

Non-Statutory Comments on Weston on the Green Neighbourhood Plan 2017

Date	Name	Comment	Reply
14/04/17	Andrew Wilson Chair of Village Hall Committee (email)	<p>1. Quote: “[the Village Hall’s] demand as an activity venue outstrips availability and it is booked months in advance, often by organisations outside the village, making it difficult for village groups/activities to find space.”</p> <p>This is news to me. I am unaware of any occasion when a villager or village group has been unable to book the hall. We once had a commercial booking, which potentially clashed with the weekend often used for the Spring Show, but as we gave the Garden Club 18 months notice it was not considered a problem and they were happy to shift by 7 days. At our AGM 2 days ago it was stressed again that the Hall is for all the village and use by villagers takes priority.</p> <p>A cursory glance at the Village Hall’s schedule for next month will surely prove the point: 3 village club bookings (evenings), a quiz night, two daytime bookings and one day as a polling station. Out of 93 available sessions in the month the hall is booked for 11. Of these 11, 3 are monthly village group meetings and 1 is an event organised by the</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and specifically about Section Point, the Memorial Village Hall.</p> <p>1. <u>Going Forward</u> It was agreed at the Steering Group Meeting (May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017) that “the section on the Memorial Village Hall will be rewritten to remove the tone of a demand. It was recognized by all that the Management Trustees work hard to make the Hall relevant to the life of the village and their efforts are appreciated”.</p> <p>The Steering Group has considered your specific concerns thoroughly and our responses to your points are as below.</p> <p>2. <u>Booking the Hall</u></p>

