

# THE WINSLOW NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## **What is a Neighbourhood Plan and what are the benefits?**

A Neighbourhood Plan provides local people with greater ownership of the plans and policies that affect the future development of their community. It will identify the specific sites or broad locations where housing, employment and leisure development will be located and specify the form, size, type and design of future development. The intention is to empower local people to take a proactive role in shaping the future of the communities in which they live. Once in place, the Neighbourhood Plan is the premier planning document detailing the framework for change in one's community over the next 20 years.

## **How will the Winslow Neighbourhood Plan relate to AVDC's Vale of Aylesbury Plan?**

Our Neighbourhood Plan cannot promote less housing and economic development than that which is specified in the Vale of Aylesbury Plan (VAP) because there is an obligation for a Neighbourhood Plan to be in *general conformity* with both national planning policy and the strategic elements of the Vale of Aylesbury Plan. The District Council will work in partnership with Winslow Town Council in developing our Neighbourhood Plan.

## **What is the process for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan?**

The Government has established a ten step process for the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. Our consultants will be managing the process on behalf of the Town Council. The Winslow Neighbourhood Plan (WNP) will be subject to an independent examination and will then be put to the community in a Referendum.

## **What is meant by an independent examination and what will be examined?**

The examination will test whether our Neighbourhood Plan is in accordance with the strategic policies of the VAP. It will be undertaken by a suitably qualified person appointed by AVDC, after a 6 weeks public consultation. The Examiner will be independent of the process. If he/she agrees that our Neighbourhood Plan conforms with all relevant requirements, then a Referendum will be held.

## **What is the Referendum?**

Following the examination, our Neighbourhood Plan will be subject to a Referendum, where 50% of the votes need to be in favour of the WNP. As with a general election, the vote is not based on the total population of Winslow, rather than the number of people who actually turn out to vote. If the vote is in favour of the Winslow Neighbourhood Plan, Aylesbury Vale District Council is legally obliged to adopt it for planning and development control purposes. It will then comprise the plan for the area for the next ten years, after which it will be reviewed and can be updated as necessary.

