



Parish Council Office
Mortimer Library
27 Victoria Road
Mortimer
Reading
RG7 3SH
☎ 0118 9331955
☎ 0709 2310443

✉ the.clerk@stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk
Web: www.stratfield-mortimer.gov.uk

6th April 2010

Planning Policy Team
Planning & Trading Standards
West Berkshire Council
Market Street
Newbury
RG14 5LD

Dear Sirs

West Berkshire Local Development Framework - Core Strategy

Whilst accepting the overall Spatial Policy is reasonably fair and equitable there are aspects of Spatial Policy SP6, East Kennet Valley which cause concern to this Parish.

The net additional housing requirement of 323 focusing on Stratfield Mortimer and Burghfield begs the question on how the necessary enhancements to the infrastructure are to be achieved.

Regardless of the number to be imposed on Stratfield Mortimer and notwithstanding the S106 contributions from developers there are two major areas where grave difficulty will be encountered to meet the goals envisaged.

1. Education: Mortimer St John's School is:-
 - a) Over subscribed.
 - b) Below the minimum standard of amenity space.
 - c) Is on a restricted site that leaves no room for expansion.
To attempt to provide additional classroom accommodation on this site will result in further deprivation of the amenity space.
2. Doctors Surgery: This has outgrown its site. The last planning approval clearly stated that the site had reached saturation and no further expansion would be contemplated.
3. Following the Groves Lea, the Mortimer Hill Farm and numerous infill and windfall sites the Parish has reached its full capacity that no amount of S106 developer contributions can alleviate. Further expansion will require major financial investment to be found from West Berkshire Council sources.
4. Accessibility: The proposed improvements to accessibility to Mortimer Station (disabled access?) is welcomed especially following West Berkshire Council's opposition to Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council's planning application to achieve this object.

The proposed improvement of cycle and pedestrian routes between Burghfield and Mortimer have been pushed for and agreed for in excess of 35 years.

5. Delivery and Monitoring: Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council reserve the right to comment further when site allocation and delivery (DPD) are published.

6. Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople: Stratfield Mortimer already accommodates within the Parish boundary a Travellers/Gypsy site at Four Houses Corner. A further site is located close by at Paices Hill. To increase the number of sites in close proximity will cause problems not only to parishioners but also within the travellers/gypsy community itself. The Parish would vigorously oppose the provision of any additional local site or sites.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J E Kirk
Clerk
Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council