

Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening – Jan 2023

Prepared by Harborough District Council On behalf of

Dunton Bassett Parish Council

Introduction

- 1.1 This screening report has been prepared in response to the Examiners final report provided to the District Council and Qualifying Body on 25 January 2023 for the Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Examiner recommended in paragraph 84 of his report:

Recommendation

That Harborough District Council undertakes a new screening under the Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations) which assesses whether the neighbourhood plan will have a significant effect on the environment, based on the deletion of Policies H1, H2 and H3 of the Submitted Plan.

That Harborough District Council formally makes a determination under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the Habitat Regulations) to confirm its view that the neighbourhood plan will not have any significant impact on any European protected sites is in addition to the determination addendum issued in June 2022 by the Council and considers the response of Historic England that there may be significant environmental impacts on the historic environment and that a full Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.

1.3 After deletion of Policies H1, H2 and H3 the remaining policies have been rescreened to determine whether, in the opinion of the Council, the contents of the Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan as submitted in November 2021 has satisfied the requirements for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Screening

- 1.4 This screening has considered the remaining policies of the referendum version Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan. Each of the remaining polices has been rescreened to assess whether the Neighbourhood Plan as amended will not have a significant impact on any European protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the Habitat Regulations) to confirm its view that the neighbourhood plan
- 1.5 The conclusions of the screening are contained in appendix 3.

Key details

1.6 In order to demonstrate that a neighbourhood plan contributes to sustainable development, sufficient and proportionate evidence should be presented on how the

draft neighbourhood plan guides development to sustainable solutions. There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal. However, qualifying bodies may find this a useful approach for demonstrating how their draft plan meets the basic conditions. Material produced as part of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan may be relevant to a neighbourhood plan.

¹ Para 030 of http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-neighbourhood-plans/
 ² Para 039 - http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-neighbourhood-plans/

- 1.7 The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive and Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) is clear in that a SEA Environmental Report need only be as detailed as appropriate to the content and level of detail of the neighbourhood plan¹. An environmental report must identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the neighbourhood plan policies and of the reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the neighbourhood plan². The PPG goes on to state that reasonable alternatives must also be sufficiently distinct, realistic and deliverable³.
- 1.8 At no point does the SEA legislation or guidance state that reasonable alternatives are a requirement for each and every policy area in a plan and it is considered that a proportionate approach, taking into account legislation and guidance above, should be satisfactorily undertaken.
- 1.9 Regulations state that the Environmental Report should consider whether certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels of the planning system to avoid duplication ⁴.
- 1.10 Each policy of the referendum version Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan has been individually assessed for its effects on Habitat Regulations (and other environmental effects) (see appendix 3). The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Local Plan 2011 to 2031 has determined that no European sites lie within Harborough District. Outside the district, the nearest European site is Rutland Water Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site, which is located 7km to the north-east of the district boundary but 22km from the main population centres (Market Harborough and Thurnby/Scraptoft) as the district is largely rural with a fairly sparsely distributed population.
- 1.11 The HRA for the Local Plan concluded in 2017 that: It is possible to conclude that development in the Harborough Local Plan will not have a likely significant effect on any internationally important wildlife sites either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. These conclusions are based on the findings of this screening which conclude that no Natura 2000 sites are located within the district and no impact pathways have been identified linking Natura

2000 sites outside of the district e.g. Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar to development within Harborough District. Therefore an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

1.12 The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruling (People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17) (April 2018)) states that:

"In the light of all the foregoing considerations, the answer to the question referred is that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive must be interpreted as meaning that, in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out, subsequently, an appropriate assessment of the implications, for a site concerned, of a plan or project, it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of the measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site" (paragraph 40). ³ Para 038 - http://planninguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-neighbourhood-plans/#paragraph_033. ⁴ Regulation 12(3)(d) -http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/pdfs/uksi_20041633_en.pdf

1.13 This Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report dated January 2023 for the referendum version of the Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan did not take account of measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the Plan.

