**Hallaton Neighbourhood Plan Examination**

**Questions of clarification from the Examiner to the Parish Council and HDC**

Having completed my initial review of the Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan), I would be grateful if both Councils could kindly assist me as appropriate in answering the following questions which either relate to matters of fact or are areas in which I seek clarification or further information. Please do not send or direct me to evidence that is not already publicly available.

1. Please could HDC clarify their comment on page 35 of the representations document in relation to page 21 of the Plan and indicate what, if any, modification might be needed?
2. Please could HDC confirm the up to date minimum housing number Hallaton is expected to plan for in the Plan period (taking into account completions and commitments etc.)?
3. Please could I be updated on any planning applications or appeals on the three proposed site allocations subject of Policy HBE 3.
4. Please could I be provided with a map which shows all the housing sites assessed?
5. Please provide me with the planning history of the site referred to in a representation as “Site at North End/Hunts Lane”.
6. Policy HBE 6 appears to require market housing should be available for people with a local connection; is this the intention?
7. Policy ENV 1 – Appendix 8 indicates the history for Hacluit’s Pond and North End Village Green is included. I cannot find it. If this has already been published, please send me a copy.
8. Policy ENV 2 identifies a large number of sites across two Figures, 7.1 and 7.2. The policy relies on Appendix 7 which I find hard to interpret and does not appear to distinguish between the hierarchy of sites outlined in the NPPF. Some of the sites are already protected. In addition, on both figures there are various areas with numbers but which are not coloured in. Please provide a map or maps of the sites subject of the policy and point me in the direction of the evidence to support their identification and a way forward for this policy.
9. Policy ENV 3 – please provide a copy or link to the documents referred to at the bottom of page 35 of the Plan i.e. Local Green Space, Open Spaces Strategy and Provision for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2015 – 2016). What status do these documents have?
10. Policy ENV 4 seeks to identify non-designated heritage assets. These are described in Appendix 10, but please explain how these they were identified and what selection criteria were used.
11. Policy ENV 5 seeks to identify a number of areas of ridge and furrow as non-designated heritage assets. Please explain what selection criteria were used. Should all the areas identified in Figure 11.4 should be identified in the policy or only the highest quality areas perhaps?
12. Policy ENV 6 identifies notable trees shown in Appendix 11. Please explain how the trees were identified and what the selection criteria are. Is it necessary to identify those located in the Conservation Area or already with Tree Preservation Orders on them? What additional benefit would be had from their inclusion in this policy? If none can be identified, please send me a revised list of trees. Additionally, some hedges are identified in the Appendix; should these be retained in this policy? Finally, please clarify the number of trees; the policy indicates 49 but the appendix details more (including 59 and 60 which do not appear to be on Figure 12 in the Plan?).
13. Policy ENV 7 includes an area identified as a Local Green Space in Policy ENV 1. I see a potential conflict here; please explain why there is no conflict and/or indicate which policy would it be best for Hare Pie Bank be in?
14. Policy ENV 10 is quite specific in some of its requirements. Please point me in the direction of the explanation for the requirements if already published.
15. Policy ENV 11 refers to views; are these the same views identified in Policy ENV 9 or is the reference general?
16. Please could HDC confirm their local requirements in relation to planning applications in respect of design and access statements or similar documents.
17. Please could HDC confirm the number of representations received at Regulation 16 stage?
18. Appendix 5 is the Design Guide. I consider a number of changes are needed to ensure it meets the basic conditions. This is because it is an important document in relation to Policy HBE 1, but it includes a number of statements and policy requirements which should be deleted as the document is not policy. Please could I be provided with a word document version of it to enable me to make track changes so I can then forward it to you. This is then likely to require a short period of further consultation (depending on my intended modifications) to allow all parties to make any comments.
19. Finally, I confirm that the Parish Council has been given an opportunity to comment on all or any of the representations made at Regulation 16 stage. Please could any comments the Parish Council wish to make are sent to me by the date in this note and questions of clarification.

It may be the case that on receipt of your anticipated assistance on these matters that I may need to ask for further clarification or that further queries will occur as the examination progresses. These queries are raised without prejudice to the outcome of the examination.

Please note that this list of clarification questions is a public document and that your answers will also be in the public domain. Both my questions and your responses should be placed on the Councils’ websites as appropriate.

With many thanks,

Ann Skippers MRTPI

Independent Examiner

29 September 2020