

Winchester Local Development Framework and Sustainable Community Strategy – The Way Forward

WICKHAM STAKEHOLDER MEETING

17TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Key Points:

Wickham Parish Council accept Key Hub status, but in recognition that Wickham is the smallest settlement with this status and therefore accept limited growth is appropriate with the minimum number of houses – perhaps 100 concentrated in one area with some infill. They do however have concern about the existing social imbalance due to the high proportion of social housing and wish to re-dress this with more 2, 3 and 4 bedroom to create a better balanced community.

The Parish Council wish that due to the existing high levels of social housing Wickham should be treated differently in terms of the 40% affordable housing requirement for new residential development.

With regard to infrastructure there is concern that with more infill there is greater pressure on the existing drainage system and a recognition that any development in Wickham will have to address this. However, there is significant capacity at the primary school with 50% unfilled places, which needs to be addressed. It is seen as a failing school with a high proportion of children with learning difficulties which is felt to be caused by the population imbalance. Any new development should also create new walkways and cycleways.

Wickham should remain a village in its own right and should not be absorbed into Fareham. A significant Green Gap must be maintained between Wickham and the Fareham SDA, however it was acknowledged that the Fareham SDA offers an opportunity to Wickham residents to access wider employment opportunities. Wickham will be more sustainable close to this source of employment but it will need to attract the right balance of people/housing mix.

In terms of traffic generation there is concern about the amount of traffic that will be generated by the Fareham SDA and the impact on the village of 10,000 new houses just a couple of miles down the road, particularly in terms of the capacity of the A32 and B2177 in terms of additional HGV traffic.