

Q1

Option One is the least worst in the case of the Barford cluster, where your planning officers have made errors and omissions in the level of facilities and amenities available. The cluster cannot support large numbers of new houses. Details provided of: absence of shops, removal of employment, misidentified plantation, failing flood scheme, B1108 traffic hazard and struggling GP service.

1. *"there are several specialty (speciality??) shops across the cluster's settlements."* I only know of a beauty salon, three pubs (two currently closed) and the garage on the Watton road (described to me as "a life saver on many occasions" by a friend in Colton) that you are planning to knock down for VC BAR 1
2. *"There are several industrial and commercial units located within the centre of the village, which provide local employment opportunities."* You are proposing to remove around three of these to develop VC BAR 1
3. *"the popular plantation on the east side, positively contribute to the form and character of the village."* Do you mean the bat willows that have been commercially harvested (they were quite popular) or do you think that they are poplar trees; which they are not?
4. *"Much of the central part of Barford forms part of the Barford Flood Alleviation Scheme which helps to control flooding in the village"* Correct, but there is insufficient thought, planning given as to how the water exits the scheme to the River Tiffey. There is only one route, through a network of private ditches, not all well maintained. They are privately owned, not accessible by digger and largely have to be hand dug by ageing landowners.
5. Either of the schemes proposed for the village of Barford would lead to an increased number of vehicle movements crossing the carriageway of the B1108 as they attempt to turn right into the village on a double blind bend. Unfortunately it is a very gentle bend that does not slow the traffic down. Many vehicles do not obey the 40mph and tend to continue travelling at the national speed limit.
6. The villages lie in the Humbleyard GP practice area, which is already struggling with the amount of new build houses AND is a six or seven mile round walk from the village, there being no public transport to Hethersett (or Cringleford, let alone Mulbarton)

Q3a SN6000

Mixed feelings as I know how important the future of the Village Hall and Playing Field is to the community, but I live downslope of the site and already have to live with sandbags at the ready and the constant threat of flooding. It used to be that the main route of highways water to the River Tiffey was through our garage. Now it mainly comes up through the AW foul sewer in our back gardens or in the street. Details supplied. Also traffic issues on Chapel Street during school hours need to be identified/solved.

1. The foul water network has not coped during heavy rain since we moved here in 1989. Adding more houses has incrementally made it worse. Anglian Water are still trying to solve the problem. Over the last 15 years, sewage flooding has moved from our neighbours sitting room to our back gardens. Recent mitigations have resulted in sewage in the street and our front garden, which is higher than the front door ... so we need more sandbags.
2. "*Much of the central part of Barford forms part of the Barford Flood Alleviation Scheme which helps to control flooding in the village*" Correct, but there is insufficient thought, planning given as to how the water exits the scheme to the River Tiffey. There is only one route, through a network of private ditches, not all well maintained. They are privately owned, not accessible by digger and largely have to be hand dug by ageing landowners.
3. Barford is built within the confluence of the Rivers Yare and Tiffey and flood water OR the capacity for flood water backs up from there into the built up area. Immediately downstream are the flood defences for Norwich and their capacity needs to be factored in too.

Q3b

Keep the Village Hall and Playing Field at the centre of the community. Investigate the current efficiency of the Barford Flood Alleviation scheme: inputs and outputs. Engage with the team at Anglian Water who are working on the sewage flooding issue. Details supplied. How will increased traffic flow on Chapel Street during school hours? Needs to be identified/solved.

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OPPOSE

I do not understand the premise of VC BAR1 , let alone an extension. It removes jobs and services from the village cluster and would add 20-40 residential properties onto a double blind-bend on a busy arterial road into Norwich. More details supplied. Turning right from the B1108 onto Cock Street already feels dangerous and some people try and avoid it by using back roads. The road here already leads to surface water flooding of properties in Style Loke and "Suttons Loke"

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4. NCC Highways already investigating flooding downhill of the bends/hill.

4b

Jobs and services would have to be relocated elsewhere in the Cluster and major modification of the "Cock Inn Bend" would have to be undertaken by NCC Highways to the intersections of both Cock Street and Back Lane with the B1108.

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