John

We have now received a response from the Qualifying Body.

It does not directly answer your questions posed in the Post Hearing Note i.e. that the QB accepts the deletion of the allocation policies (Policies H1,2 and 3) from the plan. I have clarified with the QB that this is the version of the response they would like to forward to you

I anticipate that you will be able to make yourrecommended modifications in the final report and the explanations will answer the QBs further queries.

From Dunton Bassett Parish Council by email on 25/11/22

After consultation with Parish Councillors and Steering group leaders I have been asked if you could clarify certain points prior to a decision being made on how we like to progress with our Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan was completed under the guidance of Your Locale and the site selection methodology is assumed by them on numerous previous Neighbourhood Plans. They have instructed us that the site selection methodology and application is not a Basic Condition issue. If the site selected for allocation meets with the Basic Conditions it should not be rejected because of concerns over the process. No site selection exercise is perfect and all include the exercising of judgements which is entirely reasonable and proportionate for Neighbourhood Planning. Our thoughts are that the Neighbourhood Plan would be vulnerable with no housing allocation.

Would the examiner see things differently if the reserve site was to be removed from the Plan?

Could the examiner give clarification as to why the settlement boundary should be removed. Could it be adjusted? We see that the settlement is an important part of the plan, giving us some protection over future developments.

There are comments regarding levels of consultation, this again being under the guidance of Your Locale, Locality and RCC. All recommended consultations have been carried out and are listed within the Governance statement, the village have been involved in each individual step of the plan from the start to the pre submission. We have extended this through lockdown to individual questionnaires being delivered to every household in the village to ensure full consultation.

We have been instructed that this is a "best practice" comment and again not one that impacts on the Basic Conditions.

We are very disappointed with the Post Hearing Note as it gives little reward for the considerable work and effort carried out by community volunteers. We feel we are now placed into a unsatisfactory position of choices to proceed. Dunton Bassett Parish Council response to post hearing notes – 25/11/22

I look forward to your response.

Stuart Glover Chair Dunton Bassett Parish Council.

I will ensure all the correspondence is uploaded to the HDC website to ensure transparency

Regards

Matt