

## Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

Prepared by Harborough District Council On behalf of

Arnesby Parish Council – The Qualifying Body

May 2018

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#### i. Introduction

- 1.1 Harborough District Council has been asked by Arnesby Parish Council to undertake this screening report for Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- 1.2 This screening report is used to determine whether or not the content of Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan (ANP) requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- 1.3 The purpose of Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan is to reflect the desires of the community and consider through theme groups issues such as:
  - To reflect the wishes of Parishioners:
  - To maintain the character and the community of the village;
  - To protect Arnesby's built and social heritage;
  - To protect and enhance the outstanding landscape and open countryside setting of the village, including rural views, vistas, open spaces and walkways;
  - To ensure appropriate residential development in the right place consistent with this vision:
  - To ensure that development is compliant with the strategic planning policies of Harborough District Council.
- 1.4 The vision for Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan is as follows:

The vision for Arnesby is to maintain and enhance the good quality of life, community spirit and attractive natural and built environment in Arnesby Parish now and through to 2031, the whole Plan period.

- 1.5 To achieve the vision, the following objectives have been established by the Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan specifically considers the following:
  - Ensure that development takes place in the most sustainable locations;
  - Encourage the right types of development that meets local needs;
  - Protect and wherever possible enhance important buildings and structures;
  - Protect important community facilities that are special to the local community;
  - Promote good design;
  - Ensure that the community continues to have good access to the surrounding countryside and green spaces;

- Protect open spaces that are important to the community and/or wildlife;
- · Seek ways of addressing the problems of traffic speed on our roads; and
- Improve pedestrian and cycle connections within the Plan area and into the surrounding areas.
- 1.6 The Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan objectives are realised by a small number of policies as set out below

**POLICY S1: LIMITS TO DEVELOPMENT** - Development proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan area will be supported on the sites within the Limits to Development (LTD) boundary as shown in Figure 2 (below) where the proposal complies with the policies in this Neighbourhood Plan including the need to achieve positive design and amenity standards.

Land outside the defined Limits to Development will be treated as open countryside, where development will be carefully controlled in line with local and national strategic planning policies.

**POLICY H1: RESIDENTIAL SITE ALLOCATION** - Land is allocated for residential development at the location shown above at figure 3 and within the new LTD boundary (figure 2). Development will be supported at this location subject to the following criteria:

- The development will provide for about 7 dwellings;
- An area of land within the scheme will be set aside for a children's play area;
- The tarmac public footpath be continued along the south side of Lutterworth Road to serve the development (and play area);
- The retaining brick wall between the site and the front garden of Westfield House be retained and maintained.

**Policy H2: HOUSING MIX** - New housing development proposals should provide a mixture of housing types specifically to meet identified local needs in Arnesby as evidenced in the Parish Housing Needs Report (2016) and the 2017 HEDNA or more recent documents updating either of these reports.

Dwellings of 3 bedrooms or fewer and single storey accommodation suitable for older people will be supported where in accordance with other policies.

The inclusion of four-bedroom or larger houses in housing developments will be supported where they are subservient in number to one, two or three-bedroom accommodation.

**POLICY H3: WINDFALL SITES** - Development proposals for infill and redevelopment sites (individual dwellings or small groups of dwellings) will be supported where:

• The location is within the LTD boundary for Arnesby;

- It retains existing important natural boundaries such as gardens, trees, hedges and streams;
- It provides for a safe vehicular and pedestrian access to the site and does not diminish parking provision;
- It does not reduce garden space to an extent where it adversely impacts on the character of the area, or the amenity of neighbours and the occupiers of the dwelling(s);

**POLICY D1: DESIGN** - Development proposals including one or more houses, replacement dwellings and extensions are encouraged to have regard to the following building design principles to a degree that is proportionate to the development.

- a) Development will enhance the local distinctiveness and character of the area in which it is situated, particularly within the Conservation Area, and proposals should clearly show within a Design and Access Statement how the general character, scale, mass, density and layout of the site, of the building or extension fits in with the aspect of the surrounding area. Care should be taken to ensure that the development does not disrupt the visual amenities of the street scene and impact adversely on any wider landscape views;
- b) Adequate off-road parking should be provided in line with the Highways '6Cs' standards;
- c) All new housing should continue to reflect the character and historic context of existing developments within the Parish and incorporate a range of local materials where possible. However, contemporary and innovative materials and design will be supported where positive improvement can be robustly demonstrated without detracting from the historic context;
- d) Development proposals should, where possible, retain existing trees and hedgerows;
- e) Wherever possible, enclosure of plots should be of native hedging, rural wooden fencing, or brick/stone wall of rural design;
- f) Development should incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques to meet high standards for energy and water efficiency, including the use of renewable and low carbon energy technology, solar panels, rainwater harvesters and photovoltaic glass. These features should not adversely detract from the visual amenity of the current street scene;
- g) Development should incorporate sustainable drainage systems with maintenance regimes to minimise vulnerability to flooding and climate change;
- h) Development should ensure appropriate provision for the storage of waste and recyclable materials;
- i) New development should incorporate measures for controlling light pollution, including managing the detrimental effects on wildlife. There should be no decorative uplighting on houses; street and footpath lighting should be located at low level; security lights should be operated by intruder-triggered sensors; site and sports facility lighting should be off during agreed curfew hours between March and October (following best practice guidelines (e.g. Bats and Lighting Leicesterhsire & Rutland

