

From: Fletcher, Clive
Sent: 06 September 2022 16:39
To: Matthew Bills <M.Bills@harborough.gov.uk>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Dunton Bassett NDP Hearing

This Message originated outside your organization.

Dear Mr Bills,

Thank you for your message. Historic England will not be fielding a representative, but our position is straightforward, so we hope that further explanation will be unnecessary.

We are aware of the heritage assessment work that has been prepared as part of the NP. We do not disagree with the conclusion that the proposed site allocation would result in less than substantial harm to the significance of the SM and have not objected to the proposed allocation. We also note that Policy H1 for the site includes a criteria requiring a landscaping buffer zone in relation to the heritage asset and its setting.

Our concerns relate to the absence of evidence on the proposed measures the Plan might need to put in place in order to ensure that any harm is minimised. At present, the Parish cannot demonstrate that the site it is putting forward for possible development is compatible with the draft policies for the protection of the historic environment and housing quality set out in the draft NP or the requirements set out in the NPPF. The absence of any such evaluation of potential mitigation must bring into question the deliverability of the site and the amount of development it could accommodate.

We refer the Parish back to the Local Authority's own heritage advisers in respect of our concerns. It is a matter that could potentially be addressed through an SEA.

I hope this clarifies our position on the matter sufficient for the purposes of the hearing.

Yours sincerely,

Clive Fletcher

