



**Uffington and Baulking  
Neighbourhood Plan Referendum**

**4 July 2019**

We are nearly there! After almost 3 years of consulting, discussing, writing and editing, our Plan is ready for the final vote.

There will be a referendum on our Neighbourhood Plan on **4 July**. This will be organised by the Vale District Council and all Uffington and Baulking parishioners on the Electoral Role will be able to vote on whether they approve the Plan or not. The Referendum will be organised like any other election, with options to vote in person at the Uffington polling station, by post or by proxy.

The community was last consulted on the Plan by the Vale District Council in January. Following that consultation, an external Examiner (Mr Andrew Ashcroft, a chartered town planner) formally reviewed the Plan as well as all the final consultation comments received. He also visited the Plan area. His Report is on the Vale web-site and will be in hard copy in the parish churches. [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans/uffington-and-baulking](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans/uffington-and-baulking)

In his introduction Mr Ashcroft commended our work. Regarding consultation, he recognised the community input and said:

“It is clear that consultation has been an important element of the Plan’s production. Advice on the neighbourhood planning process has been made available to the community in a positive and direct way . . . . . I can see that the Plan has promoted an inclusive approach to seeking the opinions of all concerned throughout the process.”

Mr Ashcroft reviewed the Plan in detail and its policies in particular. As a result, he has re-worded and re-structured some policies to make them consistent with national and Vale statutory requirements and to clarify their intention. This will mean that decision-makers can apply the policies more effectively when considering local planning applications in the future.

The following is a brief summary of the changes recommended by the Examiner which were accepted by the Vale:

**Landscape** – created a single policy combining the capacity map and the need for a visual impact assessment, and removed the paddock south of Woolstone Road from the list of Local Green Spaces sites.

### **Housing**

- Removed the ‘region of 19’ wording from the policy (H1) and included it in the main text as there was no mechanism (sites) on which to deliver any specific number of homes. Changed the wording about smaller homes.
- Made H2 an Uffington-only policy (to complement H3).
- Clarified and added weight to the Baulking-only policy (H3) to permit building in certain Baulking-specific cases.

**Design** – rationalised and clarified the wording of the policies without any loss of meaning.

**Economy and Employment** – strengthened the requirement for commercial development not to have any unacceptable impact on dwellings in the locality. Reworded some other policies slightly.

**Sustainability and Infrastructure** – removed the ‘policy’ on amenities and included the words in the main text.

You can see the Referendum Version of the Plan on the Plan web-site <https://www.ubwnp.net/public-consultation/referendum-version/> with hard copies along with the Examiner’s and Vale’s comments in both parish Churches from 5 June – 4 July. Having reached this stage, no further changes may be made to the Plan.

This is the end of over three years of work across both parishes including valuable input from you, the residents. If approved, the Plan will serve us in supporting good quality decisions on local developments over the next 12 years.

**We urge you to complete the project with your vote on 4 July.**

Robert Hart, Chairman,

Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group