



# Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2031 Statement of Basic Conditions

JANUARY 2017

KIBWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP

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## 1.0 Introduction

This statement has been prepared by Kibworth Neighbourhood Planning Group to accompany its submission to the local planning authority (Harborough District Council) of The Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan ("the Neighbourhood Plan") under regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations").

The policies described in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to development and the use of land in the designated Neighbourhood Plan area only. The plan period for the Neighbourhood Plan is 2011 to 2031 and it does not contain policies relating to excluded development, in accordance with the Regulations. The way the Neighbourhood Plan meets the Regulations and the Basic Conditions is set out below.

Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) [excluding 2b, c, 3 to 5 as required by 38(C)] sets out in the following way how the neighbourhood plans must meet the basic conditions:

- 1) The examiner must consider the following:
  - (a) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions (see sub-paragraph (2))
  - (b) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan complies with the provision made by or under sections 61E (2), 61J and 61L, as amended by s38C(5)(b)
  - (c) whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the neighbourhood area to which the draft neighbourhood development plan relates and
  - (d) such other matters as may be prescribed.
  
- 2) A draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions if:
  - (a) having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood development plan
  - (b) the making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development
  - (c) the making of the neighbourhood development plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area)
  - (d) the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations and

- (e) prescribed conditions are met in relation to the neighbourhood development plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood development plan.

Section 2 of this Statement sets out how the Neighbourhood Plan complies with the legal requirements of sub-paragraphs 1 (b), (c) and (d). Section 3 of this Statement sets out how the Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions contained in sub-paragraph 1 (a) and sub-paragraph 2.

## **2.0 Summary of Submission Documents and Supporting Evidence**

In addition to the Basic Conditions Statement, the following documents have been prepared to support the preparation of the Plan and meet the Basic Conditions:

- The Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan 2011 – 2031 Submission Version
- The Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Statement
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report (HDC to undertake)**

## **3.0 Legal Requirements**

The Plan complies with the provisions of sub-paragraph 1(b) as described below.

### **3.1 The Plan is being submitted by a qualifying body**

The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted by Kibworth Beauchamp Parish Council, which is a qualifying body and entitled to submit a Neighbourhood Plan for the designated Plan Area encompassing both Kibworth Beauchamp and Kibworth Harcourt Parish Councils. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by an Advisory Committee, appointed by and reporting to both the Kibworth Beauchamp and Kibworth Harcourt Parish Councils.

### **3.2 What is being proposed is a neighbourhood plan**

The Neighbourhood Plan contains policies relating to the development and use of land within the Neighbourhood Plan area and has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

### **3.3 The proposed Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect**

The Neighbourhood Plan states that the period which it relates to is from 2011 until 2031. The period has been chosen to align with that of the emerging Harborough District Council Local Plan.

### **3.4 The policies do not relate to excluded development**

The Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with county matters (mineral extraction and waste development), nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The County Council has not raised any issues of incompatibility with the existing adopted Leicestershire Minerals Local Plan.

### **3.5 The proposed Neighbourhood Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood plan area and there are no other neighbourhood plans in place within the Neighbourhood Plan area.**

The adjoining Parishes of Kibworth Beauchamp and Kibworth Harcourt were formally designated as a Neighbourhood Area by Harborough District Council on 16 January 2015.

The Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood plan area. There are no other neighbourhood plans in place within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

In relation to sub-paragraph 1(c), it is not considered that there is any benefit or reason for extending the area for the referendum beyond the designated Neighbourhood Plan Area.

In relation to sub-paragraph 1(d), there are no other prescribed matters.

## 4.0 The Basic Conditions

This section addresses how the Neighbourhood Plan fulfils the basic conditions set out in sub-paragraph (2). The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared having regard to national policies and advice set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and to the strategic policies contained in the Harborough District Core Strategy 2006 – 2028.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been informed by the evidence base of the emerging Local Plan, which has been subject to consultation through the period of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan and which is scheduled to be adopted in November 2017.

### 4.1 Having regard to national policies and advice

The Neighbourhood Plan has been developed having regard to the NPPF. An explanation of how each of the Neighbourhood Plan policies have shown regard to the NPPF are outlined in table 1 below.

