

# **WARBOROUGH & SHILLINGFORD**

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**Plan Made October 2018**

**Draft 2025 update**

**Statement assessing the significant of the changes proposed to the existing NDP**

Warborough & Shillingford Neighbourhood Plan Update

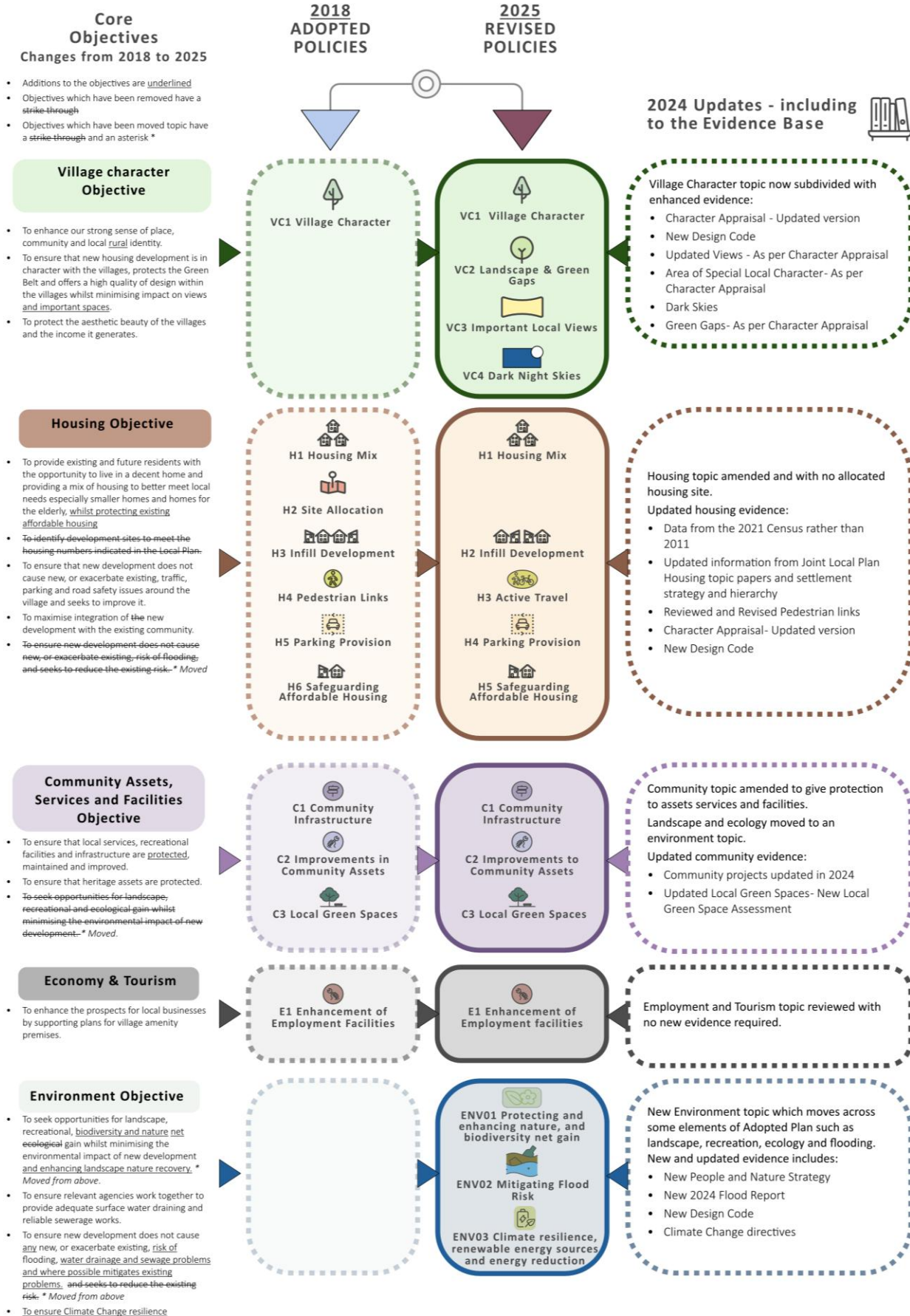
## **Summary Conclusion**

The changes proposed do not change the nature of the neighbourhood development plan - the Vision and Objectives have minor amendments and re-ordering, and the policies remain broadly the same, with new references to the new Appendices where appropriate. The new appendices strengthen and clarify the application of the policies and contain elements allowing our Plan to more clearly respond to environmental issues.

