

# **East Challow Neighbourhood Plan Supporting Statement**

ECPC wants to develop a Neighbourhood Plan because:

- We recognise the need for development and we want to have a say in where housing is sited, what type of housing is developed, and in the style of development
- Accepting the need for development, we wish to preserve the rural character of the existing village/settlement and focus new development in areas which do not disturb the heart of the village.
- We want to avoid congruence with Wantage
- We have an issue with roads, especially the A417 and would like to see development in the area contributing to the development of the Western Relief Road
- We would like to see increased employment opportunities in the vicinity
- We need more housing and facilities for the elderly and for young families
- Transport issues

## **Plan purpose**

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to provide a guide for development within the Parish of East Challow, together with specific planning policies intended to instruct and guide both developers and landowners wishing to develop land within the Parish bounds. The plan will further provide a series of policies aimed at improving various aspects of the built environment, infrastructure and community resources within the parish.

## **Vision**

Our vision is that in 2031 the community of East Challow, will still sit in a rural setting, adjacent to but separate from the urban developments of Wantage and Grove. There will continue to be strategic gaps between the village and the urban area. There will be some building, consistent with the Vale of White Horse Local Plan, to address the current and future needs of all sections of our community. We will have done our best to stimulate the local economy and to optimise opportunities for employment in the neighbourhood. The facilities, services and infrastructure will have been properly maintained, and upgraded where possible, to a standard fit for a time approaching the middle of the 21st century.

## **Objectives**

1. To have a say in where housing is sited, what type of housing is developed, and the style of development
2. To provide for the changing housing needs of the community.
3. To enhance the built environment of our parish.
4. To retain East Challow's identity as smaller, rural village, with a strong heritage.
5. To preserve the high quality and accessible countryside setting of East Challow within the open landscape of the lowland Vale area in the downs area formerly known as the Berkshire Downs, and to protect the valued green spaces within and around our village.
6. To stimulate the local economy and to optimise opportunities for local employment.
7. To protect and enhance our community facilities and recreation space to address the needs of a growing population.
8. To ensure the infrastructure within the parish is developed to support sustainable growth.

These objectives will be achieved by drawing on evidence, which will include

- a Characterisation Study
- feedback from community consultations

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- the Vale of White Horse DC Local Plan and other guidance
- the Sustainability Assessment/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)