



CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Bridge Parish Councils formal response to the Local Plan Consultation

1 message

Parish Clerk [REDACTED]
To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

13 January 2023 at 17:34

Bridge Parish Council would like to make the following comments in response the LP consultation:

In relation to Bridge - the current village envelope needs to be redrawn as the Parish boundaries are inaccurate (please see the map on page 5 of the NP which can be found on our NP website <https://thebridgeplan.co.uk>). The current designation of the boundary on the eastern side of the High Street is unhelpful at this time due to sensitive negotiations with the village and the landowner concerning the future of the recreation ground and its facilities. The current designation of the envelope does not take into account the area of proposed development within our emerging NP. The Eastern boundary is currently being determined within the Bridge NP so no envelope boundary should be shown at this time.

BPC is concerned there is no recognition of our emerging NP within the LP. The introduction of the open space policy is welcome in the future but is a concern at the moment as it could conflict with the emerging NP. There are several unknowns concerning the future of the recreation ground. It would be beneficial to delay designation until the outcome of the NP and recreation ground is known.

BPC has concerns that proposals placing limitations on private vehicles will significantly impact parishes such as Bridge. Firstly transport links are currently lacking and are relatively expensive for rural communities such as Bridge. Without regular and cheaper public transport there is unlikely to be a modal shift by the residents of rural communities such as Bridge. Traffic modelling based on a modal shift would therefore be inaccurate. Secondly the limitations placed on private vehicles in the form of zoning will encourage drivers to use alternative routes including rural roads that are already used as 'rat runs' to avoid congestion within the city. It has been specified by CCC that the proposal to divide Canterbury into zones is in response to trying to reduce the amount of private vehicle journeys made by the residents of Canterbury itself and not rural communities or visitors to the City. Can the Parish Council ask what evidence CCC has gathered to indicate that there is an issue with the amount of traffic generated by residents of the City in private vehicles originating from intra-Canterbury-City journeys?

BPC would encourage CCC to specify and embed certain energy saving building standards within the LP making measures such as solar panels, rain water harvesting, water recycling and Bee Bricks mandatory for developers. Energy saving targets for new builds should be set on top of this. New developments should be responsible in their water sourcing for example there are concerns that the Manfield development could impact on water supply to Bridge. BPC would also suggest that CCC update their planning policies to look favourably on planning applications for solar panels installed on roofs within conservation areas, removing some of the red tape.

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Kind regards

Jennifer Heap
Clerk, Bridge Parish Council.

