

Chichester - Local Plan Review – Preferred Approach 2035 - Chidham and Hambrook Parish Council Response

Chichester District Council is currently carrying out a consultation on the Local Plan Preferred Approach – <http://www.chichester.gov.uk/chichesterlocalplan2035> . As part of that process the Parish Council and any of the parish’s residents can submit comments. Your Parish Council has now provided a response. This can be found on the Parish website – <https://www.chidhamhambrook.info> titled– **Deadline Thursday Local Plan Consultation 7th Feb 2019.**

The **deadline** for submitting comments on the Preferred Approach is the **7th February 2019**. This can be done by simply emailing your comments to planningpolicy@chichester.gov.uk . We appreciate that this does not give you much time to respond. But we feel it is important that as many people as possible do comment and respond.

It is the Parish Council’s view that the allocation of 500 homes, predominately in the Hambrook area is excessive and is not supported by the Council’s Sustainability Appraisal.

Our principle points of objection are –

1. The Local Plan as it stands promotes the coalescence of settlements between Chichester to Emsworth, which will adversely impact the special and unique character of these villages. See Parish Council’s response to Policy S2 Settlement Hierarchy.
2. The Local Plan Review has failed to make a proper distribution of housing in the Parish. The so-called comprehensive selection process undertaken by the planners in their Strategic Site Allocation exercise is found to be wanting, as it is based upon developers’ estimates which have not followed the density benchmarks as per Policy DM3 and also has not been moderated for locations adjacent to sensitive locations. See Parish Council’s response to Policy S2 Settlement Hierarchy.
3. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan - <http://www.chichester.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=31025> (Pages 106-111 for the Parish) which supports the Local Plan is not fit for purpose. It does not adequately address the transportation, educational, medical and general amenities need and timing thereof that will arise in a community which is expected to grow by over 50% in the plan period. See Parish Council’s response AL10/SA10 S23.
4. The Spatial Vision and Strategic Objectives (section 3.6 of the Local Plan) and the Sustainability Appraisal in relation to Chidham and Hambrook are contradictory. See Parish Council’s response Policy S26/DM19 Natural Environment. If the latter prevails, we will see the loss of key landscape views, the loss of high-quality grade 1&2 farmland, a further deterioration in water quality and further increased disruption to internally important migrating birds.

Whilst the Parish Council fully acknowledges that it has a responsibility to contribute to the need for more new housing in the District the response given by the parish council states that 500 homes for Chidham, Hambrook and Nutbourne is excessive and is not supported by the documentation.

For the reasons given above the allocated number of houses given in the response indicates the necessity of a reduction by at least 50%.

We urge you as residents and parishioners to submit your responses as soon as possible even if it is after the deadline 7th February 2019.

Also, please forward this document on to your known email contacts within the Parish.