Wildlife Trust 2014); and maximum light spillage onto known bat foraging areas should be 1 lux.

**POLICY ENV 1: LOCAL GREEN SPACES** – Development proposals that would result in the loss of, or have an adverse effect on, the following designated Local Green Spaces (map Figure 4, detailed in supporting information), or their settings, is ruled out other than in exceptional circumstances.

- a) St Peter's Churchyard (inventory reference 153)
- b) Baptist Chapel burial ground (066)
- c) Manor House grounds (151)

POLICY ENV 2: PROTECTION OF OTHER SITES AND FEATURES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE – 38 sites (as described in the environmental inventory and shown in map Fig. 5 above) have been identified as being of local significance for biodiversity (species and habitats) and / or history. They are important in their own right and are locally valued. Development proposals that affect them will be expected to protect or enhance the identified features. Planning permission will be refused unless the need for and the benefits arising from the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

**POLICY ENV 3: OTHER IMPORTANT OPEN SPACES** – 16 sites (environmental inventory and map, figure 6 below) have been identified as being of local significance for their high community value, and for recreational, amenity or village landscape reasons. Development that changes their character and features will not be supported.

- St Peter's Churchyard (inventory reference 153) (cemetery) EXISTING OSSR
- Baptist Chapel burial ground (066) (cemetery; amenity greenspace; provision for children and young people) EXISTING OSSR (part)
- Village green, Mill Hill Road (166) (amenity greenspace) EXISTING OSSR
- Green lanes south of St Peter's Road (173) (greenway/green corridor) NEW
- Village green, St Peter's Road (171) (amenity greenspace EXISTING OSSR
- Footpath Y104a (jitty) from Robert Hall Rd to Lutterworth Rd (174) (greenway)
- Arnesby Village Hall (frontage etc.) (175) (amenity greenspace) EXISTING OSSR (part)
- Wide verge, Mill Hill Road (177) (amenity greenspace) NEW
- Village allotments, Loseby Wood and meadow ((048, 050) (allotments and community gardens, natural and semi-natural greenspace) NEW
- Stoneleigh open space (160) (natural and semi-natural greenspace) NEW
- Village Green, Mill Hill Rd / Lutterworth Rd (169) (Registered Village Green)
   NFW
- Village Green, Robert Hall Rd / Lutterworth Rd (170) (Registered Village Green) NEW
- Village Green, The Bank (172) (Registered Village Green) NEW

- Open space, frontage of bungalows, Lutterworth Road (176) (amenity greenspace, community garden) NEW
- 'Sunnydene' paddock (155) (important open area) NEW
- May Fair field (145) (amenity greenspace) NEW

**POLICY ENV 4: BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE CORRIDORS** – New development will be expected to safeguard locally significant habitats and species and, where possible and viable, to create new habitats for wildlife.

POLICY ENV 5: HERITAGE ASSETS OF LOCAL HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST – Development proposals will be required to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected and the impact of the proposal on that significance in accordance with NPPF Section 128 and to include proposals to conserve and where appropriate enhance the structure and setting of such structures or buildings, proportionate to the asset's importance. The building of local interest identified as such is the post-medieval well.

**POLICY ENV 6: RIDGE AND FURROW** – The areas of ridge and furrow earthworks mapped above (Figure 9) are non-designated heritage assets.

Any loss or damage arising from a development proposal (or a change of land use requiring planning permission) is to be avoided; the demonstrable benefits of such development should be balanced against the significance of the ridge and furrow features as heritage assets.

- **POLICY ENV 7: IMPORTANT VIEWS** To be supported development proposals must not significantly harm these views where seen from publicly accessible locations: A. From footpath Y89 at the end of South Close, west and northwest to Foston, Countesthorpe and distantly to Charnwood Forest (25 kms).
- B. From Lutterworth Road beyond Westfield House southwest over rolling open country toward Bruntingthorpe
- C. From footpath Y1 and bridleway 0104 north over Peatling and across Leicester to Bradgate Park (25kms)
- D. From the Baptist Chapel ground and the field to its east, northeast over the Soar valley to Billesdon Coplow (15kms)
- E. From Welford Road west across the medieval manor house site (Scheduled Monument) to the parish church and the village
- F. From Welford Road southwest across ridge and furrow fields to the windmill (Listed Building).

