

South Hinksey Parish Council response to the challenge to the Green Belt land within the Parish Boundary

South Hinksey parish and in particular the Hinksey Hill area includes land within the Green Belt. The pressure for land for additional housing within our area means that, in exceptional circumstances, sites within the Green Belt can be made available for housing development. In applying the exceptional circumstances test the factors to be taken into account include proximity to Oxford and available transport links. It appears, therefore, that the Hinksey Hill area may well attract development applications.

It is argued that the Green Belt on the Hinksey Hill side of the A34 provides a historic setting and the 'green lungs' for Oxford City and that its preservation will prevent the urban sprawl which is anticipated in other parts of Oxford.

The policy of the Parish Council is to promote the preservation of the Green Belt within its boundaries by the following action:

1. Ensuring that all applications for development within the Green Belt comply with existing regulations
2. Promoting the cultivation of trees on Hinksey Hill and area by the use of planting schemes and the use of Tree Preservation Orders
3. Obtaining advice and cooperating with such experts as are necessary:
 - Council for the Preservation of Rural England
 - Ward councillors
 - Professor Riki Therivel
 - Tim Stringer, VoWHDC's Tree Officer
4. Working in due course with neighbouring parishes who are facing similar challenges.