Thank you for your response on **Cherwell Local Plan Review**

Lets Talk Cherwell

Organisation (where relevant)

Heyford Park PC

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation (e.g. as an agent or representative of a community organisation)

Yes

Title

Clerk

Organisation (where relevant)

Heyford Park PC

Do you wish to respond or make comments on "Cherwell Context"?

Yes

Do you have any observations on the suggested vision?

Yes

Option 1: Comments

There needs to be an obligation for renewable energy sources to be included in all future developments.

Do you wish to respond to the topics within the Key Choices for Cherwell Section?

Yes

Option 3: Location of Employment Land

Where do you think employment land should be focused to deliver the jobs needed in Cherwell?

At our main urban centres of Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington, Mostly on previously developed land

Do you wish to make additional comments in support of your answer to Option 3?

No

Option 4: Employment Land

When identifying sites for employment land, what should be our priority to balance protecting communities and meeting the needs of our business?

Provide mixed use sites to include general industry, distribution (B2 and B8 uses), light industry and other potentially compatible uses such as retail and leisure (E use classes)

Do you wish to make additional comments in support of your answer to Option 4?

Yes

Option 4: Identifying sites for Employment Land (supplementary information)

There should be more emphasis on a skilled labour force and less retail and warehousing

Supporting Employment: Are there any other employment policies we should include in the plan?

More high tech companies that can offer skilled apprenticeships leading to nationally recognised qualifications e.g. like the old scheme at Harwell.

Do you wish to upload any supporting evidence in relation to Section 5.2 Supporting Economic Development Across Cherwell?

No

Do you wish to comment on Section 5.3 Town Centres and Retail?

Yes

Option 5: Town Centres and Retail

To support our town centres, should we

Provide more flexibility within our town centres for different uses including residential development but protect key shopping areas by restricting use to retail, restaurants and cafes

Do you wish to make additional comments in support of your answer to Option 5?

Yes

Option 5 Supporting Comments

There needs to be more free parking to encourage people into the centre of the towns

Are there other policies that should be considered in relation to retail to support our town centres?

Yes

Suggestions for other policies that should be considered in relation to retail to support our town centres

Future town centre will need plenty of car charging points. Smaller shops for local business use, rather than high street chains to promote and support local enterprise.

Are there any local town centre and retail related policies that we should consider?

Yes

Suggestion for local town centre and retail related policies

No further expansion of Bicester Village. No more national distribution centres.

Do you wish to upload any supporting evidence in relation to Section 5.3 Town Centres and Retail?

No

Do you wish to comment on Section 5.4 Providing Suitable and Sustainable Homes

Yes

Option 6 Rates of Affordable Housing

Should we

Increase the percentage requirement of affordable housing required on housing developments of 10 or more units?

Do you wish to provide supporting information in response to Option 6?

No

Option 7 Affordable Housing Tenure

Should we

Keep the same affordable housing tenure mix as set out in the 2015 Local Plan with 70% Affordable and Social Rent and 30% Social Rent?

Do you wish to provide supporting information in response to Option 7?

Yes

Option 7 Affordable Housing Tenure: Supplementary Information

We need more affordable shared ownership properties with CDC, to enable young people or key workers, ex-military etc. to get onto the housing ladder

Option 8 Housing Internal Space Standards

Should we:

Introduce a policy which requires all new dwellings to meet the nationally described space standard and if so, should this be a minimum requirement?

Do you wish to provide supporting information in response to Option 8?

No

Separation Distances - Should we introduce a policy requiring minimum separation distances between residential properties?

Don't know

Option 9 Housing Accessibility

Should we:

Introduce accessibility standards for a proportion of new homes?

Do you have further comment on Option 9 Housing Accessibility

No

Housing Policies: Are there any other housing policies we should include in the Plan? For example, is there a need to support alternative methods of construction (e.g. modular homes)?

New homes should include the infrastructure required for future car charging, be A rated energy efficient and include a minimum percentage of renewable technologies

Separation Distances - Please provide any additional comments in support of your answer

All house should be able to put their bins somewhere where they do not detract from the local environment e.g. a back garden or closed individual bin stores

Do you wish to upload any supporting evidence in relation to Section 5.4 Suitable and Sustainable housing?

No

Do you wish to answer questions relating to section 5.2 Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change

Yes

Option 10 Sustainable Construction

Should we

Set sustainable design and construction standards for residential and non-residential development in Cherwell above those required by Central Government?

Do you wish to provide comments in relation to Option 10 Sustainable Construction?

Yes

Option 10 Sustainable Construction Supplementary Information

Use locally sourced, recycled or sustainable materials wherever possible and be transparent about this so it can be proved. Encourage a degree of modular housing or other types which is more affordable.

