

DOGMERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Crookham Village Parish Neighbourhood Plan Residents Survey

The Dogmersfield Parish Council is grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the above residents survey. In light of the precise nature of many of the questions the Council has concluded that it would be inappropriate to attempt to complete a questionnaire that reflects a Dogmersfield perspective. However, there are some issues of mutual interest where the Dogmersfield Council believes the Neighbourhood Plan should reflect the concerns of neighbouring parishes.

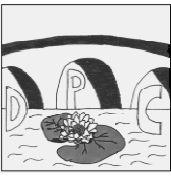
Housing Provision

The Dogmersfield Parish Council shares the concern expressed by Crookham Village residents about development that threatens the 'strategic gaps' between built up areas. The Dogmersfield settlement is located immediately adjacent to the parish boundary and as such the strategic gap between us and the Crookham Village settlement is wholly within Crookham Village parish. Consequently inappropriate development within Crookham Village such as in the area behind the existing properties along Pilcot Road could have a significant adverse impact on the separation between our two communities.

We therefore consider it vital that the Crookham Village Neighbourhood Plan recognise the need to preserve the strategic separation between Crookham Village and Dogmersfield and does not allocate development to sites that will have adverse implications for this separation.

The centre of Dogmersfield has been flooded during recent periods of heavy rain which has also overloaded the surface water and sewage systems. Much of the catchment area for the river Hart is within Crookham Village parish and several recent development schemes have the potential for exacerbating Dogmersfield's problems. For example the surface water generated by the recently approved new development off Knights Close will be piped into a surface ditch at the top of Pilcot Hill which feeds into the river Hart in the centre of Dogmersfield.

We consider that it vital that the Crookham Village Neighbourhood Plan recognise the impact that new developments can have on neighbouring parishes such as Dogmersfield and does not allow development with adverse implications for the infrastructure of those parishes.



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Protecting our environment

The Dogmersfield Conservation Area encompasses the whole of the Dogmersfield settlement and much of the countryside adjacent to the settlement boundary. The Basingstoke Canal Conservation Area dovetails with the Dogmersfield Conservation Area and also encompasses a large area within the Dogmersfield Parish. The Dogmersfield Parish Council considers that protecting and where possible enhancing the historic and natural features within these Areas is a core part of its role and responsibilities.

Less well known is that the Dogmersfield Conservation Area also encompasses an area of Crookham Village Parish as shown on the attached map which can be downloaded from the Hart DC website together with the associated appraisal document. The Basingstoke Canal Conservation Area may also come within Crookham Village Parish for some of its length.

We consider that it vital that the Crookham Village Neighbourhood Plan recognises these specially protected areas and provides for increased protection and enhancement particularly for those features highlighted in the associated appraisal documents.

Creating a sustainable community

Through traffic is becoming a major problem for Dogmersfield as the rural roads within the parish are unable to cope with the large number of vehicles using these routes particularly at peak times. Most of the through traffic enters or leaves Dogmersfield from Crookham Village via Pilcot Road although we recognise that most of this traffic is also through traffic for Crookham Village. However, traffic measures introduced within Crookham Village could have a significant impact on Dogmersfield particularly as our parishes both provide 'rat run' routes to the A287 to and from Fleet and beyond.

We consider that it vital that the Crookham Village Neighbourhood Plan recognises the integrated nature of the local roads network and takes full account of the impact on neighbouring parishes when considering solutions to local traffic problems.

This is the considered response on behalf of Dogmersfield Parish Council.

C Inglis

Claire Inglis
Clerk to Dogmersfield Parish Council