



HFDAG - Hanwell Fields Development Action Group

### **Broken promises - lost dreams**

Back in 1997 the Development Brief for Hanwell Fields set out the technical and quantitative guidance for the submitted planning permission. To quote from this:

*"Create an attractive and comfortable northern edge to the town at its interface with the Area of High Landscape Value to the north"*

*"Integrate the new development into the physical and social fabric of the town"*

Especially take this paragraph:

#### *"1.3.1 Location*

*The land allocated for the development at Hanwell Fields is located on the northern extremity of Banbury and will form the new urban edge to this side of town. The objective is to create an urban form and new urban edge which appears organic in character, relating to land form and local colour and therefore specifically distinctive as Banbury."*

And the 1997 Design Brief goes on:

*"1.3.2 The topography of the site affords extensive views generally northerly over the Area of High Landscape Value. From the westerly neighbourhood park a 270 degree panorama may be enjoyed. Development should be located so as to enable as many people as possible to enjoy these views...."*

Until recently that is exactly the pleasure that Hanwell Fields residents have enjoyed.

Up to now.

Today Cherwell District Council, in its misplaced panic to nominate space and please developers, has put two proposed development sites in the "**Area of High Landscape Value**" and beyond the "**new urban edge of Banbury**". The sites are at North Hanwell Fields (BAN5) and either side of Southam Road (BAN2), and are now included in the proposed new Local Plan May 2012 due to go for public consultation from the 29th August 2012, for just 6 weeks.

Nomination of these sites breaks the trust with residents of Hanwell Fields who have surely the right to expect promises of the development to be the well defined northern boarder of Banbury.

HFDAG says this plan must be thrown out. It breaks the dreams of and the promises made to everyone who has settled in Hanwell Fields.

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