The three new Village Character policies, VC2,3,4 complement and expand the existing policy VC1. The new Environment Policies address some elements briefly addressed in VC1 previously, and respond to climate change directives. We therefore consider that the changes proposed constitute material modifications which do not change the nature of the NDP and would require examination but not a referendum.

These changes are shown in the diagram over and summarised below.

## Comparing Changes Between 2018 Adopted Plan and Emerging Review Plan 2025



# Modification Statement

This statement has been prepared to respond to Regulation 17(e)(ii) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and describes the extent of the changes proposed to the NDP. We believe these changes are material modifications which do not change the nature of the plan

The Warborough and Shillingford Neighbourhood Development Plan was formally 'made' by South Oxfordshire District Council on 11th October 2018, since when it has formed part of that council's development plan. Warborough Parish Council and its Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have prepared an update to the Plan, which is the now submitted for Reg 14 consultation. Changes to the Plan have been made in the following areas:

Appendix 1.0 presents a Design Code, Appendix 2.0 is a Character Appraisal and Appendix 3.0 is the Local Green Space Assessment. These have been prepared for us by Bluestone Planning and are based both on national criteria and on an understanding of our local village character, building on the Character Assessment in the made 2018 NP. Bluestone also assisted in the Assessment of Important views (Appendix 15.0), building on those included in the 2018 Character Assessment. Together, they support, in particular, Policy VC1, which calls on development to retain our smaller village character and promote good design, providing detailed guidance on how this can be achieved, including identifying an Area of Special Character and proposing Non-Designated Character Assets for Shillingford to add to those already identified in the historic Conservation Appraisal for Warborough. Policies VC2 Landscape Character and Green Gaps identify 1 green gap and 2 other gateway sites, as well as key landscape and river front features, and together with VC3 Important Local Views and VC 4 Dark Skies provide further details on how to preserve and enhance the distinct and separate characters of our two settlements.

The housing topic has been amended and with no allocated housing site (but still allowing for infill within Warborough). Appendix 7.0 and 8.0 reflect data from the 2021, rather than 2011 Census, there are updates related information from the emerging Joint Local Plan housing topic paper and settlement strategy and hierarchy, a revised Pedestrian links survey in Appendix 12.0, and influences from the updated Character appraisal and new design code. There are no changes to the Safeguarding Affordable Housing policy.

The community topic has been amended to give protection to assets, services and facilities. Landscape and ecology have moved to an Environment topic and updated community evidence covered community projects 2024 in appendix 14.0, and an updated C3 Local Green Space policy. This was supported by a Local Green Space Assessment, conducted by Bluestone Planning in Appendix 3.0, identifying fourteen additional LGS to the four identified in the original plan.

A new environment topic moves across some elements of the Adopted Plan such as landscape, recreation ecology and flooding. This objective is reinforced by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which calls for local wildlife-rich habitats to be identified, mapped and safeguarded. We have responded to this through a new Appendix 4.0, Strategy for People and Nature, which maps what we know about wildlife at a local level in Warborough parish and gives recommendations for how our wildlife assets can be safeguarded and enhanced. Appendix 6.0 includes a 2024 Flood Report; together with Climate Change directives and element of the Design Code these support the following dedicated policies: ENV01 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity, ENV02 Flood Risk Mitigation and Management, and ENV03 Climate Resilience, renewable energy sources and energy reduction.

There are many detail wording changes in the main report to respond to the latest NPPF (a new version was issued in 2021) and the Local Plan (SODC's Local Plan 2035 is now published and there is a Joint South & Vale plan in preparation). While these do not significantly change the objectives, they do require a lot of detail edits to reference the correct policy numbers and statements