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Your ref: Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan
Our ref: 1100/Neighbourhood Planning/NDP/Sheepy
Date: 11th December 2018

Dear Mr Matheson

Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan Response to email dated 11th December 2018

I am sending this correspondence to respond to matters raised in your email dated 11th December 2018 and comments made by the qualifying body in their response to your initial questions.

The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD (2016) identifies strategic policies contained within the Local Plan (2006-2026). I have appended Appendix 3 of the document to this letter which clearly sets out what is considered to be a strategic policy, this includes Development Management (DM) Policies. Although the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan is being assessed against the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2011), the Borough Council apply the Revised NPPF in determining planning applications and assessing whether the Local Plan is in conflict in anyway. Having looked at the NPPF (2018) in relation to strategic policies the Borough Council are confident that the DM Policies are still in conformity with the definition contained within the revised NPPF. This is because they set out *'an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development'* across the Borough as a whole. As required by the revised NPPF they are set out clearly within the Local Plan. I have discussed the issue further with Development Management colleagues who apply these policies and they are in agreement that these policies are strategic in nature. It is for this reason the Borough Council's Regulation 16 comments include Development Management Policies in Table 5 of the representation in its assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan being in conformity with the Local Plan. We would ask that in light of this you assess the Neighbourhood Plan against these strategic policies.

Having said this, a recent appeal decision (APP/K2420/W/17/3188948) has clarified the position regarding the Borough Council's strategic policies of the Development Plan relating to housing provision. The Inspector concluded *"As a result of the acceptance that the development plan policies are out of date, with the housing requirement being agreed as 471 dwellings per annum (dpa) rather than the 450 dpa established under the Core Strategy...Furthermore, the titled balance as set out in the Framework's presumption in favour of sustainable development also applies."* The figure of 471 dpa is identified within the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Need Assessment (HEDNA) (2017) and is for the period between 2011 and 2031. The Inspector also noted the policies relating to housing delivery are accepted to be out of date as they focussed on a lower housing requirement than now accepted by the Council, but the strategic policies not relating the housing delivery are still considered to be up to date and

should used for the purposes of this examination. This issue leads onto an issue raised by yourself in your email dated 11th December 2018 in relation to Sheepy's housing requirement.

Unfortunately, the Borough Council are unable to provide a housing figure for individual settlements/parishes to include within their neighbourhood plans at this time. This is because the housing requirement for the Borough Council has not been determined for the period 2016-2036. This will be identified using the standard housing methodology (which is still in draft form) in conjunction with the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan which is currently being prepared. The Sheepy Parish Plan was prepared against the old NPPF prior to the inclusion of the reference that neighbourhood planning groups could request an indicative housing figure. I understand guidance in relation to how this is achieved is due to be published shortly.

In terms of the drawing of settlement boundaries, the methodology criteria used by the neighbourhood planning group is different to that which is used by the Borough Council and I have attached the Settlement Boundary Topic Paper which was used as supporting evidence for the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD for information. Settlement boundaries are not identified as strategic within the Local Plan (2006-2016) and it is accepted that Neighbourhood Plans can revise settlement boundaries. We agree with your understanding that as it stands the Neighbourhood Plan does not provide sufficient justification for the revisions. This is something we have advised the group both during the preparation of the plan and through our Borough Council consultation responses.

I hope the above clarifies some of the matters raised during the course of this examination, if you require any further information please do not hesitate in contacting me further.

