

Foxton Neighbourhood Plan Review (2021)

Major (material) updates to the 'Made' Foxton Neighbourhood Plan (27 January 2017)

Planning process

Following a considerable amount of community consultation, the first Foxton Neighbourhood Plan was 'made' by Harborough District Council on 27 January 2017 following a successful local referendum. The Plan is over three years old and Foxton Parish Council has decided to review and update it to take account of the latest national planning advice, the adoption of the Harborough Local Plan in April 2019 and to respond to some of the planning decisions Harborough District Council has made in the last few years.

These revisions have been incorporated into a new (Submission) Draft version of the Foxton Neighbourhood Development Plan. However, the broad nature of the Neighbourhood Plan has changed little.

Planning Strategy

The Parish Council has concluded that some material changes to the Neighbourhood Plan are required but the broad nature of the Plan should not change. No new housing or employment allocations are planned.

Neighbourhood Plan Policies

The main changes are:

- Revisions to Policies F1 (Countryside), F5 (Ecology and Biodiversity), F12 (Housing Provision), F13 (Windfall Housing), F15 (Housing Mix);
- Deletion of Policies concerning the development of Fisher's Farm, North Lane and the development of land at Middle Street and Vicarage Drive, as both sites now have planning permission;
- The deletion of the proposed allocation of some 0.08 hectares of land at the junction of Vicarage Drive and Hog Lane, for housing development for up to three dwellings. It was clear that this proposal no longer had community support in large part due to the scale of development that is already taking place in the village. Furthermore, it is not clear that the landowner wants to develop the site;
- New policies concerning non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest and car parking; and
- Revised definition of affordable housing.

Note on the Nature of the Changes

In accordance with Neighbourhood Planning Guidance, the Qualifying Body needs to take a view on the changes and whether they are so substantial as to change the nature of the Plan and give reasons. Where modifications do not change the nature of the plan and the Planning Authority and Independent Examiner agree, a referendum is not required.