

An aerial photograph of a village, likely Wootton, showing a mix of residential buildings, a prominent church with a square tower, and surrounding agricultural fields. The text 'Wootton Neighbourhood Plan' is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

# Wootton Neighbourhood Plan

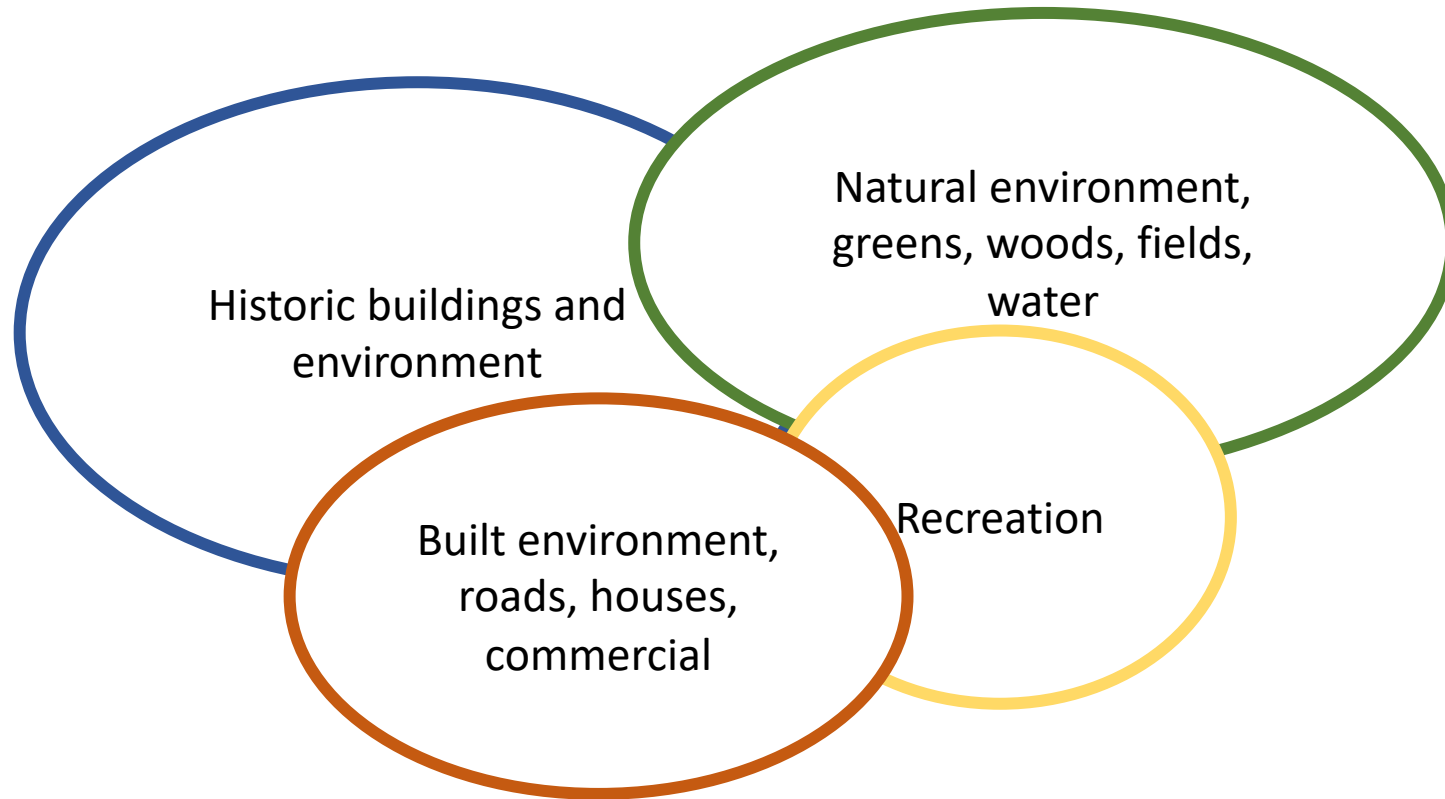
2024

# What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

- Introduced via the Localism Act 2011, Neighbourhood Planning is a right for local people to have a greater say in shaping the places they live and work in
- NPs enable communities to have more influence and control over their local area to help ensure they get the right type, design and location of development in their area
- NPs' statutory status gives Neighbourhood Plans far more clout than other local planning documents, such as a parish plan
- We have an opportunity to shape Wootton's future development and growth



