



LONG WITTENHAM FEASIBILITY STUDY  
FINAL FEASIBILITY STUDY OF SITES  
13TH JULY 2012

# LONG WITTENHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



# Introduction- aims for this evening

- Survey Results
- Overview of progress
- Discussion and Next steps



# Oh no, not another plan

- 2004 Housing survey
- 2010 Wittenham Vision
  - Village Hub
  - Footpath
  - Limited need for new housing
  - Traffic
- Community Hub proposals
- Savills report
- Selection of sites





# Survey Content

- Demographics
- Community Hub Site preferences
- Tolerance of new housing to pay for this
- Need for new housing- existing residents and those living outside
- Parking
- Traffic
- New cycle path/footpath
- Transport



# Survey Results

- 55% response rate
- Less 25-44 year olds and more 65-74 year olds responded compared with Census data



# Likes and dislikes of living in LW

- Top 3 likes
  - Quiet and peaceful
  - Friendly
  - Community Spirit
- Top 3 dislikes
  - Traffic volume
  - Lack of shop
  - Poor transport

Most people felt addressing the top 3 dislikes would improve their quality of life



# Community hub sites

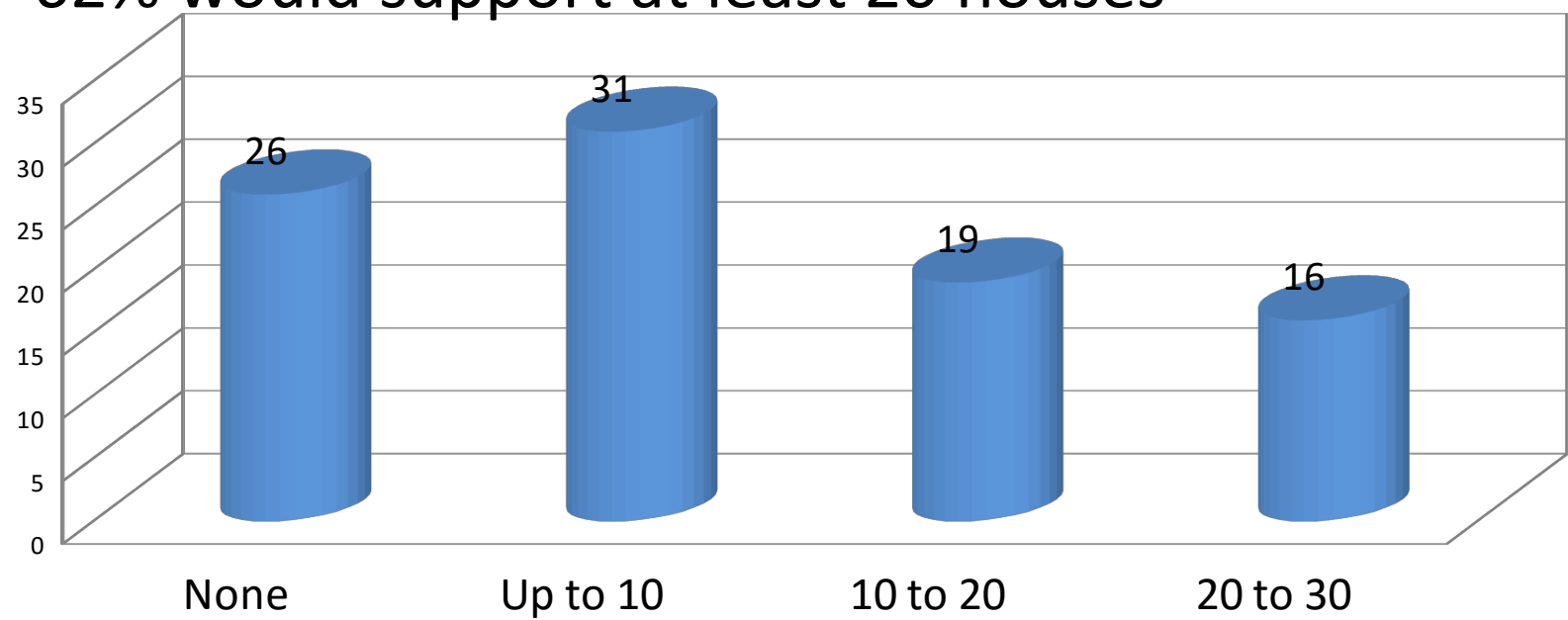
- Choices were:
- Challis Farm: 72% agree
- \*Mr Weavers' Field: 74% agree
- \*Site at end of Saxons Heath: 47% agree
- \* Survey asked 'If previous site/s not available
- NB Status of Bodkins



