

Goring Church of England Primary School
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Headteacher Mrs Angela Wheatcroft B.A. (QTS)



June 9th 2017

Dear Goring Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Please find enclosed our full proposal prepared in conjunction with the Diocese of Oxford with input from McAdden Homes. The proposal contains as much information as is available and, as is our understanding from consulting professionals within OCC and the Diocese, reasonable and customary at this stage.

Governors from Goring CE Primary School have this week visited St Edburg's CE Primary School near Bicester, which last year relocated to a new, bespoke building as a result of housing development. This visit highlighted to us the great potential that the package described in this proposal offers, and re-emphasised the dilapidated and obsolete state of our current school buildings. There are no funds to replace these buildings and patching them up is neither cost-effective nor an efficient use of public money or the limited resources of the Diocese.

Mrs Margaret Kunzer, Headteacher at St Edburg's, has kindly invited any member of the Steering Group and the Parish Council who would be interested to visit her school. She has also offered to come to Goring to speak to you about the huge advantages the new school building has brought not just to the children but the wider community. We very much hope that you will take her up on this offer – in the first instance please contact the clerk to the Governing Body and we will make the arrangements with Mrs Kunzer.

Providing the children of Goring village with an education to enable them to compete on a level playing field is the challenge and the opportunity before us. As a Governing Body, and with the support of the Diocese of Oxford, we have to seek to rise to that challenge, and take this opportunity. It is part of our statutory duty and we believe it is the right thing to do. Consequently, a key planning question for our village today is 'do we want a brand new, inspirational, school building which is fit for purpose and, if so, is a small amount of additional development worth it?'

All of us in Goring share the concern about the need to preserve and protect the AONB and to help the village manage within its constrained infrastructure, but all of us also need to look beyond the single issue of the AONB and consider the 'bigger picture' for the community, particularly the current and future children of our village.

We look forward to hearing from you and discussing this proposal along with the Diocese and McAdden Homes.

Yours sincerely

The Governing Body, Goring CE Primary School