**POLICY ENV 8: FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS** - Development proposals that result in the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, the existing network of footpaths and bridleways will not be supported.

The maintenance, upgrade and, where appropriate, extension of the pedestrian footpath network in the Parish will be supported in order to:

- a) Service new developments and connect them to the existing pedestrian footpath network; and
- b) Encourage walking over car use for making journeys within the parish; and
- c) Provide an improved and more extensive footpath network to support exercise and leisure activities for Arnesby residents and visitors as stated in policy CF2.

**POLICY ENV 9: MANAGING FLOOD RISK** - Development proposals will be required to demonstrate that: a) Its location takes geology, hydrology and flood risk into account; b) Its design includes, as appropriate, sustainable drainage systems (SuDS), surface water management measures and permeable surfaces; and

c) It does not increase the risk of flooding to third parties.

Policy CF1: THE RETENTION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND AMENITIES - Development leading to the loss of an existing community facility (as described below) will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that:

- a) There is no longer any need or demand for the existing community facility; or
- b) The existing community facility is, demonstrably, no longer economically viable; or
- c) The proposal makes alternative provision for the relocation of the existing community facility to an equally or more appropriate and accessible location within the Parish which complies with the other general policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Community Facilities are as follows:

- Restaurant
- The Baptist Chapel
- St. Peters Church
- Village Hall
- School
- Care Home
- Allotments and Community Woodland
- Playing Field

**POLICY CF2: NEW OR IMPROVED COMMUNITY FACILITIES** - Proposals that improve the quality and/or range of community facilities, will be supported provided that the development:

- a) Meets the design criteria described in Policy D1; and
- b) Will not result in unacceptable traffic movements or other disturbance to residential properties; and
- c) Will not generate a need for parking that cannot be adequately catered for within the site; and
- d) Is of a scale appropriate to the needs of the locality and conveniently accessible for residents of the village wishing to walk or cycle; and
- e) Takes into account the needs of people with disabilities.

**Policy T1: TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT** - With particular regard to the rural highway network of the Parish and the need to minimise any increase in vehicular traffic all development must:

- a) Be designed to minimise additional traffic generation and movement through the village; and
- b) Incorporate sufficient off-road parking in line with policy D1; and
- c) Not remove or compromise the use of any existing off-road parking areas unless a suitable equivalent alternative is provided; and
- d) Provide any necessary improvements to site access, communal parking and the highway network either directly or by financial contributions; and
- e) Consider, where appropriate, the improvement and where possible the creation of footpaths and cycleways to key village services.

**Policy BE1: SUPPORT FOR EXISTING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** - There will be a strong presumption against the loss of commercial premises or land (B-class) which provides employment or future potential employment opportunities. Applications for a change of use to an activity that does not provide employment opportunities will only be supported if it can be demonstrated that:

- a) The commercial premises or land in question has not been in active use for at least six months; and
- b) The commercial premises or land in question has no potential for either reoccupation or redevelopment for employment generating uses and as demonstrated through the results both of a full valuation report and a marketing campaign lasting for a continuous period of at least six months.

**Policy BE2: SUPPORT FOR NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** - In supporting additional employment opportunities, new development will be required to:

- a) Fall within the boundary of planned limits of development for the village of Arnesby unless it relates to small scale leisure or tourism activities, or other forms of commercial/employment related development appropriate to a countryside location or there are exceptional circumstances; and
- b) Where possible, development should be sited in existing buildings or on areas of previously developed land; and
- c) Be of a size and scale not adversely affecting the character, infrastructure and environment of the village itself and the neighbourhood plan area, including the countryside; and
- d) Not involve the loss of dwellings; and
- e) Not increase noise levels or light pollution or introduce any pollution to an extent that they would unacceptably disturb occupants of nearby residential property; and
- f) Not generate unacceptable levels of traffic movement; and
- g) Contribute to the character and vitality of the local area; and
- h) Be well integrated into and complement existing businesses.

The following types of employment development will be supported:

- a) The small-scale expansion of existing employment premises across the Parish; and
- b) Small-scale new build development within or adjacent to Arnesby village.

