

Botley to Bishop's Waltham Bridleway Project Working Group
(In partnership with the Parish Councils of Bishop's Waltham, Botley and Curdridge)

c/o Bishop's Waltham Parish Council
Jubilee Hall
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1st August 2018

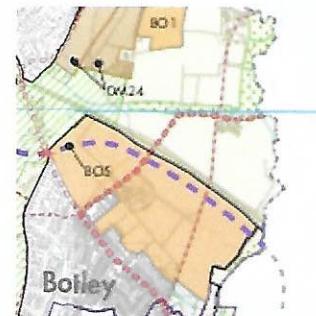
Local Plans Section,
Eastleigh Borough Council,
Eastleigh House,
Upper Market Street,
Eastleigh,
Hampshire
SO50 9YN

Eastleigh Local Plan 2016 - 2036

The purpose of this letter is to OBJECT to Policy BO2 which does not pass the test of SOUNDNESS in that it omits inclusion of Policy S13 Item xi, which provides a specific requirement for the development.

Under Policy S13 "The Council will seek the provision of the following new and strategic footpath/ cycleway/ bridleway routes as shown on the key diagram and the policies map: "

The route is shown on the map as a "proposed Strategic Footpath/Cycleway/Bridleway" heading in a north east direction before turning east through Newhouse Farm. The text of the Policy includes the description (xi) as: "Manor Farm Country Park to Forest of Bere via Botley and on to the South Downs National Park including the Botley to Bishop's Waltham Rail Trail".



However, under Policy BO2, a specific requirement (xiv) is: "the retention, improvement, and maintenance of the existing Public Rights of Way through the site and the provision of good quality pedestrian and cycle links both within the site and to connect the site to the surrounding area". Thus, the relatively insignificant north/south footpath (Botley FP3) gets a mention, but the section providing part of the strategic link between Manor Farm Country Park and the South Downs National Park is omitted.

Even if the strategic link is included as shown on the map, the north east end would terminate in a field 400m short of Wangfield Lane. It is essential that the link is taken on to Wangfield Lane and this must be provided for by the developers.

Therefore, in summary, to provide a consistency of policies within the plan to meet the test of soundness, Policy BO2, requirement xiv. should be amended to:

“the retention, improvement, and maintenance of the existing Public Rights of Way through the site, the provision of good quality pedestrian and cycle links within the site, and the provision of a section of a new and strategic footpath/ cycleway/ bridleway route between the Winchester Road and Wangfield Lane.”

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Shields". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert Shields
Chairman,
Botley to Bishop's Waltham Bridleway Project Working Group
Email: robert.shields@xmoor.com