In broad terms the Plan:

- process has empowered the local community to develop the plan for their neighbourhood and has undertaken a creative exercise in identifying ways to enhance and improve the area.
- policies are based on robust evidence and provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made, with a high degree of predictability and efficiency.
- considers the local character of the of the area and seeks high quality design and a good standard of amenity through the application of Building Design Principles.
- seeks to actively manage patterns of growth in the most sustainable locations and protect the character and beauty of the countryside through the designation of Limits to Development.
- supports local strategies to deliver sufficient community facilities and services including education, leisure, sport and health to meet local needs.
- contributes to conserving and enhancing the natural environment through the protection of Local Green Spaces and sites of high environmental significance.
- supports sustainable economic development through home working and farm diversification.

Table 1: Neighbourhood Plan Policies regard to NPPF

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
<b>Policy SD 1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</b>	Para 16	Supports the 'golden thread' of the NPPF; a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The Neighbourhood Plan, by shaping and directing development in the area, makes clear the type and location of development that will be supported.
<b>Policy SD 2: General Policy Principle</b>	Para. 2	Supports the NPPF principle that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan (local plan and neighbourhood plan which has been made in relation to the area), unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
<b>Policy SD 3 Limits to Development</b>	Para. 17, 30 & 95	One of the core principles of the NPPF is to recognise and protect the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. Actively managing patterns of growth, within the current built up area of Kibworth Beauchamp and Kibworth Harcourt, seeks to ensure that sufficient sites for new homes and economic activity are available in locations that will not adversely affect the countryside and setting of the villages. Further, Limits to Development facilitate the use of sustainable modes of transport with both benefits to the environment and the health of the community, both underlying premises of the NPPF.
<b>Policy CSA 1: Pre-School Provision</b>	Para 17, 70 & 72	Policies to support additional pre-school places and the expansion of schools will help deliver the local services required to enhance the sustainability of the community. The NPPF notes the importance the Government attaches to ensuring that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities.
<b>Policy CSA 2: Schools</b>		
<b>Policy CSA 3: Clubs and Groups</b>		
<b>Policy CSA 4: Sporting Facilities</b>	Para 17, 70 & 73	Support for a multi-functional amenities centre and improved sporting facilities will create opportunities for members of the community to meet, take part in sporting and recreational activities and in so doing, contribute to the health and well-being of the community.
<b>Policy CSA 5: Health and Wellbeing</b>	Para 17, 70 & 95	Support for additional GP premises will help to deliver the facilities and services required by the community and aid the move to a low carbon future by reducing the need to travel and thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	NPPF Ref (para.)	Commentary
<b>Policy CSA 6: Parks and Green Spaces</b>	Para 73 & 74	Protection of formal parks supports the NPPF's pursuit of healthy communities by ensuring access to high quality open spaces for the health and well-being of the community.
<b>Policy CSA 7: Important Community Facilities</b>	Para. 28 & 70	This policy seeks to protect key community facilities. This has regard for the NPPF principle of promoting healthy communities through amongst other things, planning positively for community facilities and guarding against their unnecessary loss.
<b>Policy H1: Housing Provision</b>	Para 16	The policy (in recognition of the high number of dwellings already constructed and existing sites with planning permission), seeks to direct further housing development during the plan period to Windfall development. The policy supports the strategic development needs in the emerging Local Plan and provides flexibility should housing needs change.
<b>Policy H2: Windfall Sites</b>	Para 48 & 55	The policy for small scale windfall sites has regard to the NPPF; by seeking to meet any future housing requirements for the area, maintain and enhance the vitality of the villages, whilst protecting their character and setting. This is a positive policy for future housing provision given that this type of development has a proven track record in providing a good source of new housing over recent years in the Kibworths'
<b>Policy H3: Affordable Housing</b>	Para 50	This policy supports the provision of affordable housing and includes a policy prioritising allocation to local residents. This policy is consistent with the NPPF which outlines the need to widen opportunities for home ownership and create inclusive and mixed communities through amongst other things, supporting affordable housing, where there is an identified need.
<b>Policy H4: Promoting Self-Build</b>	Para 50,56, 60 & 95	The policy supports self-build or custom build schemes, with the underlying premise of facilitating good quality, individual, sustainable and affordable homes. The NPPF identifies the need to plan for a mix of housing to meet the needs of different groups including 'people wishing to build their own homes.'
<b>Policy H5: Housing Mix</b>	Para 50	The policy seeks to support a mix of housing that meets an identified need in the community. The NPPF advocates for inclusive and mixed communities, which will require a mix of housing types based on current and future demographic trends.