**POLICY BE3: WORKING FROM HOME** - Proposals for the use of part of a dwelling for office and/or light industrial uses, and for small scale free standing buildings within its curtilage, extensions to the dwelling or conversion of outbuildings for those uses, will be supported where:

- a) Such development will not result in unacceptable traffic movements and that appropriate parking provision is made within the site;
- b) No significant and adverse impact arises to nearby residents or other sensitive land uses from noise, fumes, light pollution, or other nuisance associated with the work activity; and
- c) Any extension or free-standing building shall be designed having regard to policies in this Plan and should not detract from the quality and character of the building to which they are subservient by reason of height, scale, massing, location or the facing materials used in their construction.

#### POLICY BE4: RE-USE OF AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS -

Notwithstanding permitted development rights granted by the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment and Consequential Provisions) (England) Order 2014 or any subsequent amendment, and, in order to support farm diversification and the sustainable growth and expansion of businesses, the conversion of existing agricultural and commercial buildings will be supported subject to:

- a) The proposed conversions will be expected to satisfy the design criteria in Policy D1 Building Design Principles; and
- b) The use proposed is appropriate to the rural location
- c) The conversion/adaptation works respect the local character of the surrounding area; and
- d) The development will not have an adverse impact on any archaeological, architectural, historic or environmental features; and
- e) The local road system is capable of accommodating the traffic generated by the proposed new use and adequate parking can be accommodated within the site; and
- f) There is no significant adverse impact on neighbours through noise, light or other pollution, increased traffic levels or increased flood risk.

**POLICY BE5: TOURISM** - Support will be given to facilities that enhance tourism where they:

- a) Are within or adjoining Arnesby, on a scale appropriate to the settlement; and
- b) Do not have a detrimental effect on the distinctive rural character of the Parish; and
- c) Do not adversely affect the surrounding infrastructure, particularly local road networks and water supply and sewerage; and
- d) Benefit the local community, through for instance, provision of local employment opportunities and improvements to local service provision, and is proportionate to the size of settlement in which it is located; and
- e) Where feasible, the development involves the re-use of existing buildings or is part of farm diversification.

**POLICY BE6: BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE** - Proposals to provide increased access to a super-fast broadband service (including future developments at present

unforeseen) and improve the mobile telecommunication network that will serve businesses and other properties within the Parish will be supported.

This may require above ground network installations, which must be sympathetically located and designed to integrate into the landscape and not be located in or near open landscapes.

1.7 The legislation set out below outlines the regulations that require the need for this screening exercise. Section 4 provides a screening assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the Neighbourhood Plan and the need for a full SEA.

#### 2. Legislative Background

- 2.1 The basis for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Sustainability Appraisal legislation is <u>European Directive 2001/42/EC</u> and was transposed into English law by the <u>Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</u>, or SEA Regulations. Detailed Guidance of these regulations can be found in the Government publication <u>'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive'</u> (ODPM 2005).
- 2.2 Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Habitats Directive. The Directive requires that any plan or project, likely to have a significant effect on a European site, must be subject to an appropriate assessment. To achieve this, paragraph 1 prescribes a basic condition that the making of a neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site. Paragraphs 2 to 5 of the Schedule amend the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 so as to apply its provisions to neighbourhood development orders and neighbourhood plans. In particular paragraph 4 inserts new regulation 78A which provides that a neighbourhood development order may not grant planning permission for development which is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site.
- 2.3 Schedule 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive. The Directive requires that EIA development must be subject to a development consent process. To enable this, Schedule 3 prescribes a basic condition that applies where development which is the subject of a proposal for a neighbourhood development order is of a type caught by the EIA Directive, and applies the relevant provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011(3) ("the EIA Regulations") with appropriate modifications (regulation 33 and

paragraphs <u>1 to 4 and 6 of Schedule 3</u>). Paragraphs 5 and 7 to 13 of Schedule 3 correct errors in the EIA Regulations.

