

**Slide pack of the information boards used at Community Engagement meeting #1 held
24th July 2021.**

Welcome and thank you for coming to see what the Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan Revision is all about.

What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan? Neighbourhood Development Plans allow communities to set out a positive vision for how they want their area to develop over the next 25 years. The Plans cannot prevent development, but they can help to ensure that new homes, recreational spaces, commercial buildings are built in the right places.

Winchfield has a Plan – why revise it? Our Plan was made in 2017 but since that time things have changed. In 2020 Hart District Council adopted a new Local Plan and some of the policies that we have in our current Neighbourhood Development Plan are no longer aligned with the Local Plan or changes to National Planning Policy Framework. Revisions to our Plan are therefore necessary to ensure that it reflects current circumstances and is as up to date as possible.

The Parish Council will be the ‘owner’ of the revised Plan, but it has appointed a Working Group to take things forward. The Working Group comprises six residents who have volunteered their skills and time.

The Working Group is currently collecting new and additional evidence to build upon the material collected in 2017 but it cannot do this alone.

The Working Group is keen to collect your thoughts, ideas, wishes and suggestions to ensure that the revised Plan clearly reflects what you – residents of Winchfield - want to be used in future planning decisions. Being involved in the revision process gives you the opportunity to shape the size, form, and character of the village in the future.

The new Plan will provide opportunities to suggest new policies and projects with the support of the community. When the time comes our Revised Plan will be scrutinised by an independent Examiner. Every policy must meet specific conditions and be supported by ‘evidence’. We therefore need your help in building the evidence base to take things forward.

If you would like to follow our progress notes of meetings held by the Working Group are available on the Parish Council website.

We are aware many of you are also interested in the proposed Shapley Heath Garden Community project and further information appears on later boards.

Last summer the Working Group spent three sessions discussing Winchfield to understand what the Vision and Objectives for the revised Plan might be. The Group conducted a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) to capture ideas and thoughts. These were then debated further to produce a 'Vision' for Winchfield as it might look in 2037.

Our Vision

Winchfield, with its ancient and unusual dispersed settlement pattern is, in 2037, a vibrant, attractive village with its own unique character and ambience and sits at the very centre of Hart District. Our residents have embraced the opportunities offered by modern technology enabling them to live and work in a semi-rural and agricultural environment. The Grade 1 listed Norman Church and other historic buildings are cherished and used by the community; protected for future generations. The historic environment sits in harmony with several small, fully sustainable developments of sympathetically designed new housing which have enabled younger families to live in the village.

Our quiet, narrow lanes, bridle paths, well maintained network of rural footpaths and the Basingstoke Canal welcome residents and visitors alike, offering space for healthy outdoor leisure pursuits or quiet enjoyment of the peaceful rural scenery. Winchfield is the healthy heart and lungs of Hart; the physical and mental benefits of access to rural space enjoyed in our village contribute significantly to the overall diversity and opportunities this District has to offer. We value and protect the status of Hart as 'one of the best places to live in the UK'

1 Please tell us if we have managed to describe a vision of Winchfield where you and your family would like to live in 2037?

To support the draft Vision the Working Group developed draft Objectives.

Our Objectives

1. To encourage, support and protect our Natural Environment
2. To maintain, sustain and enhance our Historic Environment

3. To influence the sustainability of our Built Environment for the benefit of all Parish residents
4. To promote health and wellbeing
5. To support our local economy and sustain our agricultural heritage
6. To ensure that our community thrives and that we respond to the needs of our residents.
7. To promote and monitor safety measures to improve traffic management.
8. To value and cherish our village and promote a strong and vibrant community.
9. To support Hart District Council initiatives to become a carbon neutral authority by 2035.

Only when we are sure that the vision and objectives and ‘ bigger picture’ for the revised Plan is agreed can we move forward to reviewing and defining the policies which will support Winchfield community’s aims for influencing future development and growth.

2. Please tell us if you agree with these objectives or suggest how they might be improved?

Our Natural Environment

To ensure that we have a current and accurate evaluation of our natural environment Winchfield Parish Council commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment to replace the Hart District Council study which is now very out of date. The work has included several visits by the Landscape Architects who have walked many miles around the Parish and we will be able to share the Assessment with you when it is finalised.