<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>NPPF Ref (para.)</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy H6: Buildings and Structures of Historical and Architectural Interest</b>	Para 17	The policy supports the protection of designated heritage assets and their setting, a core principle of the NPPF.
<b>Policy H7: Building Design Principles</b>	Para 58 & 60	The policy outlines several design principles and supports the NPPF principle of requiring good design; and the need to respond to local character and history of the local surroundings. Importantly the policy does not impose architectural styles and hence does not stifle an innovative approach.
<b>Policy H8: Residential Car Parking</b>	Para 61 & 69	Policy seeks to address parking issues and the subsequent risks to pedestrian and road safety by planning for safe and accessible developments with clear and legible pedestrian routes.
<b>Policy H9: Refuse Storage</b>	Para 58 & 69	Accommodation of refuse storage containers within the curtilage of new houses contributes to good design by ensuring developments function well, are visually attractive and create safe and accessible environments.
<b>Policy H10 External Storage</b>	Para 58	The provision of external storage aligns with the NPPF's aim of good design, and in particular the need to ensure development will function well and create safe and accessible environments.
<b>Policy H11 North East Kibworth SDA</b>	Para 16	The policy supports potential future development needs and seeks to shape and direct those elements that are outside of the strategic realm of the emerging Local Plan.
<b>Policy ENV 1: Protection of Local Green Spaces</b>	Para. 76 & 77	Protection of Local Green Spaces identified as being special by the community is advocated through the NPPF. Proposed designations meet the criteria set out in the NPPF.
<b>Policy ENV 2: Protection of Other Sites of High (Natural and Historical) Environmental Significance</b>	Para.109 & 135	This policy seeks to protect open space of high significance for their natural and historic value. This has regard to the NPPF principles conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment.
<b>Policy ENV 3: Important Trees and Woodland</b>	Para. 118	The policy in its aims to protect woodland or trees of arboricultural/ecological significance and amenity value has regard for the NPPF, specifically, the need to conserve or enhance biodiversity and encourage opportunities for its incorporation in and around developments.

<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>NPPF Ref (para.)</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy ENV 4 Biodiversity</b>	Para. 109	The policy seeks to protect local habitats and species and create new habitats including the designation of a wildlife corridor. The policy has regard to the NPPF, which states that the planning system should contribute to enhancing the natural and local environment by minimizing impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains where possible.
<b>Policy ENV 5: Ridge and Furrow Fields</b>	Para. 139	This policy seeks to protect ridge and furrow fields and has regard for the NPPF, which considers that non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest, of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments should be subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.
<b>Policy ENV 6: Important Hedges</b>	Para 118 & 135	Policy aims to protect hedges identified as having historic and ecological significance and amenity value and has regard for the NPPF with regards the need to conserve or enhance biodiversity and identifying non-designated heritage assets for protection.
<b>Policy ENV 7: Protection of Important Views</b>	Para. 109	The policy seeks to protect views identified as being significant to the community. In accordance with the NPPF, the planning system should contribute to and where possible; enhance the landscape. Views are a key component of the landscape.
<b>Policy ENV 8: Footpaths and Bridleways</b>	Para. 30 & 75	The policy safeguards existing networks of footpaths and bridleways and in so doing, supports the NPPF aims of promoting sustainable transport and promoting healthy communities.
<b>Policy ENV 9: Area of Separation</b>	Para 17 & 109	The policy seeks to ensure that the physical separation of the two villages is maintained thereby protecting their individuality and character. A Core principle of the NPPF is that planning should empower local people to shape their surroundings and contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting valued landscapes.
<b>Policy ENV 10: Sustainable Development</b>	Para 17 and 59	Supports proposals that contribute to mitigating the effects of climate change including sustainable design and energy generation and in so doing, supports the transition to a low carbon future, a core planning principal of the NPPF.

