



# Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix IX  
Community Aspirations  
Schedule v3

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## Appendix IX

### Community Aspirations Summary Schedule

The Neighbourhood Development Plan policies are restricted to land use planning matters, however, the plan can also look at wider Parish matters which have emerged during the drafting of the Plan and public consultations. Such matters should be clearly identified as separate ‘community aspirations’ within the Plan.

These aspirations provide the community with a record of issues that have been identified as a priority, and how these aspirations and land use/non-land use planning matters may be linked together in an overall vision for the future.

The summary of the community aspirations contained in the Eye & Dunsden Neighbourhood Development Plan below (using the NDP indexing) provides the Parish Council with an action plan for the future.

#### 5.4 Former Mineral Extraction Sites

- While minerals and waste policy is controlled by Oxfordshire County Council and cannot be considered in this Neighbourhood Plan until the land is no longer required or has been fully restored in accordance with any planning permission, the Parish Council looks at land solely within these circumstances and seeks to further enhance its landscape, heritage, biodiversity quality, and particularly floodplain capacity and for the future.

#### 5.6 Biodiversity

- To support development that will result in more rewilding of land within the Parish. The aim is to restore nature, fight climate change, and grow healthy food in a sustainable manner. The community orchard in Dunsden Green is one such example and the Parish Council are committed to exploring more ways in which to further this aspiration.

#### 5.14 Heritage

- To engage in discussions with Conservation Officers to promote the designation of Dunsden Green as a Conservation Area. This statutory process is lengthy and requires the participation of the Parish.

#### 5.17 Road Safety and Junctions

- Request that the certain routes are considered as ‘Quiet Lanes’ by the Highway Authority (refer to NDP Figure 50)
- Explore new speed limit strategies – to seek a 20mph zone in Sonning Eye, Playhatch and Dunsden Green (in line with new policies being introduced by OCC for unlit road speed reduction)
- To have a joint policy with Sonning Parish Council and its NDP to address high speeds and congestion on the B478.

- To investigate the potential for non-humped traffic calming strategies. In particular to;
  - Dissuade excessive speeding along the A4155 between the Playhatch roundabout and the Boundary traffic lights and consider a reduction in the statutory speed limit for this stretch of road.
  - Reduce vehicle speed on Dunsden Way, Playhatch Road and Church Lane.
- As highlighted by the SODC Local Plan Examiner in paragraph 5.19.6, rural lanes can be affected by the proliferation of new buildings in the countryside. The CADG and the Landscape Character Appraisal both highlight the character of the narrow rural lanes within the Parish. These are situated to the northwest of Dunsden Green as shown on NDP Figure 50. There is already pressure on these lanes as an alternative to using the Reading and Caversham routes. Therefore, the Quiet Lanes policy seeks to ensure that development in the area would not have an adverse impact on these routes either directly or indirectly.
- As a Community Aspiration, this approach will be combined with a request to the Highways Authority that certain routes are formally designated as a 'Quiet Lane'.
- The Highway Code sets out that: *'Home Zones and Quiet Lanes. These are places where people could be using the whole of the road for a range of activities ... You should drive slowly and carefully and be prepared to stop to allow people extra time to make space for you to pass them in safety.'*
- In combination, it is considered that the approach will preserve these lanes and give priority to sustainable transport modes.

## 5.18 Public rights of Way

- To continue to support the one bus route that operates in the Parish and ensure that the route continues to serve Dunsden Green providing a sustainable alternative to private vehicles.
  - To support measures which discourage idling engines (particularly those in queuing traffic).
  - To discourage urbanising street lighting where it would be detrimental to the rural character of the settlement and seek the removal of the street lighting between the Playhatch roundabout and Boundary traffic lights on the A4155.
  - To encourage the continuity and completion of sustainable paths providing well connected routes linking the settlements. Pavements will not be encouraged where they do not connect in a meaningful way to an existing pedestrian route network.
  - To survey and review the existing roads, public rights of way and bridleway networks and any other routes of communication that pass through the Parish, the forms of transport using those routes and to endeavor to establish the volume of use by each form of transport.
  - To identify any weaknesses or lack of capacity in the existing route network within the Parish. These deficiencies are to be identified through engagement with as many Residents within the Parish as possible.
  - To gather and present the opinion and wishes of Residents as to how any limitations in the existing route network can be improved, or at least mitigated, for the improvement of transport and communication links within the Parish.
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