

Crookham Village Neighbourhood Plan 2016 – 2032 Additional Evidence Representation

Christopher Boddy <[REDACTED]>

Sun 17/11/2019 21:13

To: Neighbourhood Planning <neighbourhoodplanning@hart.gov.uk>

Crookham Village Neighbourhood Plan 2016 – 2032 Additional Evidence Representation

Dear Sir/Ma'am

I have been a resident of Crookham Village for 40 years, which is nearly all my life. I have enjoyed my upbringing and life in this countryside setting and community: From playing in the fields and along footpaths from the village to the Canal, to now enjoying these rights of way in a countryside setting still today especially as an avid runner outdoors. I would like to comment in support of the new evidence in the draft Neighbourhood Plan on the gaps between Crookham Village and its surrounds.

The location of the village is being encroached by the large developments on countryside such that the space which separates the village from neighbouring Fleet and Church Crookham is being lost. This coalescence removes the identity of the Village, affecting the character of the Village and loss of countryside. The large town of Fleet has now completely conjoined with the Village on the north side by the inappropriate, over-scaled development on this countryside 'gap'. This development should not have been allowed and it should be prevented on the other countryside gaps surrounding the Village.

Every village is a collection of dwellings and homes of individual nature, which have been built over time; a Neighbourhood Plan should support this type of appropriate growth and indeed protect itself from inappropriate development whether it is scale, siting or detailed specifics such as design. Identifying specific locations for individual, dwellings of character which are guided and supported by the Parish, with a NP and appropriate Settlement Boundary that evolves in order to maintain the vitality and nature of the village.

The NP should be empowered to protect the Village and preserve the space and gaps of countryside that separate The Village from its surrounds. These 'Gaps' in Policy NE01 are important to the preservation of the character of the Village and the ecological habitats around it. These 'spaces' are important countryside environment and habitats of Crookham Village, which are as important as the character of the buildings themselves. These spaces into the countryside are accessed by footpaths and bridleways from the Village into natural surrounds. These are important links to the established feature of the canal, which is an ecosystem in its own right through countryside to the village itself. This should be maintained.

I accept and understand that some development is needed to maintain the vitality and character of any village community. It is hoped that this NP is empowered to only enable discrete development whilst protect the character of the conservation area and the countryside habitat gaps and surrounds, by preventing large and inappropriate over-development with irrecoverable harm to countryside and conservation area.

Mr Christopher Boddy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]