Winchfield is still largely rural and most of our residents value the peacefulness and countryside landscape that we enjoy. We have seen, over the course of the Covid pandemic, how many visitors have ‘discovered’ Winchfield and now come regularly to walk, run, cycle, paddle-board or just generally enjoy the countryside.

Hart District Council wants to realise its ambition to create a ‘Green Grid’ and has started a project to encourage opportunities for active recreation and leisure with potential

benefits to climate change and health, local ecology, and biodiversity. We fully endorse the Council's objective and will ask for your support in developing policies in the revised Plan to support this strategy.

3. Sharing our village whilst caring for the environment is a significant concern, what do you think?

Trees and hedgerows

Hart District Council has declared a climate emergency to address the causes and impacts of the crisis threatening our environment. For wildlife to survive and thrive we must encourage wildlife 'corridors' across the Parish. We must also care for the individual trees which form links along the lanes. Across the UK woodland is disappearing fast and there is an urgent need to maintain and manage our natural heritage.

4. Do you value our woodlands and hedgerows and support community efforts to maintain, restore and extend them?

5. Are there trees that you think are important or special and should be protected? Please tell us where they are.

6. What are your views on the importance of climate change in the Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan?

Housing

Winchfield Parish Council commissioned 'Action Hampshire' to produce a Housing Needs Survey which was delivered to every home and business in Winchfield. The purpose of the survey was to identify the need for affordable housing for those with a local connection to Winchfield parish. The results are being analysed and a detailed report will be presented to the Parish Council. We will be able to share the findings with you at our autumn meeting.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete and return the survey. We will address housing in more detail at a later community engagement event.

7. Whether you completed the survey or not if you want to tell us what sort of housing you think Winchfield needs please do so here.

Over the next few boards we would like to know your thoughts on Winchfield.

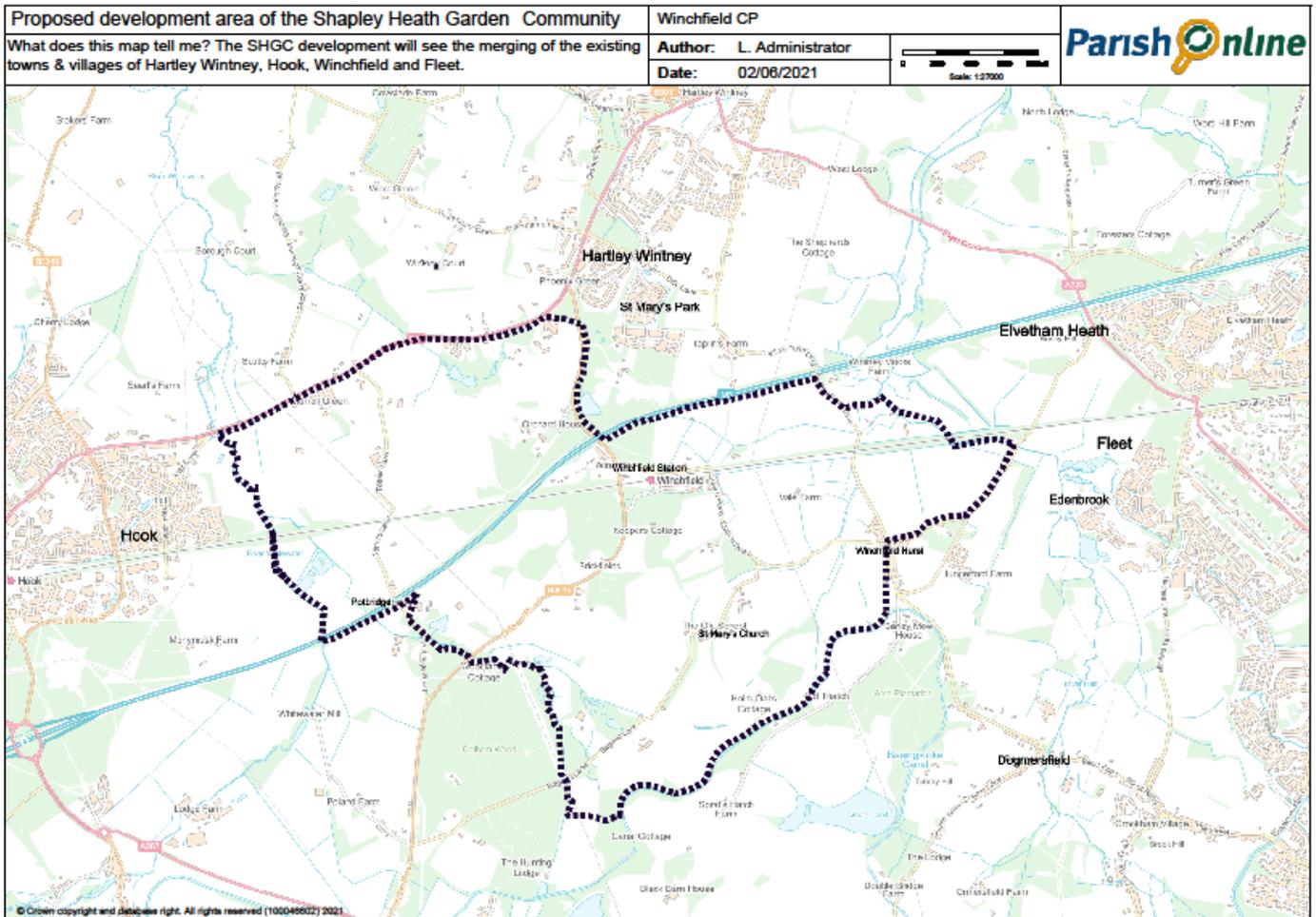
8. What do you like most about Winchfield?