		<p>Village Hall Committee. The only event specifically requested by a villager is a birthday party, for which they require the morning to set up and so accounts for 2 sessions. Demand, by no stretch of the imagination, outstrips availability.</p> <p>2. Quote: “In response to the village consultations, engagement with the Village Memorial Hall trustees and Committee...”</p> <p>What engagement are you referring to? Apart from one meeting I had with you at your house in January 2016, I am not aware of any formal discussion that has taken place with any member of the committee or our trustees.</p> <p>In the meeting we did have I thought I made it clear that the “requests” that had come from your survey in no way matched any feedback we had ever received. I also felt I made it clear that the expansion that had been proposed by the Steering Group was wholly impractical and would not be in any way supported by the Committee, who are also managing trustees. I therefore feel disappointed that such plans form a major part of the Plan for this area of the village without any further consultation with us.</p> <p>I copy below the email I sent to the committee and yourself following our meeting 15 months ago and have highlighted some pertinent points. I feel there has been no attempt whatsoever by the Steering Group to formally engage with the Village Hall Committee, which I find</p>	<p>We were fortunate in that the Booking Secretary attended our Steering Group Meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 and we were able to have a full discussion about Hall bookings. There is no doubt that she does absolutely everything she can to support village groups in meeting in the Hall. To quote from the Minutes, “ ..informed the meeting of the challenges faced trying to balance the Hall booking with the various demands from both villagers and outside groups. Outside groups often request a series of booking in advance and she makes her best efforts to ensure that villagers are not denied use of the Hall”. The need to use outside bookings was fully understood and the funds raised from these bookings have been extremely useful in maintaining and upgrading facilities. The suggestion that a seminar room could be added is not a demand but an idea and would need to be the discussed and decided by the Memorial Village Hall Management Committee.</p> <p>3. <u>Consultation</u></p> <p>I believe that if a person/group doesn't feel they have been consulted then more could/should have been done to have the conversations. However, the Steering Group</p>
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		<p>extremely disappointing. While we may not have been as proactive as we should have been in requesting updates and information, I am still surprised that proposals regarding the Village Hall were published without a courtesy forewarning of such plans. On 23rd August 2016 I requested an update, to which you responded you would be meeting the “with the leads of all the village groups and discuss any topic of interest in the document.” This, I’m afraid to say, never happened in my case.</p> <p>We have discussed the proposals at Committee meetings in the past and the consensus has been that we are not in agreement with the proposed additions to the Village Hall, however I do not pretend to speak on behalf of everyone and so would request that the committee members Cc’ed into this email let their own thoughts be known by emailing Diane or by downloading and returning the comments form: <a href="http://www.wotgneighbourhoodplan.co.uk/Comments%20on%20Weston%20on%20the%20Green%20Neighbourhood%20Plan%202017-31.docx">http://www.wotgneighbourhoodplan.co.uk/Comments%20on%20Weston%20on%20the%20Green%20Neighbourhood%20Plan%202017-31.docx</a></p> <p>In summary, and please correct me if I’m wrong, I feel the idea that there is a demand for an extension to provide additional meeting room space has been invented by one person and taken up by the Steering Group as a village-wide request. I think the other “improvements” such as cafe/refreshments area/business hub are pie-in-the-sky ideas with no real thought of the practicalities. I understand these are not set in stone in the way that the Housing policies are, but still I am disappointed that the custodians of</p>	<p>has met monthly for two years in the Village Hall, a meeting open to the public and to all groups within our community. We advertise around the village, in the Newsletter, publish reports of our meetings and have a website with up to date information. I did meet with you and we had a full discussion early on in the process. You made your position clear and our task was to also represent the Village. On the other hand, the Village Hall Management Committee also has public meetings and the Neighbourhood Plan group did not attend any of them. That is regrettable and our hope is that as the Action Plan from the Report goes ahead through the Parish Council, that the Memorial Village Hall Committee contributes to the discussions. We also note from the Constitution that the makeup of the MVH Committee is to have a representative from each of the groups in the village. This could be a solution going forward to better communication within the village.</p> <p>There were conversations with the Trustees. My early conversation with Councillor Roper pointed me towards an understanding of the membership and purpose of the Memorial Village Hall. I furthered the conversation as I was trying to understand if the Trustees were active and who they were. I noted that he was a</p>
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		<p>the Village Hall were not properly consulted on this and that misleading information has been published for public consumption.</p>	<p>Trustee and he said that he had not had anything to do with the group for years. Susan Daenke has had conversations with Joan Boardman and more recently a new Trustee, Julia White.</p> <p>4. <u>Extension of facilities</u>  It was agreed at the NP Steering Group Meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 that “one of the problems could be the tone of the Neighbourhood Plan, which may have been interpreted as a demand or command to change the facilities and/or use. Susan Daenke advised that this was not the case; rather the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to anticipate the use/demand reflecting the proposed increase in the village population up to 20131. The intention is not to demand change by the Management Trustees, but the NP reflects the aspirations expressed in the public meetings.”</p> <p>All of the Objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan are visionary. Having said that, we have included an Action Plan that is under the management of the Parish Council. Part of new development will include costing and then finding funds. This will be a whole village challenge and the support of the members of the village will be key to finding solutions. Communication with the groups in the village and as</p>
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			<p>previously stated, there are improvements necessary in this regard.</p> <p>In conclusion, the Neighbourhood Plan is the village plan for the next fifteen years. It is about how we manage growth, demand and stresses within the village. It is a challenge and requires commitment and new ways of working together.</p>
19/04/17	<p>Jordanna Riches Management Trustee of Village Hall (email)</p> <p>20/04/17</p>	<p>“I am writing as a management trustee of the Village Hall to say I wholeheartedly agree with Andrew’s email and very much hope the misleading and inaccurate information regarding the Hall will be removed from the final plan”</p> <p>...In particular it is the point about not being able to book the VH when villages have always had priority. I can show you that this is not the case and I feel it is incredibly misleading and inaccurate information, which you have put into the public domain. I hope the Steering Committee would see fit to rectify this error” ...</p>	See notes of meeting of the Steering Group in May 2017.
	<p>Jordanna Riches (email)</p>	<p>“Firstly I would like to congratulate the members of the Neighbourhood Planning Group for a very detailed and comprehensive report. The dedication and hard work shines through. It is incredibly well presented. I was particularly pleased to note the following:</p> <p>4.2 Housing: A7 (and the possible addition of 4 new houses)</p> <p>4.3 A17: Ann allotment ground should be allocated</p>	As above

		<p>A19: The ancient village green should be restored. I would hope thr3village would preserve the 'dark skies' policy as it is one of the things about Weston that makes it unique and a pleasure to live in.</p> <p>I was a little wary of Environment Policy E3 on pg 56, which seems to contradict the objective of preserving the 'dark skies'.</p> <p>My biggest concern is regarding the Village Hall (Theme 3a on P60). There is an inaccurate fact printed here say "it is booked months in advance, often by organisations outside the village, making it difficult for village groups to find space" This is simply not true. I have read and am in receipt of Andrew Wilson's email to Diane Bohm, correcting this error. Between Feb-April 2017 there were 11 outside bookings and 26 villa/villager events. From our own data/research there has been no desire or request for an extension of the Hall. I know Andrew Wilson offered to supply information and to meet with the Steering Group but h/data. This offer was not taken up. No consultation has taken place with the Village Hall Trustees (as stated on p62) who are the Management Trustees and I would hope the final version will reflect a more accurate representation of the facts/data. The car part, to note, is a private car part belonging to the Village Hall and the grounds around the VH are the Memorial Garden (and this would definitely not be replaced with cars as in Figure 21).</p>	
	Wiz and Denise Bunce	Overall, we congratulate the group on producing such a well-informed and detailed draft of the Neighbourhood Plan. We concur with many of the suggestions, particularly, housing, the	Thank you for your congratulations and comments on the proposed WOTG Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2031. We are pleased that you concur with many of the suggestions, particularly housing, the