# Tolerance of new housing

53% (96/182) agreed with 30-40 new houses to fund the hub

62% would support at least 20 houses





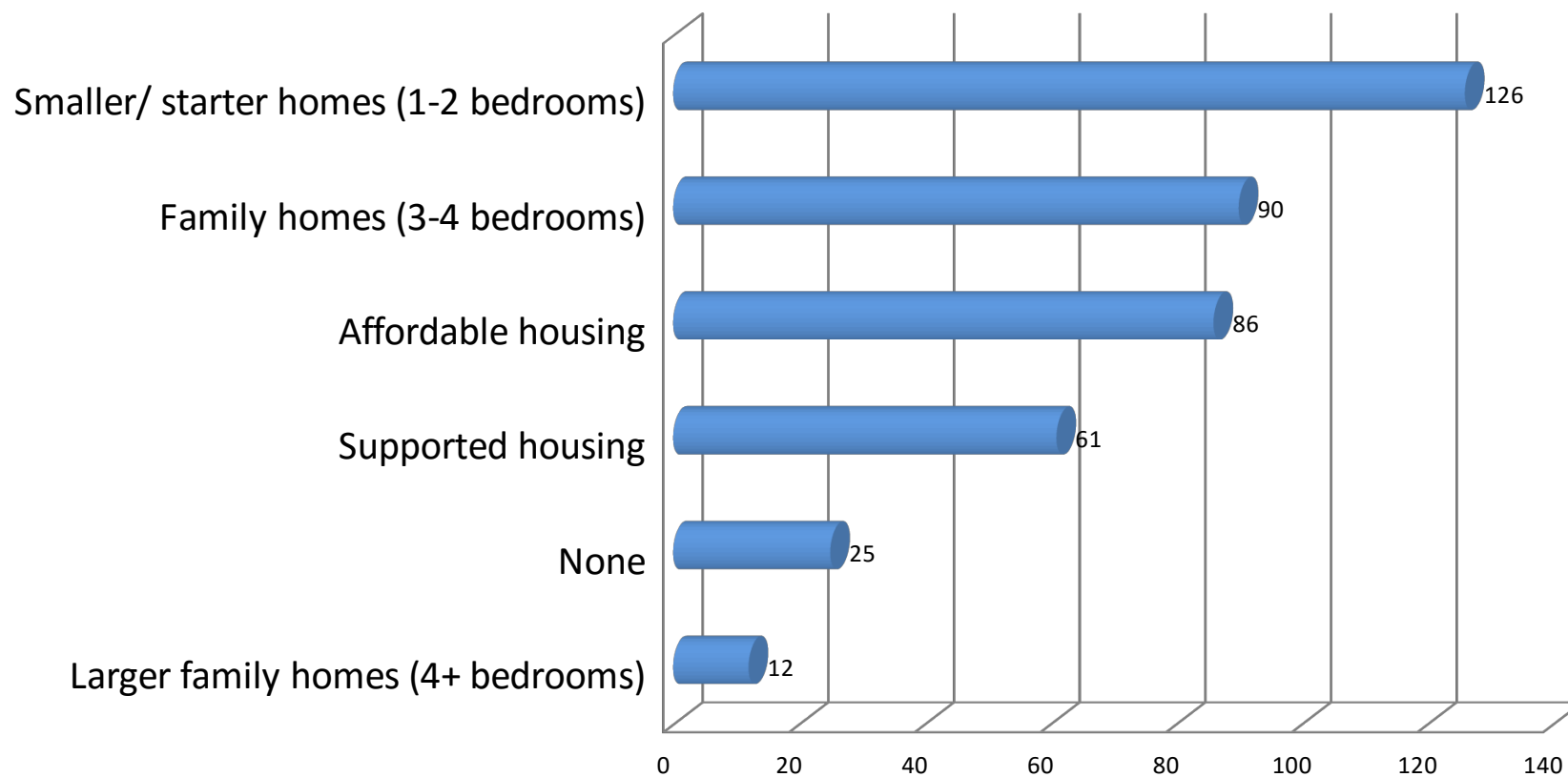
MATT



*"Tonight on Downton Abbey,  
