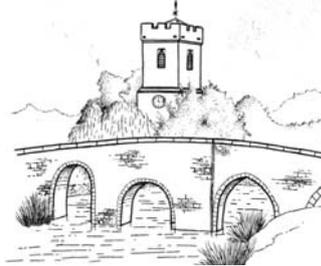


BIDFORD ON AVON PARISH COUNCIL

In the County of Warwickshire



REPLY TO THE DRAFT CORE STRATEGY

Q1 : Bidford-on-Avon PC (BPC) agrees that cross boundary issues are important and that it is essential there is full consultation with neighboring planning authorities.

Q2

Q3 : BPC agrees with the Vision and trusts the final document will reflect it.

Q4 : Again, BPC agrees with the Strategic Objectives. BPC is particularly concerned about the poor infrastructure of Bidford-on-Avon, especially as it remains one of the seven Main Rural Centres.

Section 5 Agree in principle with the objectives of the Sustainability Framework. BPC is particularly keen to see economic, social and environmental sustainability within its parish, and trusts the core strategy will reflect this.

Section 6 Agree in principle with this section on Resources. On a local basis, BPC believes a stronger (and better) working partnership with Severn Trent is essential to minimize flood risk and improve the drainage within the parish. It also wishes to strongly endorse the

Section 6.4 Minerals – BPC recognizes that WCC is the main authority and agrees that the areas within the parish mentioned in the document must be safeguarded. Another site that should perhaps be added is “land to the south west of the village known as Broom Court Farm”

Section 7 District Designations – Policy CS 9 Vale of Evesham Control Zone – it is important that the HGV movements across the historic Bidford Bridge cease. There is continuous damage to the fabric of this monument and residents fear for its survival.

Section 8 District Assets BPC believes it is important that the district assets are protected – this includes landscape, conservation areas and listed buildings.

Section 9 Spatial Strategy

Q88 – No figures have been put forward to support the proposed housing figure of 8,000.

Q89 – BPC prefers the following proposal:

- Stratford upon Avon : 30%
- Main Rural Centres :
 - Market Towns (3) 20%
 - Non Market Towns (4) 10%
- Local Services Villages 25%
- Rural Brownfield sites 15%
- Total 100%

Q90 – refer to the above. However, E preferred to F

Q92 –

- Stratford –upon-Avon- as the main town with all the accompanying infrastructure, it should be able to accept more building than other areas. It will also help its economy and sustainability, although care should be taken as to where, how and when.
- Main Rural Centres – these should be divided into the market towns (Alcester, Shipston and Southam), which have more outside support and better infrastructure, and the other villages (Bidford, Henley, Studley and Wellesbourne), which do not receive the same support. Furthermore, in the case of Bidford-on-Avon, it must be noted that there is no secondary school – a unique situation in so large a village;
- Local Centre Villages – BPC is aware that some villages are looking for small developments to help to sustain their economy and supports this, with the caveat that they are all consulted to ensure the developments are of a desired size, that they are built where wanted and that the infrastructure is improved accordingly.
- Rural Brownfield sites – these should be tastefully developed where possible.

Q93 – already answered

Q94 – generally yes, but always in consultation with the community

Q95

Q96 core strategy should try and ensure developments are finished and have time to “settle in” before the next one starts. It is a 20 year period and should be spaced out accordingly.

Q100 – Yes

Q101 – 35% should be a minimum and be reviewed every 5 years.

Q119 – Yes – 2/3 bedroom family homes, 1 bedroom homes/flats and bungalows are needed not executive houses

Q120 /121 policies should reflect the type of house required

Q125 – this figure appears to be very fluid – is the evidence to support this in the public domain, If so where?

Q126 – Broadly yes

Q127 - It should specify the max. no. of pitches per site. BPC supports a larger number of sites with small number of pitches and does not support 1 or 2 large sites to accommodate all pitches.

Q128 policy is required for the non public pitches to ensure they are also well managed

Q130 – sites should be equally dispersed within the Broad Locations of 1 and 2.

9.7 Economic Development – it is essential the policies promote sustainable economic growth, especially in the main rural centres to prevent them becoming dormitory villages/towns. This is neither economically, nor environmentally nor socially sustainable. Policies to date appear not to take these issues seriously and Bidford-on-Avon has already become a dormitory village with 70% of its working residents commuting to work and not contributing to the local economy.

9.8 Retail Development and Town and Local Centres – see above point

9.9 Tourism Development It is essential the policies reflect the tourist attractions of the whole district. To date, everything is geared to support Stratford upon Avon Town and, to some degree, the market towns. The whole district should be catered for.

10.3 Bidford on Avon Policy Profile

Q161 – Listed buildings – there should be policies in place that ensure the owners of listed buildings are not allowed to fall into disrepair.

Q162 – BPC believes no more than 150 new dwellings and it is essential they are of a type that will encourage local youth to remain and seek work locally.

Q163 Bidford will be carrying out a Neighbourhood Plan which should help identify the local community's preferred sites as well as size and timing of development. It is hoped SDC will fully participate in this to ensure it fulfills the requirements of both the local community and that of the district.

Section 11 - Infrastructure

BPC is concerned about the following:

- Local drain system
- Primary school is full to capacity
- Medical centre – full o capacity
- Continuous building is eroding green and open space areas
- Lack of public transport
- Insufficient parking allowance for new dwellings
- Poor broadband
- Poor SUDS projects on new developments
- Traffic issues
- Lack of police presence
- Facilities decreasing whereas population is increasing: the infrastructure does not keep pace.

Summary

BPC has noted that some of the issues it has raised in the past have been taken into consideration.

It's main concerns are:

- Poor infrastructure
- Uncontrolled increase in the number of dwellings will result in economic, environmental and social unsustainability
- No. of dwellings to be limited to 150 from now to 2028 – sites to be approved by the local community via a Neighbourhood Plan
- Poor local facilities
- Poor local transport in the evenings
- No high school – all young people have to be bussed
- Poor facilities for teenagers exacerbated by lack of high school and poor evening transport facilities
- Character of village is being eroded
- Lack of support for the local businesses and local tourism
- Gypsy and traveler sites – supports 10 sites of approx. 5 pitches and not 2 sites of 20+ pitches