		<p>slowing/controlling of traffic on the B430 and attempts to re-introduce public transport.</p> <p>One concern I have is that I have read recently of Oxfordshire's wish to introduce a unitary authority, which I note Cherwell are, quite rightly strongly opposed to. If however, this did come about how would this affect a Neighbourhood Plan?</p> <p>The other concern is that at Chapter 5, Sec 3a – Extending the Village Hall facilities. I have read Andrew Wilson's email response to Diane and I share his concerns (as a Village Hall Committee Member – Treasurer) regarding assumptions made in this paragraph – it is simply not true that the hall is 'booked months in advance, often by organisations outside the Village' making it difficult for locals to book the Hall.</p> <p>I think there needs to be acknowledgement that these 'outside' hires are needed to maintain a level of income required to support the Hall and its fabric. As far as I am aware, they do not impinge upon 'local' bookings.</p> <p>As I said earlier – an excellent document. Many thanks.</p>	<p>slowing/controlling of traffic on the B430 and attempts to re-introduce transport.</p> <p>Your first concern, that of the proposed unitary authority is shared by many and indeed Cherwell District Council. How would it affect our Neighbourhood Plan? I understand that all Plans would need to be re-negotiated included with Cherwell's Local Plan. The very thought is daunting. There has been a lot of opposition to the idea of a unitary authority and the results of this proposal will be made public in ??</p> <p>The other concern is that of the statement in Chapter 5, Sec 3a extending the Village Hall facilities. Firstly, we intend to change the tone of this section of the plan as it sounds rather instructional. For any change to take place, the consent needs to come from the Management Committee of the Village Memorial Hall. The NP Steering Group met on May 11<sup>th</sup> and its notes state: " Joy Lawrie, (the Booking Secretary) informed the meeting of the challenges faced trying to balance the Hall bookings with the various demand from both villagers and outside groups. Outside groups often request a series of bookings in advance and she makes her best effort to ensure that villagers are not denied use of the Hall." The outside hires have been invaluable to the upkeep and improvement of the Village Hall and this needs to be noted in the comments.</p>
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01/05/2017	Tony and Jane Henman	<p>We both felt that the Plan was excellent and our congratulations for the hard work and expertise by all. However, we are extremely concerned about the Ci and Cii site, which is seriously contaminated and has been for some years. There should be a gap in time of say 5 to 10 years between de-contamination and a planning application.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments on the Neighbourhood Plan for Weston on the Green. We appreciate your congratulations on the standard of the work.</p> <p>Referring to your concerns about the possible contamination of the Fir Tree Farm site: a scientific study was made on the land very early on in the process of writing the Plan. This will be required as evidence should a planning application be submitted and Cherwell District Council has its own rigorous standards which will be required in such a case. The Steering Group proposed support for some houses on this land as part of reclamation of an unsightly yard and also to put people closer to the center of the village.</p>

01/05/17	Richard and Adrienne Evans	<p>Overall objectives for village: safe access  It will never be safe to access the children's area/sports field unless there is a footpath from the church west along the Bletchington Road.</p>	<p>Thank you for your response to the Neighbourhood Plan team.</p> <p>Your key concern being the safety of children trying to get to the sport's field/children's area is a worry shared by the Steering Group and indeed the Parish Council. Finding a solution to this problem is part of the first actions on the Action Plan once the referendum has been held and supported. It is part of the consultation to implement traffic calming measures and should be made more explicit. We will amend the Action Plan to include a specific statement.</p> <p>There are several suggestions to be discussed: creating a path behind the houses on Church Road and Church Close which does involve cooperation from landowners, and/or putting a footpath down Church Road which involves cooperation from Church Road residents. I would urge you to attend Parish Council meetings where these suggestions will be discussed. Your views are important and the Parish Council will appreciate hearing your voice and others on this topic.</p>
	Patsy Parsons	<p>Hi Diane,  The things I picked up in the plan:  Page 9  The label on the map says "A43" instead of A34.</p>	<p>Thank you very much for your sharp proof reading of the Neighbourhood Plan and your helpful guidance to corrections. Your work has been passed on to the editor and will be acted upon.</p>

