

Neighbourhood plan

In April we updated on the plans to create a Neighbourhood Plan for Bletchingdon. This is a document that sets out planning policies for a local area. It's written by the local community, to ensure the community gets the right types of development and in the right place. The plan sits alongside the local plan prepared by Cherwell District Council. Decisions on planning applications will be made taking into account both the local plan and the neighbourhood plan.

Bletchingdon Parish Council have agreed that a Neighbourhood Plan is a good way to ensure that Bletchingdon Parish residents have the best chance to influence any future development in our Parish. A group of residents is working on this plan which, whilst supported by the Parish Council, is separate to the Parish Council's work.

The first step in creating a Neighbourhood Plan is to designate the area it will cover. The planning group has linked up with Hampton Gay & Poyle and agreed to work together on a Neighbourhood Plan that will cover both areas. For Bletchingdon residents, this means that our whole Parish and the area immediately to the south of our village will be covered by a joint plan.

The planning group have applied to Cherwell District Council to designate our joint area for a Neighbourhood Plan and the next step is for Cherwell District Council to run a consultation on this proposal. The consultation began on July 21st and can be viewed on the Cherwell District Council website following this link:

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/221/neighbourhood-plans/982/bletchingdon-and-hampton-gay-and-poyle-neighbourhood-plan>

More information about how the neighbourhood plan is progressing will be provided in future editions, in the meantime if you would like to get involved please email futurebletch@gmail.com.