50 new houses are built on the front lawn"*



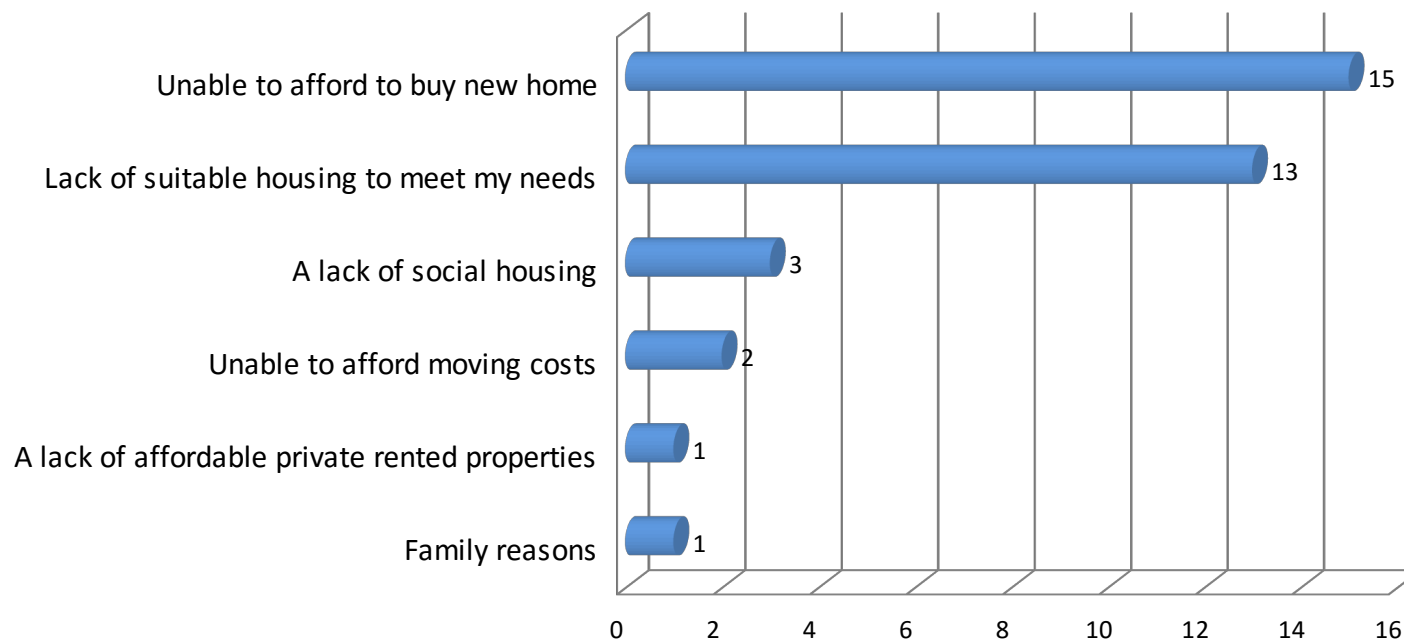
# Need for new housing-all residents





# Need for new housing-current residents

- Of current residents wishing to move but cannot, reasons were (N=21):





