

LDF Emerging Core Strategy

Tring Questionnaire: response from **Tring Town Council** formulated at its Planning Committee meeting held on 17th August 2009

Question 1 Do you agree with the vision for Tring?

No.

Object to houses being built in Green Belt. There is omission of any reference to the 3 major employers in Tring – Grass Roots (250 staff), Tring School (200) and Tesco (180).

Question 2 Do you agree with this level of growth?

No.

This is because it would require significant development in the Green Belt. We feel that the proposed 310 houses in the urban area would meet the needs for the future population of Tring. In any case, all calculations in the current economic climate are spurious.

Question 3 Are there any additional big issues we should be considering?

Yes.

- 1 Lack of affordable housing
- 2 Lack of Sports facilities in Tring, identified by the Tring Sports Forum survey of 2006 presented to this Council at its meeting on 19th February 2007

Question 4 The Town Council rejects both options.

Option 1 is rejected for the following reasons:

- 1 It is some distance from the town centre and 3.7 km from the railway station
- 2 It abuts the Chilterns AONB
- 3 It could be seen from the Icknield Way and the AONB

Option 2 is rejected for the following reasons:

- 1 The site includes a large County-designated wildlife site
- 2 This 'green gateway' into the town is a key 'green corridor' and an established part of its character

- 3 It would constitute a large, sprawling site with access off Station Road, Cow Lane and London Road
- 4 It is close to the Chilterns AONB
- 5 It represents a loss of productive farmland

Question 5 Should the key built and environmental assets of Tring be protected and enhanced as outlined in paragraphs 1.3 to 1.6?

Yes.

Question 6 Should Akeman Street employment area include a wider range of uses?

No

We feel there is sufficient community use provision already in the town e.g. Red Cross Hall, Victoria Hall, several church halls etc.

Question 7a Do you agree that Heygates Tring Mill should be re-designated to employment use?

No.

It is more suited to mixed use.

Question 7b Do you agree that Heygates Tring Mill should be re-designated to mixed use?

Yes.

This should provide business and residential use.

Question 8 Should the market, the auction rooms and the Natural History Museum be protected from redevelopment?

Yes, and the same goes for the Tring Local History Museum due to open in late 2009.

N.B. The terminology in 5c) (iii) is faulty. The section should not refer to 'the cattle market, farmers' market and the auction rooms' but to 'Tring Market Place and the Auction Rooms site, Brook Street'. Thus the LHM would automatically be included. The LHM should also be included in the list of 'places of local tourist interest'.

Question 9 Are there any other ways of improving the economic prosperity of Tring?

- 1 Reduction of business rates for new business starts e.g. the Pub is the Hub promoted by Prince Charles.

- 2 The retention of the 'first hour free' parking in Tring car parks; and not applying Sunday and Bank Holiday parking charges.

Question 10 The spatial strategy for Tring to 2031 is presented in Section 5. Overall do you support the strategy?

Yes, provided that the Green Belt is protected as it is at the moment.

Re: d) (ii), now that the Station car park has been enlarged, a survey of the users should be taken to find out when arrivals and departures occur so that a more reliable and expanded bus service could be introduced to reduce car journeys and to stop the need for further expansion.

Question 11 Do you have any other concerns or comments regarding the spatial strategy for Tring?

We welcome the new provision for young people in the Temperance Hall due to open this year.

The proposed additional houses for Tring (310) should be allocated on the basis of affordable housing and for small units. If this is done there would be no need to build in the Green Belt.

17th August 2009