

PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk to the Parish Council: Mr. B. MacGregor

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Mrs Leani Haim
Assistant Town Clerk
Blandford Forum Town Council
Town Clerk's Office
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29 October 2015

Dear Leani

Pimperne Parish Council's response to the Blandford + Draft Plan consultation is as follows:

Question 1 - We do not agree that the Plan should focus future growth on the northern and eastern edges of the town as this is unsupported by NDDC's Local Plan which identifies the areas to the South East and South West as the main areas for future growth.

The Blandford + Plan would involve significant development beyond the bypass on greenfield sites and risks creating a community that is isolated from the rest of the town. We believe the bypass provides a clear boundary to the town and helps to retain a distinct gap between Pimperne and Blandford.

Question 2 - The mix of development as proposed is unsustainable and according to the "Sustainability Appraisal of Changes to the Submission Document" for North Dorset Local Plan Part One will not meet the need for social progress that recognises the needs of everyone. The fact that part of the plan necessitates the provision of a shuttle bus service serves to demonstrate the isolated nature of the proposed development. Moreover, the sustainability appraisal identifies that the NDDC local plan already makes provision for a doctor's surgery. The proposals also have significant implications for the local landscape in proximity to the AONB.

Question 3 - The site proposed is not adjoining the AONB but actually lies within it and the DCC Landscape Officer and the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire AONB Team have identified that the area has "moderate/high landscape value at present due to its contribution to the open underdeveloped character of the AONB".

The proposed location of a new school next to a busy bypass has already been identified as inappropriate and together with an enlarged waste transfer facility raises significant concerns over traffic build up and safety.

Yours sincerely

Bryn MacGregor
Clerk, Pimperne Parish Council