# Need for new housing-those looking

- Total 26 responses
- Why do you need a new home:
  - Start first home 10
  - Need smaller home 5
- Type of home
  - 1-2 bedrooms 18
  - Housing association 4



# Need for new housing-non residents

- People living outside who wish to live in LW
- Total 56 positive responses

- 1-2 bed affordable 16
- Supported housing 6
- Market housing 55
  - Mainly smaller 1-3 bed



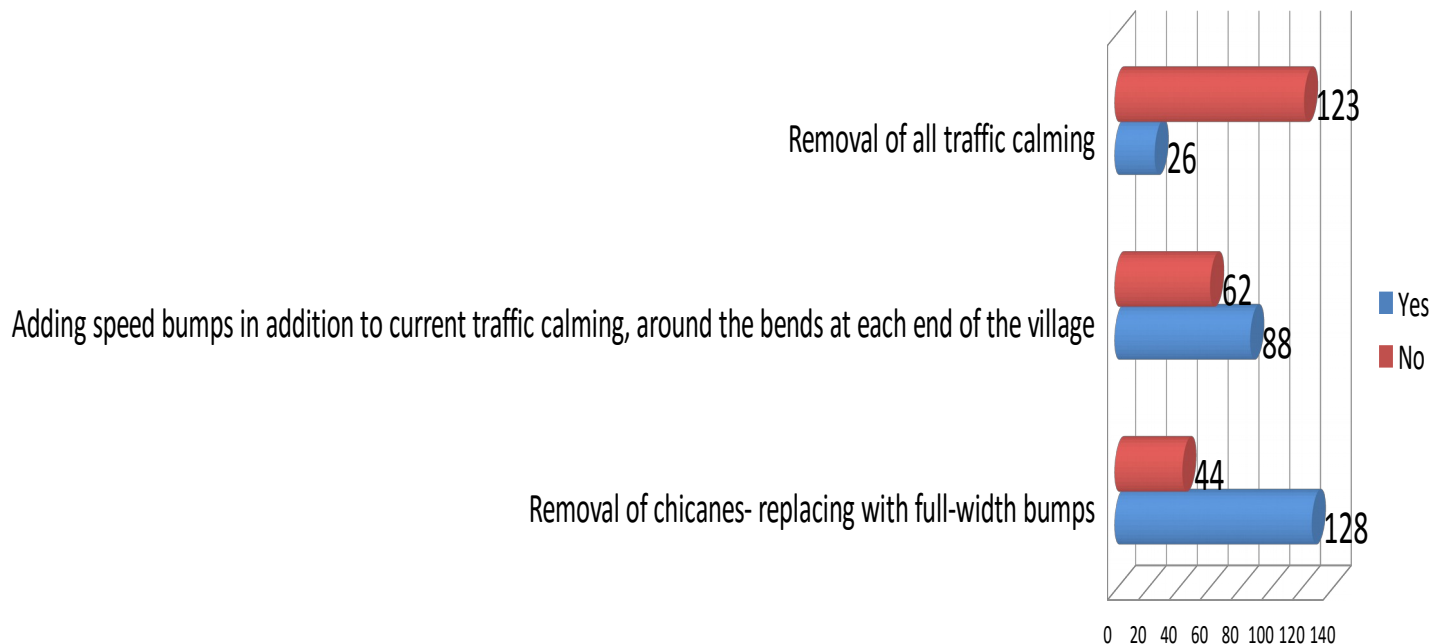
# Parking

- 20% had problems with own parking at least weekly
- Is other people's parking a problem at least weekly
  - 18% neighbours
  - 18% village hall
  - 43% school parking
- 75% supported concept of village car park



# Traffic

- 96% supported lobby for new bridge
- Options for traffic calming (But will OCC fund?):





# Footpath and cycle path

- Support opening footpath over weir 92%
- Support cycle path to Clifton Hampden 88%
- Would use at least weekly 57%