		<p>Page18++ I guess these red comments are why this is a draft. But if we do actually need a new photo, Bob mentioned there is a drone school at the Manor. They could perhaps take one for us.</p> <p>Page 43 (Top) It is not clear to me why this is in italics.</p> <p>Page 57 My end of the village(!) Admittedly the drawings now only "nearly" show the footpath going to Knowle Lane, but this provoked a bit of negative reaction in the street meeting. Could it be amended (could be done electronically) to stop within the boundary of the development? Could the titles read "Artist's impression of..."</p> <p>Thanks, Patsy</p>	<p>I would also like to thank you for your work over the past two years in helping shape, develop and write the plan. We have needed people with a range of skills and were very lucky when you joined our team.</p>
	Phil Price	<p>Chapter <u>page 100</u> Section <u>Appendix c fig A14/A15</u></p> <p>I refer to the above tables concerning traffic usage of the roads/lanes in Weston. I note fig A14 indicates approx 133/per hour use the B430/Church lane turns and roughly over half are exceeding the 30 mph speed limit. The latter is concerning, but also <u>very critical</u> when you consider that the majority of this road does not have a safe pedestrian pavement, no streetlights and occasionally the road has a few potholes. The traffic usage for B430 (208/per hour north bound &amp; 136 per hour south bound) is also a big concern but</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments on the Weston on the Green Neighbourhood Plan 2017-31. Your comments are extremely helpful in that they raise concerns and suggest ways forward.</p> <p>Your first concern about the number of vehicles on our roads and the speed that they are going is a key worry of the Parish Council. It is also a top priority for the Action Plan which will be forthcoming both before and after the referendum. In other words, the safety of pedestrians needs to be an action point immediately. The issue of traffic calming in Church Lane is underway. We have requested that the</p>

		<p>that road does have a pavement when passing through the village. The traffic calming in Church Lane should be a priority on the grounds of basic safety. In the interim a reduction to 20 mph should be instigated</p> <p><u>Public transport page 66 section 5</u> The bus S5 (Bicester to Oxford) passes the village on a fairly regular basis I know the PCC has approached the bus company in the past without success. Could we conduct a village survey to see how many people would use the bus if it were stopping in the village? (Commuters, shoppers, school children etc) We could make a fresh approach supported with data from a village survey</p>	<p>maximum speed of 20 mph be put in place but have been told by OCC that we need to apply for this change and the charge is in excess of £2,000. There is a sub-group on the Parish Council charged with sourcing funding for this application. The Parish Council cannot change the limit without approval. It might be helpful to know that if our application is successful all lanes will have a similar speed limit.</p> <p>Your second concern about the withdrawal of public transportation from the village is also shared by the Parish Council. Your suggestion of a village survey to see how many people would use the bus is very helpful and will be passed on to the Parish Council for consideration. It would be useful if we could identify commuters to Oxford Parkway so we could have steady use of bus services as well as regular trips to Oxford/Bicester.</p> <p>It would be helpful if you could attend the Parish Council meetings where these matters are discussed as public views and comments are essential. It is also helpful that you are a resident of the most dangerous lane and ideas for safety would be very welcome.</p>
	Simon Davis	<p>I am writing to express my strong support for, and agreement with, the objectives of the Weston on the Green Neighbourhood Plan. My comments are based on reading the executive summary, introduction, and section 5 outlining a vision for Weston on the Green based on consultation with</p>	<p>Thank you for your positive reply to our Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2031 draft.</p> <p>You have made some very useful points that need to be part of our work and indeed brought to the</p>

