

**Adderbury Parish Council's Response to Cherwell District Council's Local Plan Consultation
November 2021**

Adderbury Parish Council (APC) has reviewed the submission by Bloxham Parish Council to the Local Plan consultation. It is a very full and detailed response and Adderbury Parish Council fully supports all of the observations which have been made and therefore, does not wish to reiterate those comments but wants them noted on behalf of this parish also.

The Adderbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANP) should carry significant weight in these considerations. The Plan is only three years old and was independently assessed and accepted by Cherwell District Council. The ANP is attached to Cherwell's existing Local Plan and carries the benefit of law under the Localism Act. It was accepted by referendum and as a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan is now a statutory requirement as part of the local planning decision process including the Local Plan. Residents and the Parish Council worked hard together with CDC officers to achieve this and now rightly expect that it will be taken notice of and its policies should last.

The Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan (ANP) has also been used to form the Parish Council's conclusion that it supports the comments made by Bloxham Parish Council, especially the need to define settlement boundaries in the Local Plan which reflect those already detailed in the ANP. Policy AD1 of the ANP states "Development proposals will not be supported outside the Adderbury Settlement Boundary unless it is demonstrated it will enhance, or at least not harm, local landscape character". The Parish Council does not think any of the suggested sites outside of the Parish settlement boundary comply with this policy and therefore rejects them.

In particular, Adderbury Parish Council supports the concerns about coalescence of villages and the proposed sites in the Parish, especially north of the Twyford area of the village. Suggested sites LPR-A-178 and LPR-A-181 are getting closer to Bodicote and Banbury. Policy AD5: Local Gaps specifically refers to this 'local gap' and that between West Adderbury and Milton as areas to be maintained as open countryside to prevent coalescence.

ANP Policy AD3: Local Green spaces designates seven specific locations as Local Green Spaces where new developments will not be permitted, in line with 76 of the NPPF. This policy provides Green Belt equivalent status. These areas also form part of the Green Infrastructure Network identified in ANP Policy AD2; Green Infrastructure. Residents in rural areas including Adderbury are seeing a continued loss of green spaces and the elimination of wildlife corridors. This important aspect of modern life is integral to the wellbeing of our community and should be considered fully, in all its aspects when forming this Local Plan.

The Adderbury Neighbourhood Plan states that the objectives of CDC are to:

- To manage the incremental growth of the village through sensitive infill and to protect the surrounding countryside from harmful development
- To transform the quality and diversity of community facilities in the village to serve the local community
- To conserve the special heritage character of the village and its landscape setting
- To protect and improve the ecological value and connectivity of the green infrastructure assets of the village and wider parish

There are a total of 109.28 acres of proposed residential development land on the Adderbury Parish Profile. Proposals for Banbury total 264.06 acres. Comparing the size of Banbury (50,000 population) to Adderbury (under 3000), the total land proposals for Adderbury are 41% of those sought for Banbury. It therefore seems that Adderbury is in danger of bearing a disproportionate amount of CDC housing targets and the Parish Council requires that any housing allocation should be proportionate with that allocated to large urban settlements like Banbury and Bicester and other parishes in the rural area.

The Parish Council will therefore resist developments within the Parish Boundary or nearby which:

1. Narrows the gap between Adderbury and other communities (coalescence.)
2. Impacts negatively on Adderbury's current spatial 'feel' as set out in the Neighbourhood Development Plan.
3. Expands the accepted settlement boundary of Adderbury.
4. Is likely to have a detrimental impact on infrastructure especially schools, shopping facilities and transport routes.
5. Is larger than developments since 2015 (65 houses).
6. Is on a greenfield site.
7. Seeks development in key 'Valued Landscapes' (Sor Brook Valley, the Lakes, Countryside affording views of the St Mary's Church or any Local Green Spaces).

As the Parish Council has highlighted previously, developments will negatively impact in the village if consideration is not given to additional schools, traffic infrastructure and services, such as a doctor's surgery and a dentist. The village cannot withstand more developments without the appropriate infrastructure to support it and Adderbury does not fit into the 'features of a 20 minute neighbourhood', which is a proposal the Parish Council very much supports.

With the 'COP26' UN Climate Change Conference currently on-going, the Local Plan should be amended to reflect the decisions which have been taken, to ensure that the UK's targets on climate change are met.

There does not appear to be any reference to waste management in the Plan and how that will be dealt with as part of the proposals. There have also been reports recently of businesses pumping sewage into open waters such as rivers in the Cherwell area and that needs to be addressed too.

The Parish Council's comments on the Adderbury Parish Profile and proposed sites are attached.