

## Broadley, David

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**From:** Frances Ruth Baker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 March 2020 21:13  
**To:** LocalPlanConsult  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Ickford Neighbourhood plan

The objectives of the Neighbourhood plan, to limit the scale of growth of Ickford, is probably what everyone wants. Preserving the existing open outlook of homes is also important to residents. The issues raised by the questionnaire are also important.

However I am disappointed that there wasn't more thought given to climate change and the need to build more energy efficient homes and reduce the use of fossil fuels.

Point 6.5 refers to using traditional materials in new buildings. Although I would hope that the planning department would insist on strict insulation of new homes, this shouldn't exclude the use of materials used in ecohomes, such as at 38A Golders Close, and I would like to see the insistence of the orientation of all roofs so that solar panels can be fitted as standard. Hopefully the planning department will also encourage the use of heat pumps to reduce the burning of gas as a fossil fuel.

The Neighbourhood plan also recommends not building garages but constructing car ports instead. However this is a problem of where homeowners can keep their bicycles safely locked up, along with lawn mowers and other expensive equipment. If more cycle lanes were ever built, hopefully more people will use their bikes.

One of the issues raised was the availability of primary school places for children from Ickford, Shabbington and Wормinghall. and problems caused by parents parking along Sheldon Road at the beginning and end of school. All these villages have new homes being built which will probably bring more children and it would be a shame if our neighbours were not still able to send their children to Ickford school. Perhaps it would be better for the local authority to be thinking of moving to a new site at some point in the future. This would enable the school to expand, to have its own sports area and the much needed parking space for staff, visitors and parents, which would help to solve the parking issues. Just drawing a line round the current village gives no scope for this to happen. A new school site would also reduce the land available for more housing, which is one of the objectives.

Before approving the current vision for Ickford perhaps more thought could be given to the future needs of the community as a whole, not just the thoughts of current villagers.

Ruth Baker  
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