Retrofitting of Historic Buildings

How should we address the challenges of retrofitting existing building stock balancing this against the need to protect historic buildings?

Use modern, especially recycled materials wherever possible that do not detract from the overall look or ambience of the buildings

Option 11 Renewable Energy

Should we

Other (please specify) - Use it wherever possible e.g. solar farms in discreet locations amongst grazing animals. Solar arrays on reservoirs. Use locally produced renewable energy to supply the power to its local community as a priority

Do you wish to provide comments in support of your answer to Option 11?

Yes

Option 11 Renewable Energy: Supplementary Information

COP 26 has illustrated the need to take immediate action to save the planet.

Policies for climate change, sustainable construction and renewable energy - Are there any other policies that you think are required to help support the approach to managing climate change?

Some percentage of renewable energy production should be inherent in all new builds e.g. brown water for toilets or rain capture and reuse.

Would you like to upload supporting information in relation to Section 5.5 Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change?

No

Are there any local Green Belt matters we need to consider?

There should be an overarching principle that brown field sites must always be used before any consideration is given to building on the Green Belt or any other green fields. There should be no building on any sites of special scientific interest e.g. where there are great crested newts, rare orchids, etc. Woodland, wild flower meadows, native hedgerows and fresh water courses must be preserved.

Do you wish to respond to section 5.7 The Natural Environment?

Yes

Option 12 Biodiversity Net Gain

Where biodiversity net gain or compensatory measures cannot be achieved on site, should we:

Prioritise within Conservation Target Areas/those parts of the Nature Recovery Network where habitat creation and restoration is to be focused

Do you wish to provide additional comments to support your answer to Option 12 Biodiversity Net Gain

yes

Option 12 Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Information

Biodiversity is extremely important. History shows that if it is lost it is lost forever.

Option 13 Natural Capital

Should we:

Include a policy in the Plan requiring major development proposals to: a) be supported by a natural capital assessment to demonstrate the impact of the proposals and b) demonstrate environmental net gain

Do you wish to make further comments in respect of Option 13?

No

Biodiversity and the Natural Environment

Do you have any views on policies for inclusion in the review of the Plan on biodiversity and the natural environment

Protect it at all costs.

Do you wish to provide any supporting evidence in respect of section 5.7 The Natural Environment and Biodiversity?

No

Option 14 Children's Play

Should we

Integrate play facilities throughout towns and developments identifying minimum standards and setting expectations through design and other place making policies e.g. inclusion of pocket parks, play streets and informal play within open space areas.

Do you wish to provide comments to support your answer to Option 14 Children's play?

Yes

Option 14 Children's Play Supplementary Information

Provision for older children must be considered e.g. facilities and building suitable for use by youth groups. If there is nothing for them, those living in rural situations can become disenfranchised resulting in ant-social behaviour.

Option 15 Outdoor Sports provision

Should we

Seek to secure and establish sports hubs at our main settlements

Do you wish to provide comments to support your answer to Option 15 Outdoor Sports Provision

Yes

Option 15 Outdoor Sports provision Supplementary Information

The current policies are not working. We are in urgent need of more, appropriate and timely, sports facilities that will be used by the up and coming youngsters e.g. skate parks, BMX tracks and more high standard, public swimming pools available. Any sports provision provided as part of a development should be built when staged trigger points are reached rather than as an afterthought at the end. Some exercise groups do not need pitches as such but good facilities to enable them to thrive e.g. walking groups, outdoor gyms, boot camps etc.

Do you wish to upload any supporting information in respect of Section 5.8 Community Facilities, Sport and Recreation?

No

Section 5.9 Local Green Spaces

Do you have any comments on the sites submitted for Local Green Space Designation so far?

Yes

Do you have sites that you consider meet the criteria for Local Green Space Designation?

Yes

Proposed Local Green Space

Heyford Park Village Green. This is an important amenity in an expanding area of housing development. It is in the centre of the community and the only outside space where large community events can be held. The veterans tranquil garden should be preserved as it is a well used and important facility. This is especially important due to the heritage of Heyford Park as a key strategic air base.

Do you wish to respond to section 5.11 Placemaking and Good Design?

No

Do you wish to comment on Section 5.12 Connectivity and Transport?

Yes

Do you agree with the proposed transport and connectivity approach to support the Local Plan Review?

No

Please provide information to support your answer

Talking from the point of view of Heyford Park residents there is no provision for anyone travelling west of the village e.g. to Lower Heyford Station, Banbury, Deddington Health Centre or library, etc. or any links between the local villages e.g. off road cycle paths, bridle ways etc.

Should the approach be different for the rural areas, for example focusing on low carbon technology rather than a reduction in the need to travel?

yes

Please provide information to support your answer relating to rural areas

There is a limit to how far you can reduce the need to travel in rural villages therefore need more sustainable methods and also better public transport to and from areas other than Bicester and Oxford

What measures would help you drive less or use alternative transport modes with lower emissions?