# What does the NP include?



# Examples of NP Policies



## Housing

- Meeting affordable housing need
- Housing for the elderly
- Conversion of redundant buildings
- Code for Sustainable homes
- Car parking spaces

## Community/Social

- Protection of local shops & pub
- Protection of village hall and sports hall
- Allotments
- Bus links
- Fast Broadband
- Development of community hubs



# Examples of NP policies

## Environmental



- Dark Skies protection
- Access to Local Green Spaces
- Enhancement of biodiversity
- Place specific design policies
- Green energy policies

## Economy



- Encouragement of working from home
- Creation of business uses in village
- Development of workshops
- Creating skills and training opportunities
- Visitor attraction measures

# What NP's can not do

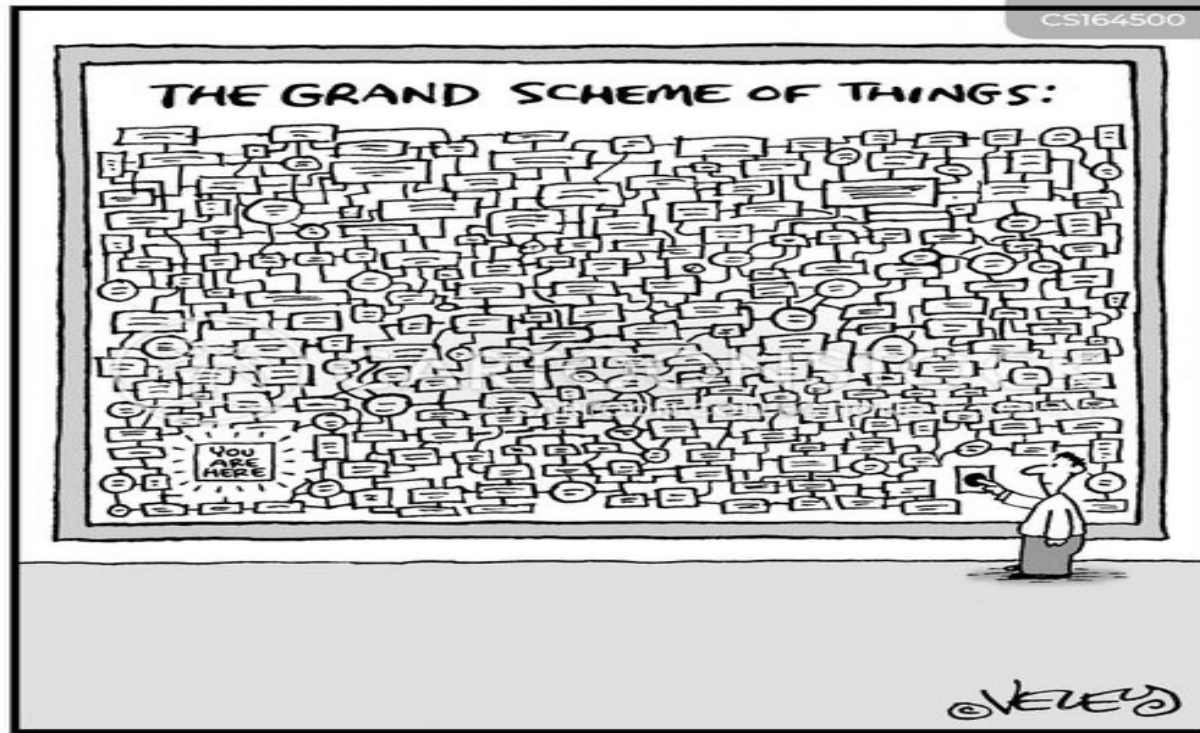
- Must comply with:
  - National Legislation (Planning & Other)
  - National & Local Planning Policy
- NPs **cannot** block future development required to meet the district council's existing and future needs....but we can influence what this might look like.

“We encourage neighbourhood plan policies to be ambitious in their approach; it is an opportunity to build a positive vision of how your community will look in the future, including responding to the climate emergency, embedding healthy place shaping principles, and supporting thriving economies and communities.”

- Oxford County Council



# Creating Wootton's NP, The Process



- We could look at long, complicated flow charts but let's not!
- Let's start as we mean to go on and KEEP IT SIMPLE!





- Community Engagement
- Building the Evidence Base
- NP Steering Committee
  - Wootton's Evolution ...Exhibition
  - Wootton's Aspirations... Survey

# Developing the NP is a three-stage process

- 1 Getting established: creating the survey, mapping responses
- 2 Preparing the Plan: ensuring it aligns with wider planning legislation
- 3 Bringing the Plan into force: examination and referendum