

THIS HAS TO BE THE FINAL STAGE OF THE NDP!

Our written Draft Plan and its supporting documents is nearing the end of its pre-submission consultation period. The closing date is Friday 4 December. There is still time to send us your comments either online at www.scpc-ndp.co.uk or on a feedback form available both at the Parish Office and the Library.

During November we have been adding the comments received about the Draft Plan to our Consultation Statement. This is a record of all the consultations we have had from start to finish of the Plan and any action which has resulted from them. In addition replies have gone to statutory consultees, landowners/developers and other stakeholders and are recorded on our Consultation Statement. Any relevant 'tweaks' to the Plan resulting from these comments will be made prior to presenting it to SODC for submission consultation with them, a further period of 6 weeks which will take us into January 2016.

The last stage of the process will be to present the Plan to an independent Examiner selected by us from a short list of three potential examiners given to us by SODC. The examination will happen sometime in late February or early March 2016.

We expect that we will be taking the Plan forward for Examination more or less in its current form. We have

worked very hard on the Plan and its supporting documents and will not be deflected from our timetable. It will go forward come what may.

There have been a series of successful appeals for housing developments in various areas of South Oxon, despite having been strongly opposed by residents, Parish and District Councils. It is evident that the only vehicle for local opinion and views about development in our Parishes to be upheld is by an active NDPlan. SODC's Core Strategy has not been able to defend unwanted or unallocated development of 159 homes in Benson, 120 and 80 homes on two sites in Chinnor or the 120 homes at Thames Farm. None of these areas were protected by an NDPlan, which was pointed out by the Inspector who upheld the appeal by developers in Chinnor. **No Plan no protection.**

When our Plan goes to Examination it will have 'strength' to resist an appeal for unwanted development. Once it has been voted in by you at Referendum it will give Localism teeth and you through the Plan control over what happens in our village.

We need your support more than ever to set the development agenda for Sonning Common. ●

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