<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>NPPF Ref (para.)</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy ENV 11: Watercourses and Flooding</b>	Para. 100 & 103	The policy seeks to address potential flooding by ensuring development is not undertaken in high risk zones without suitable mitigation measures, integrating appropriate design measures and that flood risk is not increased elsewhere. This policy has regard for the NPPF and in particular meeting the challenge of climate change and flooding.
<b>Policy ENV 12: Management of Topsoil</b>	Para 109	The policy seeks to protect topsoil in the construction process and is supports the NPPF in its pursuit of conserving and enhancing the natural environment including through the protection of soils.
<b>Policy ENV 13: Grand Union Canal in Kibworth Beauchamp</b>	Para 17	The policy seeks to protect the community, heritage and biodiversity value of a natural asset and in so doing contributes to conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment.
<b>Policy T1: Location of New Housing</b>	Para 17, 30, 32, 35 and 75.	Consideration of broader traffic implications from development aligns with the need to actively manage patterns of growth to make the fullest possible use of sustainable transport, ensure safe and suitable access within and to the site and protects existing rights of way.
<b>Policy T2: Access onto the A6</b>	Para 30, 31 and 109	The policy has regard to the NPPF ambitions to reduce traffic congestion and improve community safety and air quality.
<b>Policy T3: Public Car Parking</b>	Para 28, 69 and 70	Protection of public car parking aligns with the NPPF aims of supporting a prosperous rural economy through the provision of safe and accessible developments which encourage the active and continual use of public areas by locals and visitors.
<b>Policy T4: Improvements to Road Safety</b>	Para 30, 69 & 95	The policy supports a number of road safety improvements and in so doing promotes several NPPF aims including sustainable transport, healthy communities and meeting the challenge of climate change
<b>Policy T5: Traffic Management</b>	Para.29, 30 & 69	The provision of traffic management solutions to address traffic issues have regard to the NPPF in relation to sustainable transport and promoting healthy communities.
<b>Policy T6: Air Quality</b>	Para 124	Addressing air quality through support for proposals that support sustainable forms of transport has regard to the NPPF.

<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>NPPF Ref (para.)</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy E1: Primary Shopping Area</b>	Para 28	The policy seeks to protect and enhance the current retail offering and has regard to the NPPF in terms of supporting a prosperous rural economy.
<b>Policy E2: Shopping Frontages</b>	Para 56 & 58	The policy has regard for the importance of good design as a key aspect of sustainable development and in particular to create attractive places and respond to the local character and history.
<b>Policy E3 Broadband</b>	Para. 42 & 43	This policy recognises the need for super-fast broadband service and improved mobile telecommunications network for sustainable economic growth in the area. The NPPF advocates planning that supports high quality communications infrastructure.
<b>Policy E4: Home Working</b>	Para. 28 & 29	This policy supports the use of part of a dwelling for office or light industrial use in order to facilitate working from home. Working from home further supports employment activities; thus, contributing to a prosperous rural economy. It also supports the transition to a low carbon future by reducing the dependency of the car for journeys to employment sites outside of the Parish.
<b>Policy E5: Farm Diversification – Re-use of Agricultural and Commercial Buildings</b>	Para. 17 & 28	Re-use of agricultural and commercial buildings for small businesses, recreation or tourism further support a prosperous rural economy and the transition to a low carbon future by encouraging the use of existing resources.

## **4.2 Achieving sustainable development**

The Neighbourhood Plan is positively prepared, reflecting the presumption in the NPPF in favour of sustainable development. In this regard, the Plan supports the strategic development needs in the emerging Local Plan, shaping and directing development in the area that is outside of the strategic elements of the Local Plan.

The NPPF defines sustainable development as having three dimensions; economic, social and environmental. The Neighbourhood Plan has been developed with regard to these principles and has jointly sought environmental, economic and social gains.

The policies contained in the Neighbourhood Plan contribute to achieving sustainable development by seeking positive improvements to the quality of the natural, built and historic environment, as well as in people's quality of life, including:

- safeguarding and enhancing existing open space, community facilities and pedestrian and cycling facilities for the health, social and cultural wellbeing of the community.
- protecting and enhancing the distinctive character of the built and natural environment through high quality design and maintenance of important views and open space around and within villages to retain their setting.
- supporting the transition to a low carbon future through actively managing patterns of growth within existing settlements, maintaining and enhancing footpaths and supporting local employment opportunities.
- conserving and enhancing the natural environment by minimising the impacts and where possible improving biodiversity and important habitats.
- supporting strong, vibrant, healthy and inclusive communities by facilitating the right mix of housing (including affordable housing) to meet local need.

