

# Charlton Kings Parish Council

26 Church Street, Church Piece, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AR

Clerk: Mrs J Noles Tel: 01242 250087 email: [clerk@charltonkingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@charltonkingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

31<sup>st</sup> January 2019

Ms Tracey Smith  
Cheltenham Borough Council  
Municipal Offices  
Promenade  
Cheltenham  
GL50 9SA

Dear Ms Smith,

## Cheltenham Plan Hearings: Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions, 5: Flood Risk

Following a Full Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, I have been asked to write to you on behalf of Charlton Kings Parish Council in support of the submission in relation to flood risk by Dr John Hughes to the Cheltenham Plan Hearings.

Dr John Hughes, Chair of the Cheltenham Flood and Drainage Panel (Representor ID (124/1360) has submitted to you, their "Supplementary Written Statement for the Cheltenham Plan hearings, in response to the Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions, 5: Flood Risk.

Dr Hughes is now a Charlton Kings Parish Councillor and was previously chair of the Charlton Kings Flood Action Group with whom the Parish Council worked closely to address the intractable problem of flooding in our part of the upper catchment of the River Chelt.

The Parish Council submitted a detailed and largely supportive response to the Local Plan's pre-submission consultation. One of our few areas of criticism was in respect of this issue, where, in respect of the chapter on health and environmental quality we said:

"We identify a specific and important omission in this chapter. Despite a clear statement in para 14.2 that "Successful development management should be based on a clear understanding of the characteristics of the local area in terms of character, built form, architecture, heritage and landscape", and that "It also contributes to the development of safer, stronger and sustainable communities that can adapt to the challenges of climate change", there is no reference anywhere within the Plan to the highly significant current and projected effects of fluvial and overland flooding from the River Chelt, its tributaries and surrounding catchment. In our view, the disastrous effects of significant recent flood events on the economy and social fabric of Cheltenham, must be recognised and confronted. Despite its position at the head of the

catchment, Charlton Kings has suffered significant flood damage in recent years and this Council is working collaboratively with a Flood Action Group to establish strategies and practical projects that will address these issues.”

At the meeting of the Parish Council on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, Councillor Dr Hughes summarised the work that had gone into the document that his panel has presented to you in support of your examination of the Plan. Recognising our previous submission, and the continuing importance that the Parish Council gives to this issue, it was resolved that we should make a representation to the enquiry supporting the Flood and Drainage Panel’s analysis of the current and likely future issues from flooding in the River Chelt catchment and to urge the Inspector to accept this document as the basis for developing and implementing a long term strategy to protect the future of the infrastructure and residents of Cheltenham.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Noles

Clerk & RFO to the Parish Council  
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