Legislative Background

- 4.4 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' (ODPM 2005)</u>.
- 5.5 Schedule 2 of the <u>Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012</u> 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 site.
- 6.6 Schedule 3 of the <u>Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012</u> makes provision in relation to the <u>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive</u>. 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 <u>Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment)</u> Regulations 2011(3) ("the EIA Regulations") with appropriate modifications (<u>regulation 33</u> and paragraphs <u>1 to 4 and 6 of Schedule 3</u>). Paragraphs <u>5 and 7 to 13 of Schedule 3</u> correct errors in the EIA Regulations

7.7 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; <u>Harborough District Council - Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)</u> and the <u>Sustainability Appraisal (SA) as part of the New Local Pla</u>n during 2016.

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))	Ŷ	The preparation of and adoption of the NP is allowed under The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The NP has been prepared by Dunton Bassett 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 and The Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012
2. Is the NP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (<u>Art. 2(a)</u>)	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 environmental effects 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, AND 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))	Ν	Whilst the NP covers a wide range 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))	Ν	Dunton Bassett NP as amended for the referendum is unlikely to have a substantial effect on the Natura 2000 network of protected sites. The Plan, as amended in accordance with the Examiners recommended modifications does not allocate housing sites or provide any other housing policies (such as limits to development) which in the opinion of Historic England may have had a detrimental effect on the scheduled monument.
		A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) has been undertaken as part of the Local Plan preparation. The assessment concludes that the Local Plan will not have a likely significant effect on any internationally important wildlife sites either alone or in conjunction with other plans and projects. These conclusions are based on the fact that no such sites are located within the district and no impact pathways were identified linking internationally important wildlife sites outside of the district (e.g. Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar site) to development within Harborough District.

Strateg	jic En	vironmental Assessment Screening -
Dunton Ba	ssett	Neighbourhood Plan – post examination.
		 The Local Plan HRA considered but dismissed the following sites from the analysis due to a combination of distance and absence of impact pathways linking it to the District: Ensor's Pool SAC; The Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits SPA and Ramsar; and River Mease SAC.
		The HRA looked into the potential effects of the plan on Rutland Water SPA and Ramsar site in more detail. However, it concluded that the Local Plan will not have a likely significant effect on the site as no impact pathways were identified linking it to development within Harborough District. Given that Dunton Bassett and the Neighbourhood Plan, as amended by the Examiners recommendations, lies some 40 km from Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar, it is considered that the NP will not affect any Natura 2000 sites in line with the findings of the HRA. Therefore, it is concluded that a full Appropriate Assessment is not deemed to be required.
		https://www.harborough.gov.uk/downloads/download/1170/s7_habitat_regulations_assess ment
5. Does the NP determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to <u>Art. 3.2</u> ? (Art. 3.3)	Y	The Neighbourhood Plan as amended by the Examiners recommendations does not consider sites for housing, but only considers environmental or historic environment policies at a local level.
6. Does the NP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)	Y	The NP is to be used for determining future planning applications
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)	Ν	
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	N	The Dunton Bassett NP is a self contained plan and has policies for environmental and historic environment only. The Plan does not allocate sites for housing nor does it have other housing related policies.
		The comments of Historic England in response to the Screening Report Dec 2019 and the further consideration of the Council of the effects on the Historic Environment indicate that a further appropriate and proportionate assessment of the reasonable alternatives should be made to assess the impacts of Plan policy H1 on the Historic Environment. Policy H1 has now been removed from the Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan as part of the

Examiners recommendations

The effect on the environment (natural and historic) anticipated through the remaining policies is unlikely to impact on any Natura 2000 site any European protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the Habitat Regulations). The Neighbourhood Area does not have any sites of special scientific interest within it. Proposed development will not impact on any nationally recognised landscape designations.

More locally, the Neighbourhood Area has identified sites of historical and/or environmental significance and policies have been developed to protect these. Three Local Green Spaces have been proposed for designation which will afford these site a high level of protection. The examiners recommendation in paragraph 124 of his report recommending extending the Local Green Space at All Saints Churchyard as shown in Figure 5 to include the Burial Ground extension. The amended policy has been screened for effects on

The Neighbourhood Plan has sought to protect local sites of historic environment significance (including a scheduled monument and Medieval earthworks). In addition, designated heritage assets that have been identified in the Plan and the local built environment character is protected through policy. The NP also seeks to protect ridge and furrow land and important views within the neighbourhood area. There are recommended modifications to these polices in the Examiners report which have been taken into account

Screening Outcome

- 5.1 As a result of the Council's screening at appendix 3 of the referendum version of the Dunton Bassett NDP and its recommended modifications it is the view of the Council in January 2023 that a full Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for the Dunton Bassett NDP to satisfy the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the Habitat Regulations).
- 5.2 The assessments made of the policies amended by the Examiners recommendations are in **Appendix 3** of this report.
- 5.3 This report meets the requirements of the Examination as set out in the recommendation of paragraph 84 of the Examiner report dated 25 January 2023.