		<p>the residents, in which I took part.</p> <p>I agree very strongly, along with the findings of your consultation, that there needs to be careful management of the growth of the village, in ways that preserve its special character. The plan for how to achieve this is very timely, given that there is still a lot of this character left to protect. Although to me it is regrettable that “outlying” site A is to be developed at all as it will do nothing to enhance life in the village, I recognize that there is nothing to be done about this and that it will, at least, relieve some of the development pressure on the rest of the village. The great value of the Plan, as outlined, is that it offers the residents real hope that similar developments won’t necessarily be imposed ad hoc upon the village for the foreseeable future. This is very important. But I was also very pleased to see that the many features of the village that give it its rural character, especially the open spaces, the ponds and the verges will be given special, perhaps even retro-active protection. Overall, it seemed to me that all of the proposals had been carefully thought through and would surely all be embraced by the entire village community.</p> <p>When the incoming Tory government offered, in 2010, a greater say to communities on decision-making in relation to local development, naturally I was sceptical. But having read this document it does look as if there might now be a mechanism for achieving this. I really hope that the residents, via the Parish Council especially, will be empowered to implement the new Plan when it is approved by the Oxfordshire County Council.</p>	<p>attention of decision makers when planning applications are submitted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is important to have careful management of the growth of the village in ways that preserve its special character.</li> <li>2. The plan to achieve this objective is timely in order to preserve the remaining character.</li> <li>3. The list of important spaces is key to the preservation of the important characteristics of the village.</li> </ol> <p>Your future support of the Parish Council as it implements the Action Plan is important.</p>
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		Finally, I would like to congratulate and to thank you and the Steering Group for the outstanding work you've done compiling the Plan. The residents of the village should all be very grateful for the effort that has gone into this.	
Mary Warmington 11 Gallosbrooke Way	As a cyclist I the village, I find it very dangerous, particularly on approaching the main road near the stocks. However, anyone would ever allow a child to use their bicycle on in this village as we were all used to in the past is at present inconceivable. Bicycle tracks should be made essential from village to village. Also we have NO BUSES. Pensioners like myself are paying p to twenty pound to get from Bicester or Park and Ride. Soon, as Weston ages, there will be many more children and pensioners needing a bus, Surely something can be arranged with local services. In 1952, and before, we had many buses in the village including a Bedford bus. Cannot one of motorway buses make the occasional trip through local villages or are we o be permanently "cut off" from public transport. The motorways of 2017 are crowded. Village to city communication is essential for less crowding of motorways by private cars. Our village along Bletchington Road (Church Road) is "choc-a-bloc" at certain times of the day with private cars – a genuine danger for young and old not to mention the diesel fumes. I am a continual witness to speeds well above the limit and feel an "endangered species" on my bike.	Thank you for your comments on the Neighbourhood Plan 2017-31 for our village of Weston on the Green. Your attendance and participation in Village Meetings and the street meeting for Gallosbrook Way is appreciated.  You have made several key points that concern a number of villagers. The issue of traffic management is considered to be one of the first issues to be tackled by the Parish Council. Church Lane and Church Road are used as a 'rat run' resulting in enormous amounts of traffic during peak times. Our Action Plan includes trying to reduce the speed limit to 20mph in an attempt to make this route less attractive to commuters and safer for residents of the street.  We are considered to be a Category A village and yet one of the key attributes of such a designation – having transit links, has been removed in the cancellation of our bus service. A number of residents including yourself have found it impossible to get into Bicester or Oxford because you don't drive. I noticed that you cycled into Kirtlington on the cold winter days in order to get to the nearest bus service so you could visit your ill husband. Be assured that we are communicating with Oxfordshire County Council	

			<p>regarding bus service. Any progress made with the will be reported in the Village News.</p> <p>Your final issue of safe cycle riding is one that also concerns country dwellers. Bicycle tracks from village to village would be helpful. This suggestion will be taken to the Parish Council for discussion and a way forward.</p> <p>Again, thank you for your feedback and ideas.</p>
	<p>Margaret Fissenden 47 Westlands Ave.</p>	<p>Chapter 5, Section a) I think it is overstating the use of the Hall, perhaps, by outsiders. I feel village organisations and individuals are able to book the Hall readily and have never found it impossible to be accommodated.</p> <p>I congratulate the group on the work done on the plan. It is a worthwhile and significant representation of my community both past, present and looking forward.</p>	<p>Thank you for you comments on Weston on the Green Neighbourhood Plan 2017-31.</p> <p>Your point about “ overstating the use of the Hall, by outsiders ..... individuals are able to book the Hall readily” has been discussed at a public Steering Group Meeting. The notes from that meeting state:</p> <p>Section ? Point, the Memorial Village Hall.</p> <p>1. <u>Going Forward</u> It was agreed at the Steering Group Meeting (May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017) that “the section on the Memorial Village Hall will be rewritten to remove the tone of a demand. It was recognized by all that the Management Trustees work hard to make the Hall relevant</p>

			<p>to the life of the village and their efforts are appreciated”.</p> <p>2. <u>Booking the Hall</u>  We were fortunate in that the Booking Secretary attended our Steering Group Meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 and we were able to have a full discussion about Hall bookings. There is no doubt that she does absolutely everything she can to support village groups in meeting in the Hall. To quote from the Minutes, “ ..informed the meeting of the challenges faced trying to balance the Hall booking with the various demands from both villagers and outside groups. Outside groups often request a series of booking in advance and she makes her best efforts to ensure that villagers are not denied use of the Hall”. The need to use outside bookings was fully understood and the funds raised from these bookings have been extremely useful in maintaining and upgrading facilities. The suggestion that a seminar room could be added is not a demand but an idea and would need to be the discussed and decided by the Memorial Village Hall Management Committee.</p>
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John Strafford Stranger's Drift, North Lane	<p>a) Community - To round off the essential village amenities which now include an enlarged and up-dated Village Shop/PO and a well-used Village Hall, it is essential that a bus service be re-installed.</p> <p>b) Those involved in drawing up the Plan are to be congratulated on its presentation, and comprehensiveness. Only time will tell how National and Local government reacts to it.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments on the Neighbourhood Plan 2017-31 for Weston on the Green.</p> <p>We have struggled during the development of the plan to understand why we have been designated as a Category A village. Both pubs have closed, our bus service has been cancelled, the mobile library has been cancelled and the shop was for sale! Fortunately, some of these situations have resolved including both pubs being refurbished and opening in June/July 2017, a new, local shop owner who is aware of the needs of the village and is going out of her way to serve the village. Sadly, neither the bus service nor the library have been reinstated.</p> <p>The need for a regular bus service is a priority for the Parish Council in the development plan. We will have new homes for young families and there will be an increased need to get to Bicester, the Parkway and into Oxford by bus. The cancellation of the bus service increases cars on the road and hence pollution and also disadvantages the elderly who may not drive or</p>	