9. What do you like least about Winchfield?

10. What are the top three issues that concern you and your family about Winchfield today?

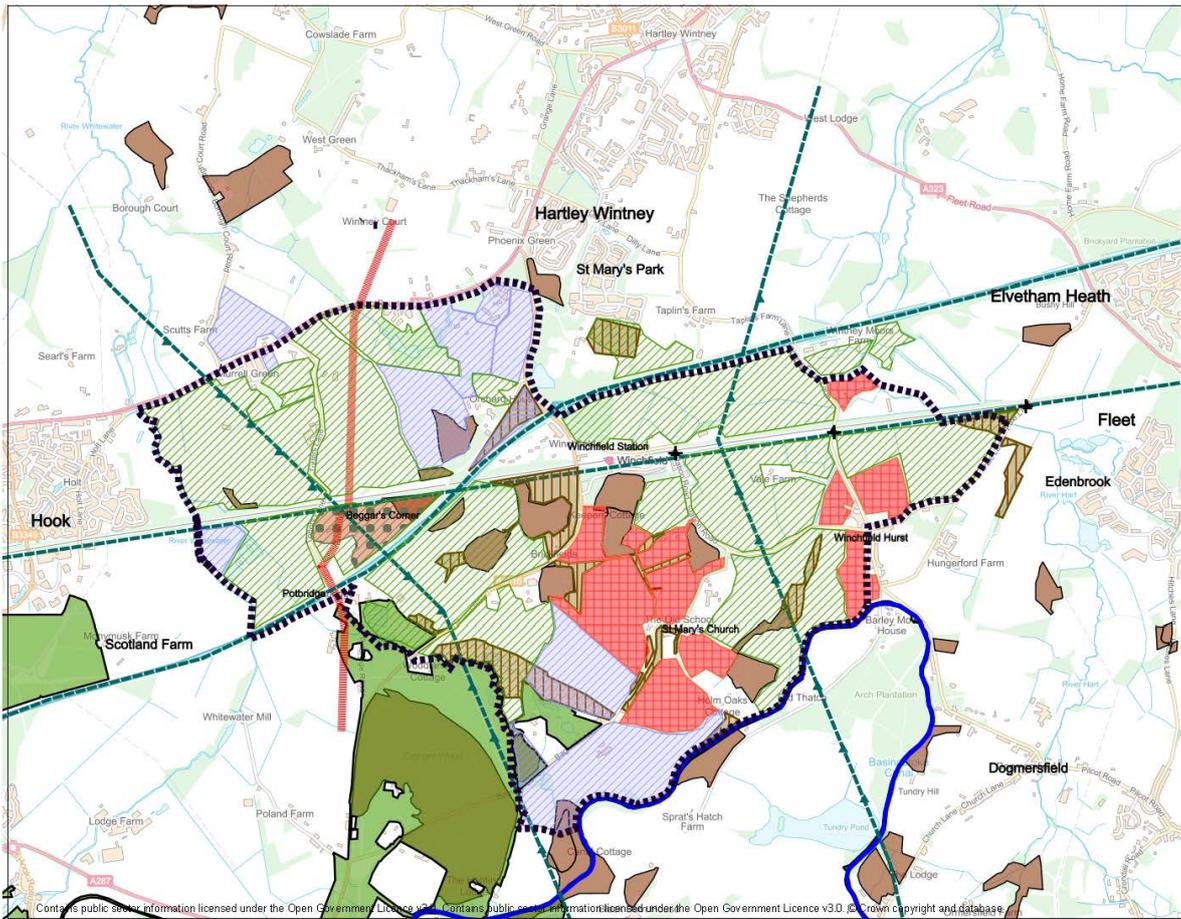
11. What kind of place would you like Winchfield to be in 25 years' time?