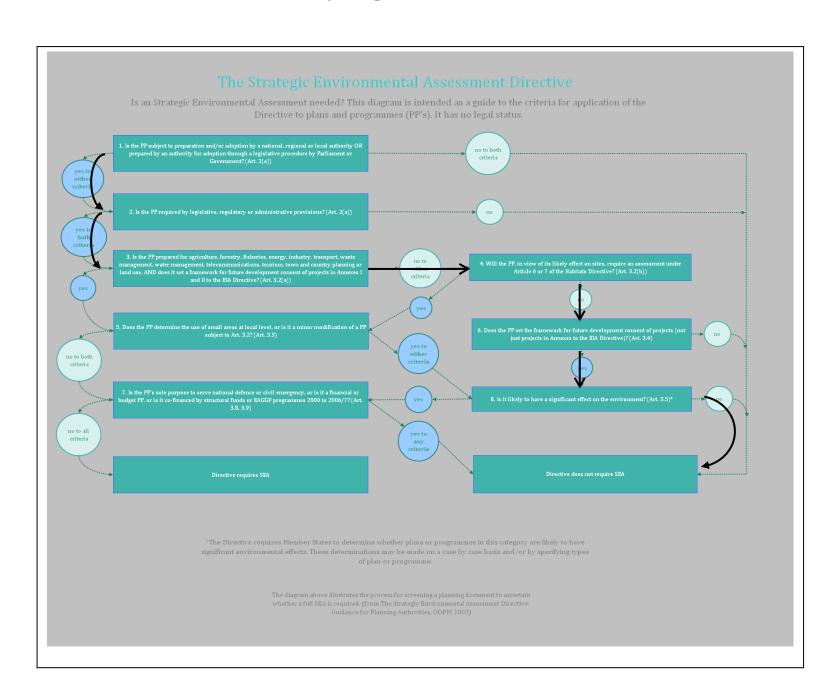
- 2.4 Planning Practice Guidance states the legislation that may be of particular relevance to neighbourhood planning is:
  - the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended)
  - the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)
  - the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 (as amended))
- 2.5 It may be appropriate, and in some cases a requirement, that the statutory environmental bodies Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England be consulted. For example, a draft neighbourhood plan proposal must be assessed to determine whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects.
- 2.6 There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal as set out in section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. However, a qualifying body must demonstrate how its plan or order will contribute to achieving sustainable development.
- 2.7 This report focuses on screening for SEA and the criteria for establishing whether a full assessment is needed in light of the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment undertaken for the Core Strategy in 2010. A copy of the SA Report can be viewed here; <a href="Harborough District Council Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</a>.
- 3. Criteria for Assessing the Effects of Neighbourhood Plans (the 'plan')
- 3.1 Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5) of Directive 2001/42/EC are set out below:
  - 1. The characteristics of neighbourhood plans ("plan"), having regard, in particular, to
  - the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources,
  - the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy,
  - the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development,
  - environmental problems relevant to the plan,

- the relevance of the plan for the implementation of community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).
- 2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to
- the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects,
- the cumulative nature of the effects,
- the trans boundary nature of the effects,
- the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents),
- the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected),
- the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
- special natural characteristics or cultural heritage,
- exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values,
- intensive land-use,
- the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

Source: Annex II of SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

#### 4. Assessment

4.1 Black arrows indicate the process route for the Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Assessment.

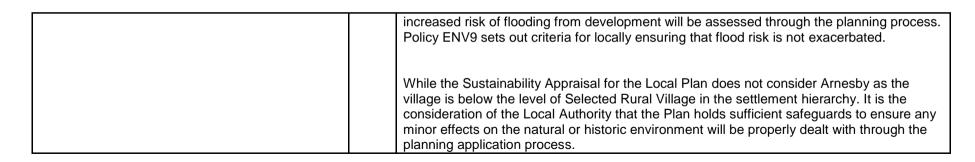


4.2 The table below shows the assessment of whether the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) will require a full SEA. The questions below are drawn from the diagram above which sets out how the SEA Directive should be applied.

Stage	Y/N	Reason	
1. Is the NP subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))	Y	The preparation of and adoption of Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan is allowed under The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The NP has been prepared by Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan Steering group and submitted by Arnesby Parish Council (as the 'relevant body') and will be 'made' by HDC as the local authority. The preparation of NPs is subject to the following regulations:  The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016 and The Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012.	
2. Is the NP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	Y	Whilst the Neighbourhood Plan is not a requirement and is optional under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, it will if 'made', form part of the Development Plan for the District. It is therefore important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have significant effects on the natural or historic environment and hence whether SEA is required under the Directive.	
3. Is the NP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, <b>AND</b> does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II (see Appendix 2) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))	N	Whilst the NP covers a number of land use issues and allocations, it does not set the framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive (see Appendix 2 for list).	
4. Will the NP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive?  (Art. 3.2 (b))	N	Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a substantial effect on the Natura 2000 network of protected sites. A full Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report was carried out as part of the Core Strategy preparation process in 2011 and an updated Habitat Regulation Assessment has been undertaken as part of the Local Plan preparation. The report concludes that the Harborough Core Strategy and subsequently the Local Plan, alone or in combination with other plans, are unlikely to have an adverse impact on any of the <i>Natura 2000</i> sites within approximately 25kms of the boundary of the district.	