			who have ceased to drive. Your regular attendance at Parish Council Meetings to encourage timely work on this topic is and will be appreciated.
	GVA co.ltd Reps for Adrian Wilcox	This communication is a response in detail to the NP. Basically the authors feel that the NP will not stand as a viable planning document. They refute our use of Southfield Farm as part of our numbers. They quote our data to provide substance as to why the Baby Ben field would be the best site to: go a step towards helping with the national housing need and fulfilling the wish of the village to have more house for families.	This is basically notice of a planning application for 50 houses. The site mentioned lies on the east side of the B430 which is contrary to the wishes of the village. (Note: there is a second proposed site attached at the north end for a further 60 houses- found in the documents of the partial review of CDC's Local Plan.
	John Roper	I would make the following comments on the Draft N.P.  1/. Housing sites should not be "Set in Stone" other suitable sites could become available.  2/. No consultation has, to my knowledge, taken place with residents in Church Lane , Church Close and residents in North Weston (Near to the Business Park)  3/.No consultation to date with "Trustees" of the Village Memorial Hall.  4/.Restore original Village Green, ? Where is this and how can it be restored ?  5/.Agree with enhancement of Recreational Facilities, but priority	Thank you for your comments on the draft of the Neighbourhood Plan for Weston on the Green 2017-31. Your attendance at Steering Group Meetings and your role as a Councillor on the Parish Council has given you a number of opportunities to participate and discuss issues as the plan has been prepared. I will respond to your comments in the order of your email:  <b>Housing sites</b> The Neighbourhood Plan through consultation with the village has identified preferred sites for housing. However, landowners are free to propose new sites at any time. If the Neighbourhood Plan is passed at the Examination stage and at the Referendum, it will provide the basis for making decisions regarding housing in our area.

		<p>should be given to the upkeep of our existing facilities, i.e. Playing Field, Footpaths, Seats etc.</p> <p>6/.Transport . Yes reinstatement of the Bus Service is crucial, but we must produce a Strong case for this. In regards to the “Transport” Sub- committee I and one other person are listed on the committee but have not been invited to attend any meeting or been consulted to give our opinions or suggestions, this is not very Democratic.! Traffic calming measures are URGENTLY needed in Church Lane, which is , apart from the B430, the only through road in the Village, there is No Pavement and the majority of the properties entrances are within less than a Yard from the Roadside edge. Let us have realistic proposals NOT Pie in the sky suggestions.</p> <p>Over all the N.P. Is a very well presented document, my congratulations and thanks to All concerned for their hard work in producing the N.P.</p>	<p><b>Church Road /Lane consultation</b> I have proposed to Mr. Paul Beecroft who has the same concern that we choose an evening in the first two weeks of July and invite residents to meet for a discussion in the Village Hall. It would be helpful if both of you could be involved in the organization of the meeting. Please contact me with a preferred date and I’ll book the Hall.</p> <p><b>Consultation with Trustees of the Memorial Village Hall</b> I don’t agree that there hasn’t been consultation with Trustees. There have been discussions recently and conversations throughout the process. Our Steering Group has had public meetings and have made a point of being open to a variety of views.</p> <p><b>Village Green</b> I believe the historic Village Green was on the east side of the B430 spreading across to the Ben Jonson and down to the stocks. The site on the east of the B430 offers lovely dark skies and a peaceful outlook for the village. It forms part of the character of the village and any change to it would result in quite a bit of discussion.</p> <p><b>Transport sub-committee</b> I understand your annoyance at not being invited to the Transport sub-committee. However, you signed up</p>
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			<p>for <u>all</u> the sub-committees and I did not consider it necessary to involve you in each one. All of the outcomes of each committee were discussed at the Steering Group and then at the Parish Council and you attended most of these. Your annual two month absence in the winter months was a period of intense discussion and you missed these. The historic ill-will between you and the Chair of the Transport sub-committee was considered and still is a factor in your non-inclusion on this sub-group.</p>
	<p>Paul Beecroft</p>	<p><u>OBSERVATIONS REGARDING WESTON ON THE GREEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</u></p> <p>First let me praise all concerned in producing such a well set out and informed Neighbourhood Plan, and do not want to give any negative feedback through the emailed response channels.</p> <p>The concerns I do have are as follows:</p> <p>As a resident, landowner, and business owner we appear to have had little consultation.</p> <p>Having signed up for the transport highways sub-committee, myself and one other were not invited to any meetings until after complaining at a meeting in the village hall, and by that time it appeared that decisions had already been taken.</p> <p>I have strong views about this and feel very put out, it not being very democratic or accountable.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments on the Neighbourhood Plan draft 2017-31 for Weston on the Green. It has been very important to hear from people like yourself, as you say, a resident, landowner and business owner in the final stages of the report. I appreciate that you attended our public meetings, several Steering Group meetings and have tried to participate in the transport sub-committee. I will address your concerns in the order you have put forth and suggest some solutions and ways forward so that we can reach the mutual goal of a vision for our village.</p> <p><b>Transport sub-committee</b></p> <p>I have discussed this issue with the Chair of the sub-committee who has stated that he tried to contact you regarding the early meetings and was unsuccessful. However, as Chair of the Steering Group I will take some responsibility for this lack of communication.</p>