Appendix 1

Sites of Special Scientific Interest /LISTED BUILDINGS/Scheduled Monuments WITHIN THE PARISH OF DUNTON BASSETT

Settlement feature:	Occurrence
Conservation Area	n/a
Scheduled Monuments	Moated site with fishpond at Dunton Bassett
	 List Entry Number: 1010915 Heritage Category: Scheduling Location: Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire
	 <u>2, Little Lunnun</u> List Entry Number: 1061559
Listed Buildings/Features: Grade I, Grade II*,	 Heritage Category: Listing Grade: II Location: 2, Little Lunnun, Dunton Bassett, LE17 5JR, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire
Grade II	Onion Cottage
	 List Entry Number: 1178225 Heritage Category: Listing Grade: II Location: Onion Cottage, The Mount, Dunton Bassett, LE17 5JL, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire
	LODGE FARMHOUSE
	 List Entry Number: 1178200 Heritage Category: Listing Grade: II Location: LODGE FARMHOUSE, DUNTON LANE, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire
	MILEPOST CIRCA 400 YARDS NORTH OF COOPERS LANE
	List Entry Number: 1178210Heritage Category: Listing

- Grade: II
- Location: MILEPOST CIRCA 400 YARDS NORTH OF COOPERS LANE, LUTTERWORTH ROAD, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

HILLSIDE HOUSE

- List Entry Number: 1178189
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: HILLSIDE HOUSE, BENNETTS HILL, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

NUMBER 36 AND ATTACHED BARN

- List Entry Number: 1360703
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: NUMBER 36 AND ATTACHED BARN, THE MOUNT, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

THE ELWELLS AND ADJOINING FARM BUILDINGS

- List Entry Number: 1360701
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: THE ELWELLS AND ADJOINING FARM BUILDINGS, BENNETTS HILL, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

MANOR FARMHOUSE

- List Entry Number: 1178171
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: MANOR FARMHOUSE, 4, BENNETTS HILL, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

OLD HALL COTTAGE

- List Entry Number: 1061560
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: OLD HALL COTTAGE, MAIN STREET, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

BLOOMHILLS FARMHOUSE

- List Entry Number: 1251005
- Heritage Category: Listing

- Grade: II
- Location: BLOOMHILLS FARMHOUSE, 20, MAIN STREET, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

WAR MEMORIAL

- List Entry Number: 1393524
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: WAR MEMORIAL, CHURCH LANE, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

BARN AT MANOR HOUSE

- List Entry Number: 1061558
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: BARN AT MANOR HOUSE, BENNETTS HILL, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

OUTBUILDINGS AT MANOR HOUSE

- List Entry Number: 1295179
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II
- Location: OUTBUILDINGS AT MANOR HOUSE, BENNETTS HILL, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS

- List Entry Number: 1360702
- Heritage Category: Listing
- Grade: II*
- Location: CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, CHURCH LANE, Dunton Bassett, Harborough, Leicestershire

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 asbestoscement 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).

(j) Installations for hydroelectric energy production.

1. 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

6. 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.

7. 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.
- 8. 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.
- 9. Rubber industry

Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products.

10. 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.
- (j) Yacht marinas.

11. 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.

12. 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

Appendix 3

January 2023 - LPA screening for the requirement for a SEA for Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan as amended by the Examiners report received 25 January 2023

The policies of the post examination Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan have been individually assessed to determine the effects on historic and natural environment, Natura 200 sites and HRA.

The table below demonstrates that in the opinion on the Local Planning Authority the policies of the Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan do not make significant detrimental effects on local historic or environmental sites, Natura 2000 sites, or Habitat Regulations.

