



## **Response to Consultation on Oxford Local Plan 2016-2036**

The JCA only wishes to comment on certain aspects highlighted in the consultation, with particular relevance to Jericho

### **Living and Housing**

As a conservation area with a relatively high housing density and few green areas, Jericho will continue to have very limited scope for new housing.

The JCA supports any measures the Council can take to offset the effects of house price and rental inflation from altering the social mix of the area to the detriment of those on low incomes, young adults and families with children.

In particular we would prioritise:

- The provision of more affordable housing
- The reduction of pressure on the limited stock of houses in Jericho by the provision of more student housing elsewhere in the City, or on University and college land in the Jericho area
- Recognition of the role residential moorings along the canal and river can play in providing an alternative form of affordable housing, and an increase in numbers of such moorings

### **A strong economy and workforce**

Pressure for more housing in Jericho has already led to the loss of Lucy's Engineering Works and a number of smaller business units have also been lost to residential use.

- The JCA supports policies to protect remaining business and employment sites within the area including OUP, the ROQ and small local units
- The provision of small business units and hubs for start-ups and to support the self-employed particularly in the cultural sector, and in crafts and professions associated with the canal would be particularly appropriate in Jericho

### **Green and Open Spaces**

Jericho is very short of green spaces and we would resist any loss of existing spaces in the area.

- The Council should encourage tree planting wherever possible including requiring developers to add planting to the streetscape on new developments. This will improve air quality and mitigate traffic pollution.
- Planting along the canal and river corridor should also be used to provide a green corridor along the edge of Jericho

### **A strong community and a healthy place**

The continuing trend in intensification of urban living, and the rise in single person households (including among the elderly) could lead to increasing isolation and loneliness. Public facilities, such as the proposed new community centre, boatyard and public space by the Jericho Wharf, play an essential role in facilitating social, leisure and exercise activities where the local community can meet and forge the bonds that create a strong local community.

- The Local Plan should protect the retention under local community ownership or control of community centre and boatyard facilities on the Canal in Jericho

Jericho Community Association

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