### **4.3 General conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area**

The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in general conformity with the saved strategic policies of the Harborough District Core Strategy 2006-2028. To meet the basic conditions, the Neighbourhood Plan is only required to demonstrate general conformity with the adopted Local Plan. However, given how dated this Local Plan is, considerable regard has been paid to the evidence base of the emerging Local Plan, particularly in relation to housing provision. Table 2 provides a summary of how each of the Neighbourhood Plan policies are in general conformity with the Strategic Policies of Harborough District Council Core Strategy.

Table 2: Assessment of how each policy of the Neighbourhood Plan conforms to the saved strategic policies of the Harborough Core Strategy

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Core Strategy Policies	Commentary
<b>Policy SD1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</b>		The principal aim of the Core Strategy is to contribute to sustainable development. Policy SD1 does not contradict any of the saved strategic policies in Core Strategy.
<b>Policy SD2: General Policy Principle</b>		Policy SD2 does not contradict any of the strategic policies in the Core Strategy
<b>Policy SD3 Limits to Development</b>	CS1, CS2, HS8, CS11	Policy SD3 updates the existing Limits to Development used by the District Council, taking into account existing planning permissions. Limits to Development are supported as a vehicle to shape development in the Core Strategy (policies CS1 and CS2 and identified in the proposal map). The current Limits to Development have not been updated for quite some time, and the need to do so is clear considering the level of development that has taken place in the Plan area in recent years.
<b>Policy CSA 1: Pre-School Provision</b>	CS1	Policies CSA 1, 2 and 3 seek to support the expansion of current educational and leisure facilities. This is consistent with the Core Strategy which supports Kibworth as a focus for community uses to serve the settlement and catchment area.
<b>Policy CSA 2: Schools</b>		
<b>Policy CSA 3: Clubs and Groups</b>		
<b>Policy CSA 4: Sporting Facilities</b>	CS8	Policy CSA 4 reflects the Core Strategy in its aim to protect and where possible, enhance existing sport and recreational facilities of value, encouraging improvements to their quality.
<b>Policy CSA 5: Health and Wellbeing</b>	CS1	Policy CSA 5 is consistent with the Core Strategy which supports Kibworth as a focus for community uses to serve the settlement and catchment area.
<b>Policy CSA 6: Parks and Green Spaces</b>	CS8	Policy CSA 6 reflects the Core Strategy in its aim to protect and where possible, enhance existing open spaces of value, encouraging improvements to their quality.
<b>Policy CSA 7: Important Community Facilities</b>	CS1 & CS6	Policy CSA 7 concurs with the principle aims of CS6 which is to retain and enhance neighbourhood retail facilities and CS1 which supports the protection of existing services in smaller settlements.

<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>Core Strategy Policies</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy H1: Housing Provision</b>	C17	The emerging Local Plan will set the agenda for housing numbers, but to date has not apportioned a housing target to specific settlements. The Core Strategy identifies the Kibworths' as a 'Rural Centre' and that development should be on a scale that reflects the size and character of the village and level of service provision and takes recent development into account. Taking these factors into account, the identified level of housing provision in the Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the strategic principles of the Core Strategy (and evidence regarding housing need in the emerging Local Plan).
<b>Policy H2: Windfall Sites</b>	CS17	Policy H2 is in general conformity with CS17 which supports rural development located in a way that is sensitive to its landscape (including restriction of development within the countryside to exceptional circumstances).
<b>Policy H3: Affordable Housing</b>	CS1 and CS3	CS1 supports the provision of rural housing which contributes towards the provision of affordable housing, where there is a demonstrable need. Further, CS3 outlines that all residential development within the District will be required to contribute towards meeting affordable housing needs.
<b>Policy H4: Promoting Self-Build</b>	CS11, CS17	The pursuance of high quality design is consistent across both the Neighbourhood Plan and Core Strategy, particularly the need for development to respect local character and distinctiveness.
<b>Policy H5: Housing Mix</b>	CS1	The Core Strategy supports development that provides for the varied housing needs of the community (as identified in the Neighbourhood Plan and based on current data).
<b>Policy H6: Buildings and Structures of Historical and Architectural Interest</b>	CS11	The Core Strategy supports development which protects, conserves and enhances the Districts heritage assets and their setting, including Conservation Areas.
<b>Policy H7: Building Design Principles</b>	CS11, CS17	The pursuance of high quality design is consistent across both the Neighbourhood Plan and Core Strategy, particularly the need for development to respect local character and distinctiveness.
<b>Policy H8: Residential Car Parking</b>	CS5 & CS11	Policy H8 is consistent with the Core Strategy in its aims to ensure development is well planned and that the amenities of existing and future neighbouring occupiers are safeguarded.