Dunton Bassett Neighbour- hood Plan Policy	Relevant Policy in Harborough District Local Plan (LP)/National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	Relationship between Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan	Potential for likely significant effects on national and local historic and/or environmental designations	Conclusions relating to Strategic Environmental Assessment	Potential for likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites within 50km (nearest Ensor's Pool Special Area for Conservation approx. 30km)	Conclusion relating to Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)
Policy H1: Residential site allocation	Policy deleted					
Policy H2: Reserve Site	Policy deleted					
POLICY H3: LIMITS TO DEVELOPMEN T	Policy deleted					
POLCY H4: HOUSING MIX	NPPF – Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes – para. 50 LP has policy H5 which requires developments to deliver a suitable mix of housing.	Policy H4 is considered to be in general conformity with the LP and NPPF in seeking to deliver an appropriate mix of housing types to reflect local needs based on local and District evidence	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as it only relates to mix of homes.	No significant effects identified.	None	No negative effect arising from this policy.
POLICY H5:	Policy amended to	Policy H5 as amended by	The policy is unlikely to	No significant	None.	No negative

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DESIGN QUALITY	meet Basic Conditions NPPF – 12 Achieving Well Designed Places LP Policy GD8 deals with good design in new housing developments	recommended modifications sets out a series of criteria that should be considered in new development within Dunton Bassett. It should be considered to be in general conformity with LP policy and NPPF in setting out building design principles.	result in significant effects as it promotes design of new development which reflects the character and historic context of its surroundings.	effects identified.		effect arising from this policy.
Policy H6 Affordable Housing	LP policy H2 deals with affordable housing	Policy H6 specifies that proposal for new housing should be in accordance with the requirements of the Parish	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as it only relates to delivery of affordable homes on housing sites	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.
POLICY H7: WINDFALL SITES	NPPF: Delivering sustainable development and delivering a wide choice of high quality homes (para 55). LP Policy GD2 allows for unallocated settlement development within or adjacent to	Policy H7 recognises that throughout the NP period small scale housing sites may come forward. Limits to development have been defined to enable application of the policy. The policy sets out the considerations that should be taken into account in the determination of such applications. It provides	There may be some limited impacts but the policy is unlikely to result in significant effects. Only a limited number of dwellings are likely to come forward under the policy and any planning application will be determined in line with the criteria set out in the policy and other NP policies.	Limited impact. No significant effects are identified. The policy includes the necessary safeguards to ensure that development (within limits to development) takes into account the character of the village, its size and form	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.

	settlements	safeguards to ensure that the distinctive character of the village is respected				
POLICY H8: USE OF STREET LIGHTING:	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions Local Plan Policy GD8 – Good Design in development	Policy H8 as amended by recommended modifications should be considered to be in general conformity in only seeking to utilise street lighting when required	No significant effects identified	No significant effects identified	No significant effects identified	No significant effects identified
POLICY ENV 1: PROTECTION OF LOCAL GREEN SPACE	Policy amended NPPF – Promoting healthy communities (para 99 and para 100). LP Policy GI4 considers Local Green Space and its inclusion in NDPs	Policy ENV1 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with the LP and NPPF in identifying LGS and setting out policy for their protection.	Potential for limited positive impact as the policy identifies and protects open land that is of demonstrable value to the community and of outstanding significance for their natural and historical or environmental features.	Possible positive impacts. No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy which seeks to protect local green space.

	Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening - Dunton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan – post examination.						
POLICY ENV 2 : IMORTANT OPEN SPACES	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF para 96 to 98. Local Plan policy GI2	Policy ENV2 as amended by recommended modifications can be considered to be in conformity with the Local Plan. The policy seeks to protect open space sites that are valued by the community unless equivalent or better provision is made	No detrimental effects identified	Possible limited positive impact. No significant detrimental effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.	
POLICY ENV 3: PROTECTION OF SITES OF NATURAL ENVIRONMEN T SIGNIFICANCE	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: 11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment GI5 relates to biodiversity and protection and improvement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Policy ENV3 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with NPPF and LP policy in seeking to protect species and habitats and protection of sites for their amenity value	ENV2 is considered to be in general conformity with NPPF and LP policy in seeking to protect, non designated sites which are of significance locally.	Possible limited positive impact. No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy as it promotes biodiversity.	

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POLICY ENV 4: WOODLAND, NOTABLE TREES AND	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions	Policy ENV4 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with the	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as it gives protection to trees and	Limited impact. No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy which
HEDGES–	HEDGES- NPPF: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.	NPPF and LP as it seeks to protect Biodiversity, trees, woodland and hedgerows of value.	hedgerows of value.			gives protection to trees and hedgerows.
	LP Policy GI5 relates to protection of locally designated biodiversity and					
	geodiversity sites.					

