Dear Sir/Madame

Thank you for consulting Thames Valley Police on the above and congratulations on a very well constructed document.

I commend the Parish Council for requiring Secured by Design (SBD) accreditation within the design Code at Appendix A. This represents an important contribution to crime prevention design for the lifetime of the plan. I do suggest however, that a specific policy is included within the plan itself to ensure that the requirement is fully understood and adhered to. I have provided some suggested wording below;

‘All development should incorporate the principles and standards of ‘Secured by Design’ (SBD) and, wherever possible, achieve SBD accreditation to ensure that a safe and sustainable community is maintained.’

As I’m sure you are aware, SBD is the police’s flagship crime prevention initiative for the built environment and has a proven track record in assisting with the creation of safer places. It provides guidance on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and specifications for a minimum set of standards on physical security measures.

Further details can be found at; www.securedbydesign.com

The suggested wording would assist the Weston-on-the-Green Neighbourhood Plan in achieving many of its objectives, and help ensure that future developments meet the requirements of;

- The National Planning Policy Framework 2018, Section 12 ‘Achieving well-designed places’, point 127 (part f), which states that; ‘Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments… create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible… and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience’.
- HMCLG’s Planning Practice Guidance on ‘Design’, which states that; ‘Although design is only part of the planning process it can affect a range of objectives... Planning policies and decisions should seek to ensure the physical environment supports these objectives. The following issues should be considered: safe, connected and efficient streets... crime prevention... security measures... cohesive & vibrant neighbourhoods.’
- Cherwell District Council Saved Policy 30, which states; ‘The design and layout of new development can also assist with crime prevention and the Council will have regard to the advice in Circular 5/94 'Planning Out Crime' and 'Secured by Design' initiative.’

Incorporation of SBD standards and inclusion of CPTED principles within development are, to my mind, the best way to ensure compliance with the requirements of the above.

I hope you find my comments useful. If I can be of further assistance in relation to the Plan please do get in touch. Thank you once again for consulting TVP, it is much appreciated.

Regards

Crime Prevention Design Advisor | Oxfordshire | Local Policing | Thames Valley Police
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