		<p>As a plan, we missed out on putting pressure on the Highways Authority and Government to sort out Junction 9 to minimise the rat run on the B430 and Church Lane – Church Road.</p> <p><b>Church Lane – Church Road</b> There appears to have been no local meeting, so how can footpaths and traffic calming measures be put forward as no local consultation were held.</p> <p><b>Alterations to Church Road off B430</b> If something were to be done to alleviate the rat run that is Church Lane – Church Road, no alterations would be required at this junction which would enable the green to remain ‘green’.</p> <p><b>Excessive Traffic on B430</b> I understand that this is an emergency relief road for the M40 but why can this not be a 30mph speed limit with HGV limited access only and why should dustbin lorries be allowed to travel (at speed) through a weight restricted area. I know they are not classed as HGV’s but for good relations with Viridor they should be routed round via the M40 and approach the B430 and the waste disposal facility from the North at Junction 10 like all other HGV tippers.</p> <p><b>Village Hall and Surrounding Area</b> This looks fine, but I have reservations about the number of car parking spaces lost as it is Church Lane that becomes a car park at busy events at the Church and the Village Hall. Having worked on these sorts of schemes for Cherwell District Council in the past, do you realise the sorts of costs involved could be provisionally £100,000+. What is the Highways view on this, and have the Memorial Hall Trustees been</p>	<p>Once I became aware of your concern about not being invited I asked another member of the committee to contact you and he also found it hard by phone and email. No excuses though as we know where you live and it is a small village. I do apologise because this must have caused you to wonder about the process and whether or not it was an open process. Nothing the sub-committee has proposed is written in stone and there is certainly room for further discussion through the on-going work. As Chair of the Steering group I will propose to the Parish Council that ongoing work on Transport be done through a sub-committee of those who were involved in the recommendations for the NP. I’m including you on that sub-group if that is agreeable.</p> <p><b>Church Lane – Church Road</b>  We had committed to a series of street meetings to discuss issues that involve the residents. We have had several and I thinking the discussion with Gallosbrook Way and Church Close (in this case I knocked on doors seeking input) over shadowed a specific meeting with Church Road/Lane. The meeting should have happened January – March but my convalescence forestalled any meetings. I suggest we meeting during the first two weeks of July, at the Village Hall. I’ll contact you separately about a date and how you and Mr. Roper can help with the organization. (This meeting took place in September 2017)</p>
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		<p>consulted? As this upgrade is in a Conservation Area I hope it would not encroach on the existing grass area.</p> <p><b>The Ancient Village Green</b> This is not shown on any plans, but if it is where I believe it to be to the east of the B430, as a landowner of some of this land, should I not have been consulted before inclusion?</p> <p><b>Housing Site 'A'</b> I am disappointed to hear that Site 'A' will not have to include a roundabout. If additional houses were to be included then this must be included which would enable traffic calming through all the village. This would not be popular with North Lane residents, but we need to look at the bigger picture especially with the verbal hearsay of additional development in this area.</p> <p><b>Housing Site 'B'</b> appears not to be a new proposal but must emphasise my objection to this, prior to any traffic calming being installed in Church Lane, as currently it is very dangerous for pedestrians in various locations.</p> <p>Residents in Upper Weston feel ostracised and not part of the village. There has been little or no consultation with them, and Upper Weston does not appear to be mentioned in the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Is this the only housing proposed until 2030 as there are several sites that at present are not being proposed now, which due to different constraints but are likely to be applied for before 2030?</p>	<p><b>Alterations to Church Road off B430 and excessive traffic on B430</b> Both of these points are key issues in our proposed way forward on traffic management. We have asked about having the speed limits reduced throughout the village and along the B430. A traffic survey has been done which provides clear evidence of the overuse of the village lanes/road for commuter traffic. The next step is to apply to have the speed limit reduced on the lanes and Church Road. This is a costly request and the Parish Council is looking at ways to fund the project.</p> <p>Reducing the traffic on the B430 is a priority but will involve convincing Oxfordshire County Council Transport Department that this is necessary. Part of the problem is the type of vehicle that uses the road, lorries on the way to the incinerator, large commuting lorries that are trying to avoid highway traffic. At 40mps these vehicles sound and feel menacing and certainly affect the peace of the village. There is work to be done on changing the speed limit. The sub-group on the PC should have this as a priority.</p> <p><b>Memorial Village Hall and surrounding area</b> The artist's impression of a pretty central area is not a design plan but an indication that we could add to the improvements that have already been made around the Hall. The issue was discussed with the Chair of the MVH but further discussion does need to occur. Perhaps ideas from all groups in the village could add</p>