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POLICY ENV 5: BIODIVERSITY AND HABITAT CONNECTIVIT Y-	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions	Policy ENV5 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with the NPPF and LP as it seeks to	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as it gives protection to trees and	Limited impact. No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy which
7-	NPPF: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.	protect habitat connectivity	hedgerows of value that form wildlife corridors			gives protection to trees and hedgerows.
	LP Policy GI5 relates to					
	protection of locally					
	designated					
	biodiversity and					
	geodiversity sites.					

POLICY ENV 6: PROTECTION	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions	Policy ENV6 as amended by recommended modifications	Possible positive impact as the policy requires	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising
OF SITES OF HISTORICAL	meet basic conditions	is considered to be in general conformity with	development proposals are required to protect			from this policy.
ENVIRONMEN	Policy HC1: Built Heritage.	NPPF and Local Plan in seeking to protect sites	sites with local historic or architectural			
SIGNIFICANCE	NPPF: 16 . Conserving	which are of historical significance locally.	significance.			
	and enhancing the historic environment.					

POLICY ENV 7: LOCAL BUILT ENVIRONMEN T CHARACTER AREA	Local Plan policy HC1 seeks to protect the historic environment NPPF: 16 . Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.	Policy ENV7 is considered to be in general conformity with the NPPF and Local Plan as it seeks to afford protect to sites within the historic built environment. The character area is set out in figure 11 of the Plan	The policy may deliver minor positive impacts as it aims to protect sites of historic significance and their wider setting.	Possible limited positive impact. No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy which seeks to protect sites of historic character and their setting.

POLICY ENV 8: RIDGE AND FURROW	NPPF: 16 . Conserving and enhancing the historic environment. LP Policy GI5 relates to protection of locally designated biodiversity and geodiversity sites	Policy ENV8 is considered to be in general conformity with the NPPF and LP as it seeks to protect ridge and furrow, part of the historic landscape.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as it aims to protect ridge and furrow as part of the historic landscape.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy which gives protection to historic landscape feature.
	geodiversity sites.					

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POLICY ENV 9: PROTECTION OF IMPORTANT VIEWS	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: 15 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment/ 16 Conserving and enhancing the historic environment. LP policy GD5 refers to safeguarding public views, skylines and landmarks.	Policy ENV9 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with LP and NPPF in seeking to safeguard important views and vistas as identified by the community. These vistas are identified on the Map Figure 11 and defined in the policy.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as it is affording important views protection.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy as it seeks to protect defined views/ vistas.
<i>POLICY ENV 10: AREA OF SEPARATION</i>	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions GD2 seeks to protect the distinctiveness of settlements GD6 allows for areas of separation designated in the Local Plan	Policy ENV10 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in conformity with the Local Plan in that it seeks to safeguard the identity of communities and prevent the coalescence of settlements.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect

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POLICY ENV	Policy Deleted	
11:		
MANAGING		
FLOOD RISK		
FLOOD NISK		

POLICY ENV	GI1 – Green	Policy ENV12 is considered	The policy may deliver	Possible minor	None.	No negative
12:	Infrastructure	to be in general conformity	minor positive impacts	positive impacts.		effect arising
FOOTPATHS	networks.	with the Local Plan and NPPF	as it is about protection	No significant		from this
AND		in seeking to protect and	and improvements of	effects identified.		policy as it is
BRIDLEWAYS		improve the existing	footpaths.			about
	NPPF: Promoting	network of footpaths				protection of
	healthy communities.	contributing to healthy				footpaths
		lifestyles and community				
		safety.				