		Of the 3 Natura 2000 sites looked at in the Screening Report, Ensor's Pool SAC is approximately 20 Km of the Arnesby Neighbourhood Area. Ensor's Pool was found to be essentially a self contained eco system. The Habitat Regulations Assessment concluded that its vulnerabilities are very local in nature and unlikely to be caused harm by the Harborough Core Strategy. It is considered reasonable that this conclusion applies to Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan.  The River Mease SAC and Rutland Water SPA were also considered in the Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report. They lie approx. 35km and 50km respectively from Arnesby.  The Screening Report concluded that the Core Strategy would not lead to significant adverse effects on either area given that:  • the River Mease SAC is separate to any water courses in the district and does not contribute to the water supply or drainage of the district; and  • any effects on Rutland Water SPA would be indirect and relate only to a greater number of visitors being attracted to the site from additional development in the District.  It is considered that the NP will not affect the 3 specified Natura 2000 sites over and above the impacts identified in the Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening Report carried out for the Core Strategy in 2011 nor for the Local Plan in 2017. Therefore, it is concluded that a full Appropriate Assessment is not deemed to be required.  The full Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening Report for the Core Strategy can be viewed at:  Habitat Regulations Screening Report  The Local Plan HRA screening report can be found at:  Habitat Regulations Screening - Report to Harborough Local Plan 2017 8 10
5. Does the NP determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to <a href="Art. 3.2">Art. 3.2</a> ? (Art. 3.3)	Y	Determination of small sites at local level. The Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan seeks to allocate one site for housing development. The small scale of the development (about 7 dwellings) is considered to have a substantial impact on either the natural or heritage environment
6. Does the NP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects	Υ	The NP is to be used for determining future planning applications

in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)		
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7. Is the NP's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)	N	No further comments
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	N	Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan is essentially a self contained plan and considers policies only at a local level to ensure development meets the needs of the community. While it seeks to allocate one site for about 7 houses, it is the view of the Local Authority that this will not have a substantial detrimental effect on either the natural or heritage environment.  The Neighbourhood Area does not have any sites of special scientific interest, but it does contain two area of priority habitat as defined by Natural England. Policy ENV2 of the ANP seeks to protect 38 local sites that have been identified as having features of environmental significance.  Policy ENV1 seeks to protect 3 Local Green Spaces that have been identified as having special significance to the community. These being: a) St Peter's Churchyard (inventory reference 153) b) Baptist Chapel burial ground (066) c) Manor House grounds (151)  Further important open spaces are protected through policy ENV3 for their high community value, and for recreational, amenity or village landscape reasons.  Policy ENV4 seeks to protect important biodiversity and wildlife corridors.  Policy ENV5 considers assets of local historical and architectural interest and seeks to conserve and where appropriate enhance the structure and setting of such structures or buildings.
		Flooding has not been highlighted as an issue in the Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan due to the elevated location of the village. While a small amount of surface water flooding has been identified in the village through the <a href="Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2017">Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2017</a> the



These questions are answered using the flow diagram in 4.1 above. The result is given by following the logical steps shown by the black arrows on the flow diagram. Note: some of the questions may not be applicable depending on previous answers.

#### 5. Sustainability Appraisal and SEA for New Local Plan

5.1 A number of scenarios for housing growth have been tested in the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the New Local Plan. Arnesby falls below the threshold of Selected Rural Village in the settlement hierarchy and is therefore not specifically considered as part of the SA.

#### 6. Screening Outcome of May 2018

- 6.1 As a result of the assessment in Section 4 above it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising from policies in Arnesby Submission version Neighbourhood Plan as submitted at the date of this assessment, that were not covered in the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy and the Sustainability Appraisal for the emerging New Local Plan. As such, it is the consideration of the Local Planning Authority that Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan does not require a full SEA to be undertaken.
- 6.2 The Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England will be consulted on this Screening Report and their responses will be made available through Arnesby Neighbourhood Plan Evidence base.
- 6.3 If the issues addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan should change then a new screening process will need to be undertaken determine whether an SEA will be required. Please contact Harborough District Council for advice in this circumstance.

Appendix 1

CONSERVATION AREA AND LISTED BUILDINGS WITHIN THE PARISH OF ARNESBY

Other Settlement	Occurrence
features:	
Conservation Area	Arnesby is a compact village lying just off the A5199 Leicester Road. It consists of a network of streets grouped around two elongated open green spaces along Mill Hill Road and St. Peter's Road. The character of the village embraces the variety of buildings along the street network, the network of roads and the relationship of buildings to the open spaces. Although many of the buildings are in red brick dating from the 17th Century with slate or Swithland slate roofs, there are some retaining the timber frame vernacular and thatch. The variety of building comes from continual on-site renewal as well as infill. There are a number of good 18th Century brick buildings including cottages as well as Arnesby House, which faces St. Peter's Road Green, and the Manor House facing Mill Hill Road Green. The latter exemplifies on-site rebuild with the earlier building still attached as subsidiary.  A significant feature, seen both from the A5199 road to the east and from within the village, is the Baptist Church dating from 1790 set back from its courtyard facing the wide green verges of the northern part of St. Peter's Road. The large brick Baptist Church with its Swithland slate roof and associated Manse and buildings are a very important group in the village, both from the front and from the rear.
	The 12th Century Church of St. Peter lies at the edge of the village adjacent to the site of the former Manor House, now a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This site and adjacent field are included in the Conservation Area because of their
	association with the evolution of the village settlement. Also included are the