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			<p>to the discussion. As you say, any changes need to be agreed with transport and the management committee. The final decision will be theirs.</p> <p><b>The Ancient Village Green</b>  We have researched this considerably and our understanding is that at some point the Green extended on both sides of today's B430. The area on the east was the grazing area for cattle and there are stories of them being driven across the road, through the pond and down today's North Lane to the barns. As the road became busier, social functions were held closer to the pub and along the area to the stocks. The land on the east of the B430 is treasured as an open, green space and the village has historically rejected development there (Weston Otmoor debate and village choices for new housing 2016). Of course, as owner of the land you should have been consulted but to be fair, I did think you were engaged in discussion both at public Village Meetings and at the Steering Group.</p> <p>I'd like to meet with you and discuss your views of development on the east side of the B430 and the statements about the Village Green in the draft document. Could you be available early evening on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017?</p> <p><b>Housing Site A</b></p>
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			<p>The Parish Council did request a roundabout at this site but OCC Transport did not consider it necessary. It is a pity because there will be an increase in cars entering the B430 with the new housing site.</p> <p><b>Housing Site B</b> This site is a way down the line for development in this fifteen year period. Your comment about no increased traffic until traffic calming is in place is useful.</p> <p><b>Upper Weston</b> I have checked with the Chair of the Communications Team who is clear that leaflets were distributed throughout Upper Weston and invitations to attend village meetings. I don't believe any residents of the area participated in the public events or attended Steering Group meetings.</p> <p><b>Further housing for Weston on the Green</b> The proposed housing is an increase of about 12 % and if Fir Tree Farm goes ahead, there will be another 12-15% increase. We have tried to plan for the future and be cooperative in the need for housing without affecting the character of our village. Any future applications would be weighted against the Neighbourhood Plan housing policy as this would become law if the referendum is successful.</p>
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			Please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email if any part of this letter is unclear or if you have further questions.
	<p>Malcolm and Kau Brain Kerry and Russell Morris</p> <p>Kamala House North Lane</p>	<p>Chapter 2 Section 5 E5</p> <p>"Key Green Spaces" F,G and H should never be developed, as for 'Local Green Space' as stated in E5</p> <p>Part of 'G' is not quite ridge and furrow but equally should be preserved.</p> <p>In TO2 reference is made to diversion of footpaths, funded by developer contributions – concerned that this could be seen by a potential developer as an invitation to 'buy' a planning permission</p> <p>Site allocations – concerned that the plan prefers building in the Green Belt to slightly extending the village along the B430. In addition to sites A &amp; B housing density within the village should not be increased.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments on the draft Neighbourhood Plan for Weston on the Green 2017-31. Your support on preserving some of the local green space is appreciated. The ones you mention give a distinctiveness and flavor to the village ie: land to the north of North Lane the ridge and furrow field and the Gallos Brook flood plain.</p> <p>Your comments on the Footpaths is interesting. I'm sure the Parish Council would not consent to a new set of houses just to get an updated footpath. Rather, we would encourage the development of a footpath so that new occupants could get onto the Oxfordshire Way or into the centre of the village.</p> <p>Your concern about the development of a site near the centre of the village that is on Green Belt is understood. However, much of it is land that is used for commercial agricultural work including large and unsightly containers and equipment. It is an eyesore for neighbours and is no longer fitting for a residential area. The owner is considering developing part of the site into houses and build in keeping with the village. He hopes to build for young families, a development that would give the village some youngsters and young adults to add energy to our rather elderly population.</p>

			Members of the village have been very clear in all the consultations that development along the B430 must cease. Ribbon development would change the nature of the village and is, in fact, unnecessary.