From:
To: PlanningPolic

Subject: WBC Local Plan Main Modifications MM25 & MM26

Date: 30 January 2025 13:17:30

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Sir/Madam

I am a resident of Upper Bucklebury.



I write to comment on the WBC Local Plan Modifications MM25 and MM26. I fully support the Representations on the Local Plan and the proposed Modifications made by Andrew Clark Consulting on behalf of Bucklebury Parish Council (BPC) in January 2025.

I am appalled by the proposal to increase the number of dwellings in the proposed site to 2,500. I submitted my comments to WBC on 1st March 2023 on the Local Plan Review at that time (1500 houses); those comments still stand today in relation to the proposed modifications MM25 and MM26 and I request that you take them into consideration along with the following remarks.

Some points that I would like to highlight include:

- The negative impact on traffic in the whole area but with the additional issue of the access to Harts Hill already a dangerous road and the inevitable increase in traffic heading to and from the M4. In this respect I refer you to section 2.15 in particular of the submission by Andrew Clark Consulting for BPC.
- The LP Consultation does not state how the additional number of houses proposed will be accommodated. As noted by BPC, the assumption is that these houses will need to be built closer to Upper Bucklebury.
- There is little clarity in the LP Consultation on the delivery of infrastructure in education and health facilities.
- WBC's approach to engagement with parish councils has been, frankly shocking: very short notice given to invitation to a meeting before the end of the consultation, and no PC councillors being permitted to attend in person. The lack of transparency in such an approach is shameful.

- Biodiversity harm: BPC showed that the ecology surveys and evidence base were incorrect and and outdated in support of 1500 houses. Updates to support this proposed increase, or in fact for any development at all, are missing.
- As noted repeatedly in previous submissions by BPC and parishioners, the detrimental impact on the nearby National Landscape or AONB will be inevitable.
- The updates to the assessment of impacts in the Sustainability Appraisal, in the light of these proposed increases are also missing.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the Conclusions, Section 4, in the submission by Andrew Clark Consulting for BPC, which I wholeheartedly support.

Yours faithfully

Allison Butcher