Yours faithfully

R. Dexter

Rachel Dexter
Senior Planning Officer (Policy)

20 APPENDIX 3

STRATEGIC POLICIES OF THE LOCAL PLAN (2006 – 2026)

- 20.1 Strategic policies of the Local Plan (2006-2026) are defined as wide-ranging, usually with borough-wide implications over the course of the plan period.
- 20.2 A strategic policy relating to a specific site is considered as such if the non-delivery of that site for development would jeopardise the overall and strategic objectives of the local plan.
- 20.3 National policy requires local planning authorities to clearly set out the strategic policies of the Local Plan. This establishes the policies to which Neighbourhood Plans should be in general conformity. Neighbourhood plans should reflect the policies listed in Appendix 3 and should plan positively to support them.
- 20.4 Once a Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan (2006-2026) and is brought into force, the policies take precedence over existing non-strategic policies in the Local Plan for that neighbourhood area, where they are in conflict.
- 20.5 The table below identifies the strategic policies of the Local Plan (2006-2026):

Strategic Policies of the Local Plan (2006-2026)	
Core Strategy (2009)	
CS Policy 1	Development in Hinckley
CS Policy 2	Development in Earl Shilton
CS Policy 3	Development in Barwell
CS Policy 4	Development in Burbage
CS Policy 5	Transport Infrastructure in the Sub-Regional Centre
CS Policy 6	Hinckley/Barwell/Earl Shilton/Burbage Green Wedge
CS Policy 7	Key Rural Centres
CS Policy 8	Key Rural Centres Relating to Leicester
CS Policy 9	Rothley Brook Meadow Green Wedge
CS Policy 10	Key Rural Centres within the National Forest
CS Policy 11	Key Rural Centres Stand Alone
CS Policy 12	Rural Villages
CS Policy 13	Rural Hamlets
CS Policy 14	Rural Areas: Transport
CS Policy 15	Affordable Housing
CS Policy 16	Housing Density, Mix and Design
CS Policy 17	Rural Needs
CS Policy 18	Provision of Sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (this must be read in conjunction with the most up-to date Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment)
CS Policy 19	Green Space and Play Provision

Core Strategy (2009)	
CS Policy 20	Green Infrastructure
CS Policy 21	National Forest
CS Policy 22	Charnwood Forest
CS Policy 23	Tourism Development
CS Policy 24	Sustainable Design and Technology
Site Allocations	
SA Policy 1	Safeguarding Site Allocations
SA Policy 2	Land West of Hinckley, Normandy Way, Hinckley
SA Policy 3	Land at Brookfield Road and Sketchley Brook, Burbage
SA Policy 4	Former Dunlop Factory, Station Road, Bagworth
SA Policy 5	Land South of Station Road and Heath Road, Market Bosworth
Development Management Policies	
DM Policy 1	Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development
DM Policy 2	Delivering Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Development
DM Policy 3	Infrastructure and Delivery
DM Policy 4	Safeguarding the Countryside and Settlement Separation
DM Policy 5	Enabling Rural Worker Accommodation
DM Policy 6	Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest
DM Policy 7	Preventing Pollution and Flooding
DM Policy 8	Safeguarding Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities
DM Policy 9	Safeguarding Natural and Semi-Natural Open Spaces
DM Policy 10	Development and Design
DM Policy 11	Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment
DM Policy 12	Heritage Assets
DM Policy 13	Preserving the Borough's Archaeology
DM Policy 14	Replacement Dwellings in the Rural Area
DM Policy 15	Redundant Rural Buildings
DM Policy 16	Telecommunications
DM Policy 17	Highway Design
DM Policy 18	Vehicle Parking Standards
DM Policy 19	Existing Employment Sites
DM Policy 20	Provision of Employment Sites
DM Policy 21	Locating Sustainable Town Centre Uses
DM Policy 22	Vitalising District, Local and Neighbourhood Centres
DM Policy 23	High Quality Shop Fronts and Advertisements
DM Policy 24	Cultural and Tourism Facilities
DM Policy 25	Community Facilities

Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan	
TCAAP Policy 1	Compulsory Purchase Orders
Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan	
ESBAAP Policy 1	Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUE)
ESBAAP Policy 6	Earl Shilton Urban Extension
ESBAAP Policy 7	Housing in Earl Shilton Urban Extension
ESBAAP Policy 8	Employment in Earl Shilton Urban Extension
Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan	
ESBAAP Policy 12	Barwell Urban Extension
ESBAAP Policy 13	Housing in Barwell Urban Extension
ESBAAP Policy 14	Employment in Barwell Urban Extension