

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF THE HUGGLESCOTE & DONINGTON LE HEATH
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

EXAMINER: Andrew Mead BSc (Hons) MRTPI MIQ

Simon Weaver
Clerk to Hugglescote and Donington le Heath Parish Council

Sarah Lee
North West Leicestershire District Council

Examination Ref: 02/AM/HDNP

Via email

17 May 2021

Dear Mr Weaver and Ms Lee

HUGGLESCOTE & DONINGTON LE HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EXAMINATION

Having carried out my visit to the Hugglescote & Donington le Heath Neighbourhood Plan (HDNP) Area, I have identified some matters on which clarification from the Hugglescote & Donington le Heath Parish Council and North West Leicestershire District Council would assist me in my examination of the HDNP. May I request the submission of responses to my questions below by **31 May 2021**, although an earlier response would be most welcome.

Status and correct title/date of the adopted Local Plan

Question to North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC)

1. Is the following paragraph accurate?

“The development Plan for this part of NWLDC, excluding policies relating to minerals and waste development, includes the North West Leicestershire Local Plan (NWLLP), initially adopted in November 2017, which set out a strategy for delivering homes, jobs and infrastructure needed in the district between 2011 and 2031. However, Policy S1 of the NWLLP, which considered future housing and economic development needs, included the statement that a review of the plan would commence by the end of January 2018 or within 3 months of its adoption (whichever is the later) and it would be submitted for examination within two years from the commencement of the review. The review of the plan is being undertaken in two parts, a Partial Review and a Substantive Review. The Partial Review, which sought only to amend Policy S1 and its supporting text, has been completed and the North West Leicestershire Local Plan (as amended by the Partial Review) was adopted by the Council on 16 March 2021.”

Limits to Development (LtD)

Question to NWLDC and the Parish Council (PC)

2. I note LtD inaccuracies on Figure 2.1 of the Plan referred to by NWLDC in the Regulation 16 representation. Indeed, one inaccuracy can be identified by the comparison of Figures

2.1 and 2.2. Please could a revised Figure 2.1 be agreed between NWLDC and the Parish Council and submitted showing the accurate Ltd?

Policy H2: Affordable Housing

Question to NWLDC

3. What are the affordable housing eligibility criteria applied by the Housing team of NWLDC?

Policy ENV 1: Local Green Space (LGS)

Questions to the PC (numbers 4-16)

4. What is the area of each of the proposed LGS?
5. What are the landownerships within each LGS and were landowners directly consulted about the proposal?
6. Figures 6 and 7 of the Plan refer to the Donington le Heath Country Park. What is the area of the Country Park and please could a map be submitted delineating it?

Policy ENV 2 Sites of Environmental Significance

7. What is the reasoning behind this policy which combines two distinct topics and which could be separated and covered by Policies ENV 4 and ENV 6?
8. Please could each of the sites of historic significance from Figure 5.1 be numbered and named in a list such as those in Policy ENV 4 and also included in Appendix 7 of the Plan?
9. Similarly, please could each of the sites shown in Figure 5.2 be listed, numbered and named?

Policy ENV 3: Important Open Spaces

10. Given that Policy ENV 1 (LGS) exerts stronger control over development than Policy ENV 3, what is the justification for including Sites 01, 04 and 02 within Policy ENV5?

Policy ENV 4: Local Heritage Assets

11. Should they be more accurately referred to as non-designated heritage assets?
12. On page 36 (paragraph 1) of the Plan, a statement is made that "LCC has identified five other buildings and structures in the built environment of Hugglescote and Donington le Heath that are considered of local significance for architectural, historical or social reasons". Are they included within the list of "Local Heritage Assets" under Policy ENV 4?

13. If they are not included, what is the justification to exclude them? It seems to me that, for the sake of consistency, those which are identified for architectural or historic reasons should be included? Please could they be identified?
14. What is the evidence to justify the inclusion of 01 Smith's Farm and 02 Nos. 12 -16 Holt's Lane as Local Heritage Assets under Policy ENV 4? They do not appear in Appendix 7.
15. Following advice in Historic England Advice Note 7 (paragraphs 33 and 55), have the owners of the proposed non designated assets been consulted about the inclusion of their properties in the Policy ENV 4 list? I appreciate that the Advice Note was published in January 2021, but it is a revision of the 2016 edition in which advice was similar.¹
16. I assume that on page 36 of the Plan, references to "(map Figure 10)" and "Appendix 6", should be "Figure 8" and "Appendix 7". Is that correct?

Question to NWLDC

17. Is NWLDC satisfied that the evidence in Appendix 7 justifies the inclusion of the properties listed in Policy ENV 4 as non designated heritage assets? I would also be grateful for any comments which the District Council might have on questions 11 – 15 above.

Policy ENV 5: Ridge and Furrow

Questions to the PC (numbers 18 and 19)

18. I appreciate that the differences in scale between the relevant features described in Policies ENV 4 and ENV 5 require two maps (Fig 9.2 and Fig 9.3), but is there any reason why the two policies might not be combined into one?
19. Is there any significance in the difference in colour tone between the Donington Fields Recreation Ground and the other locations shown in Figure 9.3?

Policy ENV 6: Biodiversity

Questions to NWLDC (numbers 20-22)

20. Figure 10 shows a delineated inner core and an outer shaded green "fuzzy area". Is the District Council content that this imprecision is adequate for effective development management? If not, should this fuzzy area be deleted from the map?

Policy ENV 7: Important Views

21. Is the District Council content that, given the very broad coverage of the general surrounding countryside from the viewpoints listed in Policy ENV 7, the policy is not effectively strategic and inappropriate for a neighbourhood plan?
22. Does the District Council consider that the views obtained from the viewpoints listed in the Plan and from which photographs were taken and shown in Appendix 9 are adequately defined for effective development management?

¹ View at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7/>

Policy CF 4: Noisy Sports

Question to the PC

23. Which are “noisy sports”? Does the term apply to both participants and spectators?

In the interests of transparency, may I prevail upon you to ensure that a copy of this letter and any respective responses are placed on the Parish Council and Local Authority websites.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Your sincerely

Andy Mead

Examiner