POLICY CF1: RETENTION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES, AMENITIES, ASSETS	NPPF: Supporting a prosperous rural economy. (paras 83 to 84) LP Policy HC2 and HC3 deals with community facilities, public houses village shops and post offices	Policy CF1 is considered to be in general conformity with the LP and NPPF in aiming to prevent the loss of or adverse effects on community facilities and services. It sets out the evidence needed to accompany any development proposal involving the loss of such a service/facility.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects as scope for redevelopment of such premises and its scale is likely to be limited. Applications will also be assessed against other NP policies.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.
		The community facilities to be considered are defined in the policy				

		0				
POLICY CF2: NEW OR IMPROVED COMMUNITY FACILITIES	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Supporting a prosperous rural economy LP Policy HC2 sets out policy relating to community facilities. The supporting text defines schools as a	Policy CF2 as amended by recommended modifications seeks to improve the quality and range of community facilities and can be considered in conformity with Local Plan policies	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.
	community facility					
POLICY CF3: PRIMARY SCHOOL	NPPF: Supporting a prosperous rural economy LP Policy HC2 sets out policy relating to community facilities. The supporting text defines schools as a community facility	CF3 seeks to protect and/or enhance an important local asset from loss or adverse impacts. It seeks to enable the expansion of the school within criteria.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.

POLICY E1: SUPPORT FOR EXISTING BUSINESSES & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITI ES-	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Supporting a prosperous rural economy.	Policy E1 as amended by recommended modifications seeks to protect existing employment sites. It can be considered to be in general conformity in aspiring to meet a local need and delivering the NPPF objective to support a prosperous rural economy	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects given that it relates to protection rather than new employment development.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.
	LP Policy BE1 and BE3 consider existing					

employment areas

POLICY E2: SUPPORT FOR NEW BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYMENT	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Supporting a prosperous rural economy	E2 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with the CS and NPPF in so far it aims to support new employment opportunities in the village providing certain criteria are met.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects given that it relates to protection rather than new employment development.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.
	Local Plan policy BE1 considers the opportunities to provide new business areas	Although the policy does not have a specific criteria relating to heritage assets, this is covered by other policies and does not need to be repeated here.				

POLICY E3: HOME	NPPF: Supporting a prosperous rural	E3 can be considered to be in general conformity with	The policy is unlikely to result in significant	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising
WORKING	economy.	the LP and NPPF in supporting working from home providing residential amenity is protected and any	effects given the policy specifies that any development will need to be subservient and in			from this policy
	LP Policy BE1 and BE3 consider existing employment areas	associated development is subservient and does not detract from the existing building.	character.			

POLICY E4: REUSE OF AGRICULTURA L AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS	Policy deleted					
Policy E5: Tourism	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions Local Plan Policy RT4 deals with Tourism and Leisure . HC1 deals with Built Heritage NPPF: 16 . Conserving and enhancing the historic environment.	Policy E5 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with NPPF and Local Plan in seeking to allow for development Foxton Locks that does not have a detrimental effect on the village of Foxton.	Possible positive impact as the policy requires development proposals are required to protect sites with local historic or architectural significance.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy.

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POLICY E6: BROADBAND INFRASTRUCT URE	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Supporting high quality communications infrastructure.	E6 as amended by recommended modifications is considered to be in general conformity with the LP and NPPF in supporting the provision infrastructure to ensure the provision of super-fast broadband providing it is sympathetically located.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects given the requirement for sensitive location of such installations.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy
	LP Policy IN3 considers the support for provision of infrastructure alongside new development.					

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POLICY T1: TRAFFIC MANAGEMEN T	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Promoting sustainable transport. Promoting healthy communities. LP Policy GD8 deals with good design in new housing developments including parking and access to footways and cycle routes	Policy T1 as amended by recommended modifications seeks to minimise the increase in traffic and can be considered to be in general conformity with the Local Plan as it considers parking, highway access and improvement and creation of footpaths and cycleways	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy
Policy T2: Car Parking	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Chapter 9 Promoting sustainable transport.	Policy T2 as amended by recommended modifications seeks to minimise on street parking and can be considered to be in general conformity with the Local Plan as it considers good design of new development and parking standards	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy

	LP Policy GD8 deals with good design in new housing developments including parking and access to footways and cycle routes					
POLICY T3: TRANSPORT ASSESSMENT FOR NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMEN T	Policy amended to meet Basic Conditions NPPF: Promoting sustainable transport. Promoting healthy communities. LP Policy GD8 deals with good design in new housing developments including parking and access to footways and cycle routes	Policy T3 as amended by recommended modifications can be considered to be in general conformity with the Local Plan as it considers parking, highway access and improvement and creation of footpaths and cycleways	The policy is unlikely to result in significant effects.	No significant effects identified.	None.	No negative effect arising from this policy