	19th Century Westfields House and its grounds. The line of trees along its drive makes a formal visual boundary between the village and surrounding open countryside to the west. The windmill and surrounding plot are also included as the windmill is linked for its former economic activity with the village.					
Scheduled Monuments	Manorial site immediately south east of St Peter's Church					
	List Entry Number: 1018833					
	Heritage Category: Scheduling					
	Location: Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire					
Listed buildings	Location and Grade  ARNESBY LODGE  List Entry Number: 1360754					
	Heritage Category: Listing     Grade: II					
	<ul> <li>Grade: II</li> <li>Location: ARNESBY LODGE, WELFORD ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire</li> </ul>					
	ARNESBY HOUSE AND GARDEN WALL					
	List Entry Number: 1178324      Logitage Category Listing					
	Heritage Category: Listing     Grade: II					
	Location: ARNESBY HOUSE AND GARDEN WALL, ST PETERS ROAD,     Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire					
	MILEPOST CIRCA 500 YARDS NORTH OF TURNING INTO ARNESBY AT NGR					
	<u>61629</u>					
	List Entry Number: 1061504					
	Heritage Category: Listing					
	Grade: II					

 Location: MILEPOST CIRCA 500 YARDS NORTH OF TURNING INTO ARNESBY AT NGR 61629, WELFORD ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### **ELMS FARMHOUSE**

• List Entry Number: 1061503

• Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

 Location: ELMS FARMHOUSE, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### WINDMILL

• List Entry Number: 1061540

• Heritage Category: Listing

• Grade: II

 Location: WINDMILL, LUTTERWORTH ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### THE COTTAGE

• List Entry Number: 1061541

Heritage Category: Listing

• Grade: II

• Location: THE COTTAGE, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### **HOUSE TO SOUTH OF LONGACRE**

• List Entry Number: 1061542

• Heritage Category: Listing

• Grade: II

 Location: HOUSE TO SOUTH OF LONGACRE, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### **GLEBE COTTAGE**

List Entry Number: 1360734

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

 Location: GLEBE COTTAGE, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### THE WALNUTS

List Entry Number: 1061502Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

• Location: THE WALNUTS, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### THE HOMESTEAD FARMHOUSE

• List Entry Number: 1295118

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

• Location: THE HOMESTEAD FARMHOUSE, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### **HOME FARMHOUSE**

• List Entry Number: 1360733

• Heritage Category: Listing

• Grade: II

• Location: HOME FARMHOUSE, ROBERT HALL STREET, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### **BAPTIST CHAPEL AND MANSE**

• List Entry Number: 1295114

Heritage Category: Listing

Grade: II

• Location: BAPTIST CHAPEL AND MANSE, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### THE MANOR HOUSE ATTACHED WALL AND OUTBUILDINGS

• List Entry Number: 1360732

Heritage Category: Listing

• Grade: II

 Location: THE MANOR HOUSE ATTACHED WALL AND OUTBUILDINGS, CHURCH LANE, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire

#### **CHURCH OF ST PETER**

List Entry Number: 1178306Heritage Category: Listing

•	Grade: II* Location: CHURCH OF ST PETER, ST PETERS ROAD, Arnesby, Harborough, Leicestershire
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### Appendix 2

#### Annex I

- 1. Crude-oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 tonnes or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.
- 2. Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more and nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load).
- 3. Installations solely designed for the permanent storage or final disposal of radioactive waste.
- 4. Integrated works for the initial melting of cast-iron and steel.
- 5. Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20 000 tonnes of finished products, for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 tonnes of finished products, and for other uses of asbestos, utilization of more than 200 tonnes per year.
- 6. Integrated chemical installations.
- 7. Construction of motorways, express roads (1) and lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports (2) with a basic runway length of 2 100 m or more.
- 8. Trading ports and also inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1 350 tonnes.
- 9. Waste-disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment or land fill of toxic and dangerous wastes.
- (1) For the purposes of the Directive, 'express road' means a road which complies with the definition in the European Agreement on main international traffic arteries of 15 November 1975.
- (2) For the purposes of this Directive, 'airport' means airports which comply with the definition in the 1944 Chicago Convention setting up the International Civil Aviation Organization (Annex 14).