<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>Core Strategy Policies</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy H9: Refuse Storage</b>	CS11, CS17	The pursuance of high quality design is consistent across both the Neighbourhood Plan and Core Strategy, particularly the need for development to respect local character and distinctiveness.
<b>Policy H10 External Storage</b>	CS11, CS17	The pursuance of high quality design is consistent across both the Neighbourhood Plan and Core Strategy, particularly the need for development to respect local character and distinctiveness.
<b>Policy H11 North East Kibworth SDA</b>	CS7	Policy H11 is in general conformity with the Core Strategy and in particular, policy CS7
<b>Policy ENV 1: Protection of Local Green Spaces</b>	CS8	The policy to protect local green space is in general conformity with policy CS8 which seeks to ensure a high quality, accessible and multi-functional green infrastructure network across rural areas.
<b>Policy ENV 2: Protection of Other Sites of High (Natural and Historical) Environmental Significance</b>	CS1, CS8, CS17	The Core Strategy supports development which safeguards green infrastructure assets and avoiding the loss of features of habitats of landscape, historic, wildlife or geological importance, whether of national or local significance.
<b>Policy ENV 3: Important Trees and Woodland</b>	CS8, CS14	The policy is in general conformity with CS8 which seeks to protect and enhance green infrastructure which contribute to healthy lifestyles and a rich, diverse natural environment, including support for proposals that protect and increase tree and woodland cover.
<b>Policy ENV 4 Biodiversity</b>	CS1, CS8, CS17	Policy ENV 4 is in conformity with the strategic policies in the Core Strategy which seek to protect habitats and species and further develop the green infrastructure asset of the District.
<b>Policy ENV 5: Ridge and Furrow Fields</b>	CS1, CS11, CS17	The Core Strategy supports development which protects, conserves and enhances the District's heritage assets and their setting, including non-scheduled nationally important archaeological remains and areas of historic landscape. Further, it supports the identification of heritage assets of local importance.
<b>Policy ENV 6: Important Hedges</b>	CS8, CS17	The protection of important hedges is in general conformity with policy CS8 which amongst other things, requires new development to avoid demonstrable harm to habitats which are protected or which are of importance to biodiversity.

<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>Core Strategy Policies</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy ENV 7: Protection of Important Views</b>	CS8, CS17	The Core Strategy supports the protection and enhancement of heritage assets and local landscape. Important views are an important element of the character of the landscape and thus their identification and protection is consistent with the aims of Policy CS8.
<b>Policy ENV 8: Footpaths and Bridleways</b>	CS8, CS17	The Core Strategy endorses improving the green infrastructure network, including increased opportunities for public access to the countryside. Rights of Ways and Greenways are identified as priority strategic green infrastructure assets for the District.
<b>Policy ENV 9: Area of Separation</b>	CS8, C17	The strategic policies in the Core Strategy advocate for the protection and enhancement of local landscape, character and heritage, consistent with the values attributable to Areas of Separation.
<b>Policy ENV 10: Sustainable Development</b>	CS9	The Neighbourhood Plan, by supporting measures to mitigate climate change is consistent with the Core Strategy which outlines support for such development
<b>Policy ENV 11: Watercourses and Flooding</b>	CS10	ENV 11 is in general conformity with the Core Strategy and in particular policy CS10 which requires that new development does not increase the level of flooding experienced in other areas and that surface water run- off is managed.
<b>Policy ENV 12: Management of Topsoil</b>	CS8	Management of topsoil is consistent with the Core Strategy aim of protecting and enhancing green infrastructure.
<b>Policy ENV 13: Grand Union Canal in Kibworth Beauchamp</b>	CS8	Policy CS8 identifies the Grand Union Canal as a key priority green asset that have the potential to contribute to the aims of the wider Green Infrastructure network.
<b>Policy T1: Location of New Housing</b>	CS5	The Core Strategy seeks to support most future development in areas well served by local services to reduce the need to travel. Further, that significant development proposals should provide for delivery of transport improvements and settlements should have safe pedestrian and cycling facilities.
<b>Policy T2: Access onto the A6</b>	CS5	Policy T2 in supporting 'appropriate' measures to address traffic issues is in general conformity with the Core Strategy and in particular policy CS5.

