 September 2018 08:17
To: Planning Policy
Subject: Issues and Options

The consultation document has been considered by Melchet Park and Plaitford Parish Council and it wishes to make the following comments.

Whilst the document seems to cover most of the issues within Test Valley very thoroughly the Parish Council felt that there was one obvious omission.

There is considerable emphasis on how desirable it is to live in Test Valley but scant mention of the farming community which maintains the desirability of the area. Indeed there was some concern that many of the proposed solutions would involve concreting over the very landscape which makes Test Valley so attractive.

The Parish Council would like to see greater emphasis on supporting the farming community and ensuring farmland remains as farmland. Once a rural environment has been converted to other uses it has gone for ever and whatever desires society has for other land uses food production is essential: looking to the future (maybe beyond 2036) and an over-populated planet a nation must be able to feed itself if it is to survive.

So in conclusion this Parish Council would like to see greater recognition of the part farming plays in maintaining the countryside, that the farming community needs support, and that developing on greenfield sites will gradually erode everything which makes Test Valley special.

Regards, Jane Wright

Clerk to Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council

(P.S. I am sending this from my personal computer because the Council's computer has techno problems!)