

**KV Articles – March 2017 – Alan Graham writes ...**

# **Kidlington Developments**

## **Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan (Part 1)**

### **— Oxford's Unmet Housing Need**

Some of the biggest planning decisions ever to have an impact upon the character of Kidlington are likely to be made as 2017 progresses.

The decision to refuse the Co-op planning application by Cherwell District Council in February which included 52 flats will have been seen as a significant victory by the many local people who opposed the proposed development.

However, this now appears relatively minor when the pressure is now here to deliver 4400 dwellings to address Oxford's unmet housing needs within Cherwell and the options presented giving the indication that the preferred locations are in the area around and close to Kidlington.

A significant planning issue is that many of the sites being looked at are within the Oxford Green Belt and Government policy is that there are only

very exceptional circumstances to allow development in the Green belt to go ahead.

The next phase for the Plan to take forward the 4400 dwellings will soon be upon us, probably in May, and will see where Cherwell proposes to locate them. It will also be the most important time to make comments or object to the plan, with the opportunity for those making comments to participate in the Public Examination into the Plan before a Government appointed Inspector. This will take place later in the year. Those attending will also include potential developers as well as representatives from Oxford City Council. The Inspector then decides on how and where the 4400 dwellings are taken forward!



Alan Graham is an elected member of Kidlington Parish Council. He is also Chairman of Kidlington Voice — an informal voluntary forum established in the 1990's comprising representatives of local businesses, community groups, schools, individuals, and other neighbouring organisations all sharing a common interest in the on-going success, development, and wellbeing of the village of Kidlington. [Kidlington's Population: Circa 14,000 - UK Census 2011.]

Articles are invited on any Kidlington-related subject. Address your article's copy to the advertising editor: [louise.loyd@kvoice.co.uk](mailto:louise.loyd@kvoice.co.uk) and please include a recent photograph of yourself with a brief summary of your connection to Kidlington village.