

Objective: To ensure sensitive development in accordance with the existing character of Pirton village and Parish, including its greenery, wildlife habitats, connectivity, landscape and access to the countryside.

Proposed Policy: Design and Character

- a. New developments should not be prominent in scale, visually dominant or significantly change the character of the village and surrounding landscape.
- b. All proposals for new buildings must demonstrate a high standard of design and make a positive contribution to the visual quality of the environment.
- c. Proposals should complement and enhance Pirton by recognising and re-enforcing the distinct character (as set out in the Character Assessment found in Appendix 1) in relation to height, scale, spacing, layout, orientation, design and materials of buildings.
- d. Boundary treatments should reflect the distinct local character in relation to materials and design.
- e. The rural character of Pirton Village should be respected by allowing a density appropriate to the setting and purpose of the development - of up to 20 dwellings per hectare.
- f. Lighting from new development must not create additional urbanising influences on the Character Area and proposals must minimise the impact of light pollution.

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Proposed Policy: Greenery and Landscaping

- a) All development proposals should seek to incorporate adequate landscaping to mitigate the visual impact of the development and ensure that proposals merge in to the existing village context. Landscaping schemes should seek to include predominately native species.

- b) Mature or important trees should be retained. Development that results in the loss of ancient trees or trees of good arboricultural and/or amenity value will not normally be permitted unless justified by professional tree survey and arboricultural statement. Where removal of a tree of recognised importance can be justified, a replacement(s) of similar amenity value should be provided on site.

- c) Hedgerows and trees on the edge of the village are important to Pirton's character. They give the village a green and soft edge, and should be retained and used to minimise the visual impact of new development on views into the village from the surrounding countryside.