



## **Leader of the Council**

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Cllr Wendy Matthews  
Chairman of the Council  
The Ivers Parish Council  
45B High Street  
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Buckinghamshire  
SLO 9ND

14 December 2020

Dear Councillor Matthews

### **Planning in The Ivers**

Thank you for your letter of 1 December setting out the concerns of the Parish Council over the potential impact of proposed developments in The Ivers.

I certainly share your concerns that any development, not just in The Ivers but across Buckinghamshire, should be able to provide for or contribute to all of the necessary infrastructure required to accommodate that development and also be able to fully and properly mitigate the impact of the development on the local area.

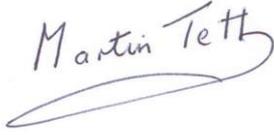
I note the Parish Council view, but I will not comment on applications or proposals that are currently in the system as these are most appropriately considered by the Council in its role as planning authority. However, I can assure you that the Parish Council's views on each of the applications will be considered very carefully before any decisions are reached. I would also urge you to take up the opportunity to address the relevant planning committee when the applications are considered. Buckinghamshire Council has specifically set aside a speaking slot for Parish Councils when they have commented on proposals.

Turning to your comments regarding a 'strategy' for The Ivers, you will be aware that the Council has already started work on the new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire. This will eventually provide a blueprint for future developments across the County and will be one of the vehicles through which the Council's and the Buckinghamshire Growth Board's vision for the area will be realised. I am afraid however, as I am sure you are aware, preparing a Local Plan will take some time and our timescales have not been helped recently with some of the uncertainty that has followed the Government's proposed changes to the planning system through the Planning White Paper.

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Nevertheless, it is very encouraging to hear that the Parish Council is pressing on with its own neighbourhood plan. Even in the absence of the Buckinghamshire-wide plan, your plan can help set local priorities for growth and importantly can help to establish vital infrastructure requirements. Buckinghamshire Council stands ready to support the Parish Council through the neighbourhood planning process and I would encourage your neighbourhood planning group to continue to engage with our officers so that a very robust neighbourhood plan can be made.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin Tett". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

**Martin Tett**  
**Leader of the Council**