- off-road cycle routes - cycling friendly design of roads - more pavements - partially enclosed bus shelters with seating and real time displays - traffic calming and reduced speed limits - better public transport at the times when it is needed e.g. the Village Link, and include later in the evening - electric vehicle charge infrastructure - safe well-lit environments at night e.g. path lighting, CCTV etc to make people feel safe

Option 16 Digital Infrastructure

Should we

Provide a policy with the requirements expected from new development to provide digital connections and be designed to accommodate future digital infrastructure needs (future proofing).

Do you wish to provide comments to support your answer to Option 16 Digital Infrastructure

Yes

Option 16 Digital Infrastructure supplementary information

There is still very poor mobile and WiFi coverage in many rural villages e.g. in areas of Heyford Park, Steeple Aston etc. This is needed to enable more home working and to keep children safe when they are out and about.

Transport policies

Do you agree with the range of policies and documents that we have identified? Are there any other transport related policies that we should consider through the Local Plan Review?

No strategic freight rail or road transport hubs due to pressure on local roads, the A34, the A43, the M40 etc.

Do you wish to upload any information to support your response to section 5.12 Connectivity and Transport

No

Do you wish to comment on Section 5.13 Infrastructure and Infrastructure funding?

Yes

Option 17 Infrastructure Delivery (method for identifying infrastructure priorities)

Should we

Update the methodology to consider social and environmental benefits of schemes and the contributions they make to climate action, healthy place shaping, and a sustainable economy?

Option 17 Infrastructure Delivery (Infrastructure Delivery Plan)

Should we

Look at areas by catchment and how accessible they are

Do you wish to make comments in relation to Option 17 Infrastructure Delivery?

Yes

Option 17 Infrastructure Delivery Supplementary Information

If Ardley station is to reopen it must be passengers as well as freight in order to be of any benefit to the local community. This means that it will require, parking, other facilities for passengers, and a safe, well lit, walking route linking Ardley to other villages.

Delivering Infrastructure: Are there other infrastructure policies that we should include

More electric vehicle charging points and secure bike storage for commuters

Do you wish to upload any supporting information in relation to Section 5.13 Sustainable Infrastructure and Infrastructure funding

No

Do you wish to comment on Cherwell's Places?

Yes

Do you wish to comment on Section 6.2 Banbury?

No

Do you wish to comment on Section 6.3 Bicester?

No

Do you wish to respond to Section 6.4 Kidlington and the Surrounding Villages?

No

Do you wish to respond to section 6.5 Heyford Park?

Yes

Option 29 Heyford Park

Should we:

Other (please specify) - Before any further development is considered there must be a community cemetery in place owned and operated by the Parish Council for the benefit of residents. There is also a need for more community facilities, including a Parish owned Village Hall, a Youth Club, allotments, a community orchard, community garden, more open spaces, Parish Council managed play areas (NB the current privately owned and operated ones have been shut to children for almost 2 years, with no adequate explanation), health centre, more shops of a wider selection of retail, fewer large businesses, limits on additional freight transport to the site, more hi-tech companies including the much spoken about film industry to secure well paid employment for local people . , Limit further development beyond that already planned for

Heyford Park- Do you have any additional comments on Option 29? For example, are

some areas/directions for growth are more appropriate than others?

Yes

Option 29 Heyford Park- Supplementary Information

Preserve and maintain the current rented bungalows, and build additional low cost private rental options, suitable for a wide variety of residents that don't necessary fall into social housing needs categories, so that local people can afford to live in their community e.g. the elderly, less abled, those on minimum wage etc. There is a history of there being a mobile home park at Heyford Park that is full integrated into the local community, and which the residents take great pride in. This should be maintained and considered in any future plans.

Do you wish to upload evidence to support your answer?

no

Do you wish to respond to Section 6.6 The Rural Areas?

No

Are there other areas where a local development management policy would be helpful?

S106 and CIL should always go to the relevant parish councils for use in their own community. This should be passed over within one year of the planning application being approved and be non-refundable.

I wish to comment on the submitted sites

No

Do you have any further comments to make, or would you like to upload any additional documents?

No

Further comments

- Some developers have too much power within local communities e.g. residents have no say about the service charges they are made to pay and there is often a lack of transparency about how these are calculated, or what you are paying for. Many residents feel as if they are paying a premium price for a sometimes poor or inadequate service. There should be a requirement that all management companies have to publish their accounts. They should be more accountable and there should be a price cap. The developers are often sub-contracting to other companies within their own groups and thereby making profits from this with little if any accountability.

I am responding as

Other (please specify) - On behalf of the Heyford Park Parish Council and the Residents Association

Thank you,
Cherwell District Council