# Transport

- Use current bus service 13%
- Would regularly use rush hour bus to Didcot 13%



## Free text

- Several questioned why we need a new school or hall
- Some support for Bodkins as preferred site
- There is still some misunderstanding about the need to build houses to fund the hub. (BUT NP will protect against other types of development)
- Concerns about increased traffic flow with any development... but new bridge



## Free text

- Is a shop/café sustainable?
- Concern that shop will affect CH shop viability
- Local archaeological considerations
- More use of the church for community events



# Free text

275 free text comments

Overall coding as 'negative', 'positive', 'neutral'.

33% could not be coded in this way

13% negative

14% neutral

40% positive



# Conclusions

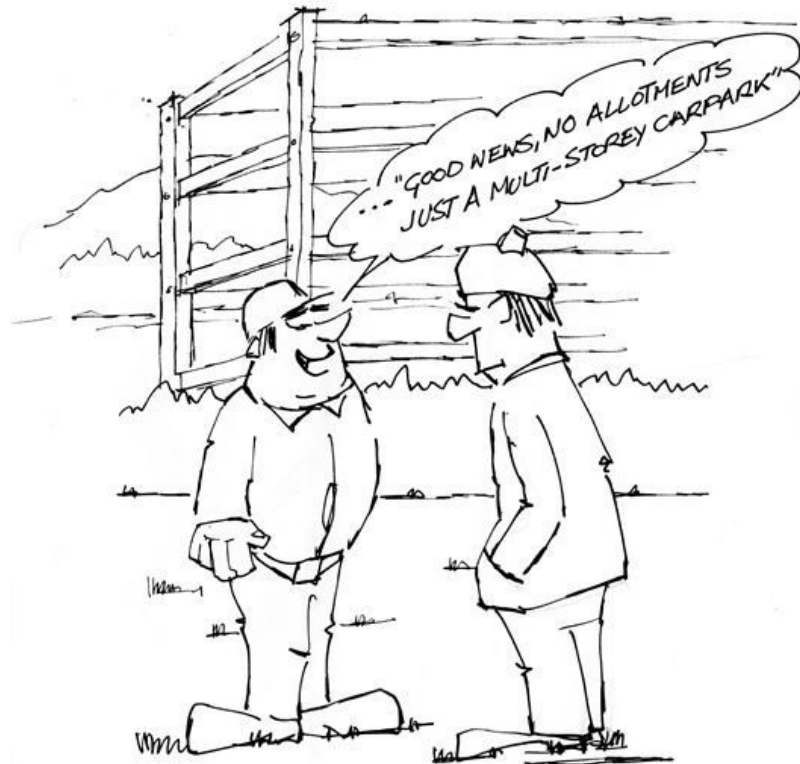
- Support for hub sites 1 and 2
- Tolerance of building houses to finance this
- Need for smaller market houses
- Some need for social housing identified (but not 40% of total build)
- Village shop would improve quality of life here
- Need for more parking identified



# Conclusions

- Residents prefer speed bumps to chicanes- but what effect on traffic flow if chicanes removed?
- Enthusiasm for circular footpath
- Support for cycle path to CH
- Small need for more buses identified
  
- There are a lot of calls for action concerning the traffic- we need a full complement of parish councillors to help achieve this!!

Don't forget! NP gives us protection...





# Discussion



# Progress to date





# Overall progress

- Steering committee
- ORCC
- Communication
- Strategic and environmental assessment



# Neighbourhood Plan: Scoping document

- Before we can write the Neighbourhood Plan we are required to do a Strategic environmental assessment (SEA).
- Covers social, environmental and economic factors
  - Policy documents
  - Baseline in LW
  - Survey results
  - .....to develop assessment criteria for neighbourhood plan



## Next steps

- Scoping now complete and comments from SODC received
- 6 week consultation period- statutory bodies and residents
- It will then be submitted to SODC for approval
- Then we can write the plan...easy



Thank you for coming