



# Old Marston Parish Council

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## Response to the Draft Local Plan 2040

### Policy H1:

Old Marston Parish is one that has seen permission granted for several hundred new homes and so it is with some relief that no more are planned in the immediate future. There is nevertheless a concern amongst parishioners that, to meet the target of 9600 new homes in the city, this will cause even more traffic, more congestion and more pollution in our roads which are already witnessing increased volumes at peak times. The whole of Oxford Road, Marsh Lane and Cherwell Drive are frequently at a standstill, and it is not clear that, even if a traffic filter is introduced on Marston Ferry Road, this will solve the traffic problem. We realise our own parish is not unique in having issues with traffic and wonder therefore whether the number of new homes needs to be revisited and whether the figure for population growth is a realistic one.

### Policy R4:

We also note, with regret and concern, that Hill View Farm, the Land West of Mill Lane, and the Marston Paddock sites are now formally designated 'air quality hot spots', which will make them highly undesirable places to live for new residents. We note that proposals for development must demonstrate compliance with 'Policy R4' by ensuring that all necessary mitigation measures against poor air quality have been incorporated during the construction and operational phases and ensuring that any

potential negative air quality impacts are adequately mitigated on an ongoing basis, within and surrounding the site. We will monitor this compliance, and the air quality for existing residents in this area. We are particularly concerned that the planned impact of the traffic filters will be to direct traffic to the ring road, which will only exacerbate the dangers for residents living in this area, some of whom are among the most disadvantaged in the Parish.

Policy SPE11:

In connection with the development of the land beyond Mill Lane, we note with concern the suggestion that the distinctive S-bend outside Cromwell House, a feature of historic interest in the heart of the conservation area, should be modified to allow traffic to flow both ways. We are strongly opposed to such modification, and hope that the protections afforded by its conservation status will be given priority when considering any such proposal. We also remain vehemently opposed to the surfacing of the medieval green lane, Back Lane; instead preferring stronger enforcement of existing restrictions on traffic through the village, which is already access-only and a cycling quiet way.

Policy S1:

With more homes come further intrusions into the Green Belt and while we acknowledge some land may have to be sacrificed, we are concerned not enough emphasis is placed in the Local Plan on Brown Field sites for building purposes. The Local Plan pays lip service to the Green Belt which is surely as much a priority as housing in the years ahead.

Policy H11:

We note that you will not be allocating any further land to travellers but would ask that the Council improves its provision for regular waste collection for this group.

Policy C1:

Although presumably outside the Parish, we welcome the proposal that community resources be further developed in New Marston.

Regards

Tim Cann. PSLCC

Clerk to Old Marston Parish Council.