

Bramley Parish Council input to review 11th December 2014. Emerging local plan review.

Bramley Parish is shaped not unlike the African continent. The village lies in the NE corner and is a ribbon development spreading 4.5 approximately end to end along the C32 roadway. The C32 is the only road apart from a network of narrow poorly maintained rural roads to the north and south of the village. The C32 and the community are bisected by the railway line (main freight and intercity line between Southampton and the midlands) which is closed for in excess of 30 minutes per hour with increases to that expected with the planned electrification of the line.

The railway is seen by many as a reason to develop further but is in fact adding an unsustainable traffic and parking problem for the community. It attracts commuters from as far away as Andover in addition to the local communities.

At peak times there are 85+ vehicles waiting to cross east to West at the crossing.

Bramley is concerned for very valid reasons over the plans for our Parish in the emerging LDP and the consequences of not having a plan in place when the Borough cannot demonstrate a 5 year land supply and landowners are seeking to sell land at the expense of the community. Every area will have concerns but Bramley's are demonstrably justifiable and the statistics below demonstrate how and why.

Bramley has seen a unit increase of 224% between 1981 and 2011, whilst BDBC has seen an increase of only 60% (58% excluding Bramley). It must be remembered that Bramley's increase is almost entirely within the village boundary and has not significantly impacted the more outlying areas of the Parish.

In the same period the CAER% (**C**ompound **A**nnual **E**xpansion **R**ate) for Bramley is 4.46, the Borough, 1.58 and the Borough excluding Bramley, 1.54. Bramley has, therefore, expanded at 2.9 times the rate of the rest of BDBC.

In 1984 Bramley represented approximately 1.20% of the BDBC's units and by 2011 this had risen to 2.43%.

It is very clear and undeniable that Bramley has taken a considerable share of the BDBC's expansion to 2011, with no significant increase in provision of infrastructure

It is also worthy of note that the CAER for Population 1991 to 2011 is 3.39% for Bramley versus 0.74% for BDB in total and only 0.68% for BDB excluding Bramley. Bramley's population has grown at 4 times the rate of rest of the Borough. To paraphrase "Build them and they will come".

Bramley Parish is now being asked to continue a vastly disproportionate rate of contribution to the Borough's requirements for the future. With 1010 dwellings proposed in the LDP on our rapidly diminishing green field land.

The LDP calls for two strategic sites in the south of the Parish (Razors Farm and Cufaude Farm, 810 dwellings) and a 200 allocation, adjacent to the current settlement policy boundary (SPB), through the NDP process.

Razors Farm has already been approved at approx. 425 dwellings.

Our NDP is, like the LDP, an emerging plan.

The Parish Council recognising the "window of opportunity" created by the lack of both a LD and NDP, worked with a developer on a site adjacent to the SPB for 200 homes. This site offered unique community benefits and we were advised by both Officers and one Borough Cllr that if this development was to go ahead that that would be our 200 NDP allocation met. This application was approved on 3rd December.2014.

Bramley now has 625 (approx.) of the 1010 already identified with planning permission granted; the balance is allocated to a strategic site owned by BDBC. In addition the community is supporting development of a brown field site owned by the Royal British Legion for 8 – 20 more homes.

I think we can safely say that Bramley is doing its "bit" to support the LDP in a community suffering poor infrastructure and existing unsustainable development.

What we fear is that the "window of opportunity" and changes to the Community Infrastructure Levy will encourage more opportunistic applications; the comments that the overall plan has too low an annual build rate and the Borough's steadfast resistance to developing the Manydown site (early in the plan period) which was expressly purchased some years for development.

Our Draft NDP almost ready for initial submission clearly identifies the community view/wish/insistence that future development be limited to sites no more than 50 units.

Bramley asks that it now be given respite from more development than currently in the emerging plan until 2029/30 onwards. We ask that you as the Inspector recognise our contribution and do all that you can to ensure we receive much needed respite in the plan period.

Thank you for your time.