Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to make the following contribution to the consultation on the Darley Dale Neighbourhood Plan. As it stands, the plan probably conforms to statutory requirements, but I think it’s weak on an imaginative long-term vision for Darley Dale. Planners may say that the following suggestions are beyond their remit, but I’d argue that there’s much here to create a dynamic framework that is absolutely necessary and can at the same time enthuse our residents.

1. There could be mention of how new housing will require *infrastructure improvements* such as shops, doctors, pubs, community halls and consideration given to how these may be imaginatively realised.
2. There could be specific mention on how *leisure facilities* will be created or improved, for example bike tracks, kids’ playgrounds, recreation grounds, public footpaths, public space, public art.
3. There could be detailed proposals on improvements to *road safety*. For example how can roads be made safer for people and for cyclists? Where can traffic be calmed? How are we to build an infrastructure of electric cars?
4. How can the *public transport* infrastructure be improved and developed, in particular to cater for new housing?
5. And finally, and for me more parochially, how can *Old Hackney Lane* be made safe for all road users? Could some bends be ironed out and road widening be undertaken – but strictly only these go hand in hand with traffic calming measures and steps to protect pedestrians?

More generally, I’d be interested to know how young people have been encouraged to take part in this consultation – after all, they are the future of Darley Dale.

Yours,