<b>Neighbourhood Plan Policy</b>	<b>Core Strategy Policies</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Policy T3: Public Car Parking</b>	CS17	The Core Strategy supports the need to reduce travel from rural areas including the development for shopping provision.
<b>Policy T4: Improvements to Road Safety</b>	CS5	Policy T4 compliments the Core Strategy's policy regarding sustainable transport and in particular the need for safe pedestrian and cycling facilities.
<b>Policy T5: Traffic Management</b>	CS5	Policy T5 is in general conformity with CS5 which seeks to reduce the negative impact of the transport system on the environment and individuals.
<b>Policy T6: Air Quality</b>	CS5	The key principles of Policy T6 are reflected in the Core Strategy, specifically the need to contribute to low carbon outcomes, including safe pedestrian and cycling facilities
<b>Policy E1: Primary Shopping Area</b>	CS6 & CS17	Policy E1 conforms with the principle aims of CS6 which is to retain and enhance neighbourhood retail facilities and CS17 which support the development for shopping provision.
<b>Policy E2: Shopping Frontages</b>	CS11, CS17	The pursuance of high quality design is consistent across both the Neighbourhood Plan and Core Strategy, particularly need for development to respect local character and distinctiveness.
<b>Policy E3 Broadband</b>	C17	The Core Strategy supports proposals that reduce the need to travel from rural areas to work and/or shop through reliable and high speed digital connectivity.
<b>Policy E4: Home Working</b>	CS17	Policy E4 is in general conformity with the Core Strategy which supports proposals that reduce the need to travel, including development which provides or increase the opportunity to work from home.
<b>Policy E5: Farm Diversification – Re-use of Agricultural and Commercial Buildings</b>	CS7	Policy E5 is endorsed by the Core Strategy, particularly CS7 which supports employment development within the countryside in certain circumstances including aiding farm diversification.

## 4.4 EU obligations

### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

In some limited circumstances, where a neighbourhood plan could have significant environmental effects, it may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment under the relevant EU Directive. DCLG planning guidance suggests that, whether a neighbourhood plan requires a strategic environmental assessment and (if so) the level of detail needed, will depend on what is proposed in the draft neighbourhood plan. A strategic environmental assessment may be required, for example, where:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development;
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan;
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

A Screening opinion was issued by Harborough District Council with regards to the Strategic Environmental Assessment. This determined that “it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Draft as submitted at the date of this assessment, that were not covered in the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy and the subsequent interim Sustainability Appraisal for the emerging New Local Plan. As such, the Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan does not require a full SEA to be undertaken.”

### Habitats Directive

The Neighbourhood Plan area does not include or is not close to a European site that would require a Habitat Regulation Assessment.

### Convention on Human Rights

The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to and is compatible with the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with extensive input from the community and stakeholders as set out in the accompanying Statement of Consultation. Considerable care has been taken throughout the preparation and drafting of this Plan to ensure that the views of the whole community were embraced to avoid any unintentional negative impacts on particular groups.

There was extensive consultation and engagement in identifying issues and objectives and the community has been consulted on the draft Neighbourhood Plan, as required by Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Responses have been recorded and changes have been made as per the schedule set out in the appendices to the Statement of Consultation. The Statement of Consultation has been prepared by the Advisory Committee and meets the requirements set out in Paragraph 15 (2) of the Regulations.

## **5.0 Conclusion**

The Basic Conditions as set out in Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 are considered to have been met by the Kibworths' Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plan has regard to national policy, will contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, is in general conformity with the saved strategic policies in the Harborough District Core Strategy 2006-2028 and meets relevant EU obligations.

It is therefore respectfully suggested to the Examiner that the Great Easton Neighbourhood Plan complies with Paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 4B of the Act.