

paxcroft mead community forum

Forum Secretary: Rosemary Hawkes

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Wednesday December 30th 2009.

Re. Wiltshire 2026 - Planning for Wiltshire's Future

Paxcroft Mead Community Forum broadly supports the Preferred Option for Trowbridge.

We particularly welcome the following statement, regarding the undesirability of significant development in the villages around Trowbridge (Strategic Sites Background Paper, Trowbridge Preferred Option, Key Opportunities and Constraints, p.40):

If development were directed to this option, significant development could be avoided in the smaller settlements around Trowbridge including Southwick, North Bradley and Hilperton. Such development is considered undesirable as it would lead to coalescence and the loss of the character of these villages.

We consider this principle to be crucial in the successful development of the town and we would urge the Council to take this policy to its obvious conclusion in respect of Hilperton, by taking the proposed Hilperton Relief Road away from Hilperton Gap and re-routing it to the north of the village. To continue with the routing of a link road through this open space, which constitutes the division between the village and the town, is in opposition to the stated principle and will surely only serve to facilitate exactly the kind of undesirable development which the Council wisely seeks to avoid.

We also welcome the following statement, regarding the provision of a secondary school to the south east of Trowbridge (Strategic Sites Background Paper, Trowbridge Preferred Option, Key Opportunities and Constraints, p.40):

Potential exists for additional infrastructure to be provided as part of this option. For example, a new secondary school located to the south east of Trowbridge would be well located for the proposed new development and recent development located to the east of the town. This would help reduce through town traffic which is currently a problem in Trowbridge.

A new secondary school in this position would have a significant positive impact on rush hour traffic across the town and should be seen as an urgent priority.

We are disappointed that the need for more medical facilities in Trowbridge is not given more prominence in the outline of the Preferred Option, being merely listed as "likely to be needed" (Strategic Sites Background Paper, Trowbridge Preferred Option, Infrastructure Requirements, p.41). Our own experience on Paxcroft Mead demonstrates the inherent difficulties of delivering such infrastructure through 106 agreements. We refer the planners to their own statement in the main consultation document (Planning for Wiltshire's Future, Trowbridge Community Area, 3.2.4. Issues, p.25), that "All four GP surgeries are at capacity and there will be real pressure on these health facilities in the future." The need for these facilities is not "likely", but "real" and urgent.



Rosemary Hawkes

Secretary, PMCF

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