#### Annex II

### 1. Agriculture

- (a) Projects for the restructuring of rural land holdings.
- (b) Projects for the use of uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agricultural purposes.
- (c) Water-management projects for agriculture.
- (d) Initial afforestation where this may lead to adverse ecological changes and land reclamation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use.
- (e) Poultry-rearing installations.
- (f) Pig-rearing installations.
- (g) Salmon breeding.
- (h) Reclamation of land from the sea.

#### 2. Extractive industry

- (a) Extraction of peat.
- (b) Deep drillings with the exception of drillings for investigating the stability of the soil and in particular:
  - geothermal drilling,
  - drilling for the storage of nuclear waste material,
  - drilling for water supplies.
- (c) Extraction of minerals other than metalliferous and energy-producing minerals, such as marble, sand, gravel, shale, salt, phosphates and potash.
- (d) Extraction of coal and lignite by underground mining. (e) Extraction of coal and lignite by open-cast mining. (f) Extraction of petroleum.
- (g) Extraction of natural gas.
- (h) Extraction of ores.

- (i) Extraction of bituminous shale.
- (j) Extraction of minerals other than metalliferous and energy-producing minerals by open-cast mining.
- (k) Surface industrial installations for the extraction of coal, petroleum, natural gas and ores, as well as bituminous shale.
- (I) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation).
- (m) Installations for the manufacture of cement.

### 3. Energy industry

- (a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (unless included in Annex I).
- (b) Industrial installations for carrying gas, steam and hot water; transmission of electrical energy by overhead cables.
- (c) Surface storage of natural gas.
- (d) Underground storage of combustible gases.
- (e) Surface storage of fossil fuels.
- (f) Industrial briquetting of coal and lignite.
- (g) Installations for the production or enrichment of nuclear fuels.
- (h) Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuels.
- (i) Installations for the collection and processing of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I).
- (i) Installations for hydroelectric energy production.

#### 4. Processing of metals

- (a) Iron and steelworks, including foundries, forges, drawing plants and rolling mills (unless included in Annex I).
- (b) Installations for the production, including smelting, refining, drawing and rolling, of nonferrous metals, excluding precious metals.
- (c) Pressing, drawing and stamping of large castings.
- (d) Surface treatment and coating of metals.
- (e) Boilermaking, manufacture of reservoirs, tanks and other sheet-metal containers.
- (f) Manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles and manufacture of motor-vehicle engines.
- (g) Shipyards.
- (h) Installations for the construction and repair of aircraft.

- (i) Manufacture of railway equipment.
- (j) Swaging by explosives.
- (k) Installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.
- 5. Manufacture of glass
- 7. Chemical industry
- (a) Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals (unless included in Annex I).
- (b) Production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paint and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides.
- (c) Storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products.
- 8. Food industry
- (a) Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats.
- (b) Packing and canning of animal and vegetable products.
- (c) Manufacture of dairy products.
- (d) Brewing and malting.
- (e) Confectionery and syrup manufacture.
- (f) Installations for the slaughter of animals.
- (g) Industrial starch manufacturing installations.
- (h) Fish-meal and fish-oil factories.
- (i) Sugar factories.
- 9. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries
- (a) Wool scouring, degreasing and bleaching factories.
- (b) Manufacture of fibre board, particle board and plywood.
- (c) Manufacture of pulp, paper and board.
- (d) Fibre-dyeing factories.

- (e) Cellulose-processing and production installations.
- (f) Tannery and leather-dressing factories.

#### 10. Rubber industry

Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products.

### 11. Infrastructure projects

- (a) Industrial-estate development projects.
- (b) Urban-development projects.
- (c) Ski-lifts and cable-cars.
- (d) Construction of roads, harbours, including fishing harbours, and airfields (projects not listed in Annex I).
- (e) Canalization and flood-relief works.
- (f) Dams and other installations designed to hold water or store it on a long-term basis.
- (g) Tramways, elevated and underground railways, suspended lines or similar lines of a particular type, used exclusively or mainly for passenger transport.
- (h) Oil and gas pipeline installations.
- (i) Installation of long-distance aqueducts.
- (i) Yacht marinas.

### 12. Other projects

- (a) Holiday villages, hotel complexes.
- (b) Permanent racing and test tracks for cars and motor cycles.
- (c) Installations for the disposal of industrial and domestic waste (unless included in Annex I).
- (d) Waste water treatment plants.
- (e) Sludge-deposition sites.
- (f) Storage of scrap iron.
- (g) Test benches for engines, turbines or reactors.

- (h) Manufacture of artificial mineral fibres.
- (i) Manufacture, packing, loading or placing in cartridges of gunpowder and explosives.
- (j) Knackers' yards.
  - 13. Modifications to development projects included in Annex I and projects in Annex II undertaken exclusively or mainly for the development and testing of new methods or products and not used for more than one year