

# DRAFT FARINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2015 - 2031

The Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan covers the whole of the Great Faringdon Parish and for the period up to 2031, to be coincident with the Local Plan Part 1 2031. For full details, visit Faringdon Town Council website [www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk) and click on Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan.

## **BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE PLAN**

### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

The strategies and policies of the plan have been divided into twelve sections that examine in depth the key themes identified by local stakeholders. These themes have been developed for the Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan to reflect the issues and opportunities identified through consultation.

### **4.2 A WELL-PROPORTIONED TOWN**

*Residential Development Within the Development Boundary:* Support, in principle, residential development within the existing development boundary of the town. (4.2A). N.B. The Vale of White Horse District Council has allocated land for developments outside the current development boundary as part of its Local Plan; hence, the current development boundary will have to be altered to accommodate these developments. The Neighbourhood Plan cannot oppose these allocations: it could only propose sites additional to those already allocated or alternative locations within the parish boundary for the same number of houses.

*Planning Gain:* Qualifying development proposals will be expected to contribute to achieving the objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (4.2b)

### **4.3 CONNECTIONS**

*Connections:* Ensure new developments create connections into the town centre that encourage walking and cycling. (4.3A)

*Streets & Spaces:* Ensure streets and spaces are designed to Conservation Area standards (4.3B)

*Shared Surfaces:* Any shared surfaces in new developments to give priority to pedestrians and cyclists over motorised vehicles (4.3C)

*Parking:* Proposals for delivering more off-street parking together with coach park outside town centre will be supported. (4.3D)

*Footpaths and Cycleways:* New developments should contribute to the delivery of improvements to the pedestrian and cycle network in and around Faringdon. (4.3E)

### **4.4 TOWN CENTRE SHOPPING & SERVICES**

*Minimise loss of retail space:* Any net loss of retail (Use Class A1) space in the defined town centre will not be permitted unless specific circumstances can be demonstrated. (4.4A)

*Retail Offer:* Extend the Town Centre Retail Offer and Wider Retail offer (4.4B & 4.4C)

Improve Pedestrian and Cycle Links (4.4D)

*Public Houses:* Support retention of the town's public houses and their conversion or redevelopment for other uses opposed due to the important role they play in the local community. (4.4E)

#### **4.5 LOCAL JOBS**

*Existing Employment Sites:* Intensification or redevelopment of existing industrial areas along Park Road will be supported (4.5A)

*Wicklesham Quarry:* Safeguard Wicklesham Quarry for employment uses (B2 & B8) following completion of quarrying activities (4.5B)

*Land North West of Gloucester Street Car Park:* Possible development of land North West of Gloucester Street car park for mixed employment and retail uses (4.5C)

*Wicklesham Farm:* Limited expansion of Wicklesham Farm will be permitted. (4.5D)

*Land behind Pioneer Road:* Permit new employment development on land behind Pioneer Road (4.5E)

*Town Centre Employment:* Employment development will be encouraged within the town centre (4.5F)

*Rural Diversification:* Diversification of existing farms will be supported through reuse, conversion or adaptation of existing buildings and potential new build where economic benefits can be demonstrated (4.5G)

#### **4.6 FAMILY HOUSING**

*Housing Balance:* New development should deliver a range of housing types that meet local parish needs. (4.6A)

*Self-building housing:* Self-build housing projects will be supported in appropriate locations in line with national and local planning policy. (4.6B)

#### **4.7 DESIGN**

*Materials & Roofscape:* Design of new buildings should be constructed using materials in keeping with local character and styles. All new buildings and major refurbishments should minimise their energy, water and resource consumption and visual impact should be of a scale and form appropriate to their location (4.7A & 4.7B, 4.7C, 4.7D, 4.7E)

#### **4.8 ENSURING APPROPRIATE SUPPORTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE**

*Improving the Infrastructure:* All qualifying developments to demonstrate provision of appropriate new facilities on site, provision of or contributions towards off-site facilities in order for the development to be sustainably accommodated. (4.8A)

#### **4.9 SCHOOL PROVISION**

*Infant School Site Redevelopment:* if site becomes vacant, proposals to reuse the existing buildings for community use will be encouraged. (4.9A)

#### **4.10 SPORT & LEISURE**

*Faringdon Country Park:* Development proposals that improve leisure, sport, recreation and wildlife habitat and associated facilities at Faringdon Country Park will be supported (4.10A)

*Sports Facilities:* Proposals for extension of existing sports facilities will be supported. (4.10B)

*Allotments:* development of new serviced sites for allotments will be supported. (4.10C)

*Local green space designation:* Ensure local green spaces are protected and enhanced. (4.10D)

#### **4.11 CARING COMMUNITY**

*Health & Care Provision:* New development must support the expansion of local health and care facilities to meet the need for these services in the town. (4.11A)

*Care for the Elderly:* New development must support the provision of specialist accommodation for the elderly. (4.11B)

#### **4.12 LANDSCAPE**

Important landscape setting of Faringdon should be protected;

A stronger connection between the surrounding countryside and Faringdon town should be encouraged.

Pedestrian and cycle access into the wider countryside and to the Thames from the town should be enhanced.

The sale and prominence of local produce in the town centre should be improved.

#### **4.13 TOURISM**

*Museum/Visitor Centre:* Proposals to develop a museum or visitor centre to promote tourism will be supported (4.13A)

*River Frontage:* Tourism activities that promote the section of the River Thames within the parish as an attraction will be encouraged. (4.13B)

*Alternative Energy Schemes:* A micro hydroelectricity scheme at Radcot on the River Thames will be supported as will other alternative energy schemes. (4.13C)