The following boards are about Shapley Heath Garden Community



Landscape and infrastructure constraints within the proposed SHGC development area.

What does this map tell me? Existing landscape and infrastructure (the M3, railway, overhead pylons, protected areas) means the stated benefits of a garden community cannot be delivered as the area will be fragmented into separate areas



- Development Boundary Line
- Land under control of Gallagher / Lightwater
- Other 'available' land
- Land NOT available
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Site of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC)
- Ancient Woodland
- Basingstoke Canal
- high pressure gas main
- former landfill site
- National Grid, M3, Railway, 3 Victorian Bridges (+++)
- Winchfield CP
- Author: L. Administrator
- Date: 08/06/2021

Why is Shapley Heath Garden Community a bad idea?

- There is no evidence the development is viable or deliverable, as noted by the Planning Inspector during examination of the Local Plan
- The building of 5,000 homes in Shapley Heath Garden Community will drive up the housing target for Hart. 3,225 excess houses will be built
- The Government's housing requirement for HDC has actually fallen by 32% from an average of 423 dwellings per annum (dpa) to 286 dpa
- Shapley Heath would create an urban sprawl, joining up Winchfield, Hook and Hartley Wintney into a vast new town on Fleet's doorstep.
- There will be a material impact to the whole of Hart following the loss of the 'green lung' which is Winchfield – a valuable recreational resource.
- It will undermine the recently adopted HDC Climate Change Action Plan.
- Results in no assessment of viable alternatives by HDC for the future

Extracts from the Report by the Planning Inspector February 2020

- **Para 43 - I consider that to uplift the housing requirement further could result in open market dwellings being provided when there is no evidence of need, which could lead to an imbalance between homes and jobs and unsustainable commuting patterns.**
- **Para 61 - I consider that Policy SS3 and its supporting text are not justified; as, on the currently available evidence, it cannot be determined that it represents the most appropriate long-term growth strategy.**
- **Para 63 -There is little evidence to demonstrate that a site can actually be delivered in terms of infrastructure, viability and landownership within the identified Area of Search.**
- **Para 181 - The Council will need to ensure that all options for meeting future housing needs are considered fully in future reviews of the Plan, including the potential for regeneration**

The proposed Shapley Heath Garden Community will not comply with or address any of the Inspector's rulings.

How will the updated Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan help?

- **When the Hart District Local Plan is updated and is examined by the Inspector significant weight will be given to the most recent plan – that will be Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan. (WNDP)**
- **The WNDP evidence base will have been significantly expanded to cover:**
 - ✓ **Landscape Character Assessment**
 - ✓ **Local Green Space designations**
 - ✓ **Housing Needs Survey**
 - ✓ **Heritage**
 - ✓ **Biodiversity**
- **Your support at future meetings and next year voting at the WNDP referendum with a resounding YES vote will send a clear message of the Community's views**

So please stay engaged and help deliver your future and that of Winchfield

Thank you for coming today. We hope you have found this event helpful. We will take away all the comments and suggestions that you have made and review what YOU want

us to do for YOUR village. We will do our best to ensure that Winchfield has a revised Neighbourhood Development Plan that can influence future planning decisions.

We will hold more sessions as we go forward and invite you to tell us if we have your support.

We look forward to seeing you again for another update and engagement event later this year where we will be able to respond to the comments you have given us today.

It would be very helpful if you would complete the 'feedback form' and send it back to us please – all the information is on the form.