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Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan

Response to the Examiner's Questions from Barkway Parish Council and North Herts Council

November 4th 2024

Question 1

Whilst this question has been directed to the Parish Council, the District Council has a copy of the original application letter from the Parish Councils on its website: [Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan](#) and also attached. Although we have no further written details, the District Council has always worked on the basis that Barkway Parish Council was leading the work on the Neighbourhood Plan and was taking on the role of the Qualifying Body.

Barkway Parish Council have provided minutes of the meetings to approve the Neighbourhood Plan for submission. These are attached.

Minutes of the meeting held by Nuthampstead Parish Meeting to approve the submission of the Neighbourhood Plan – to follow.

Question 2

The Parish Council has provided a spreadsheet which includes the Regulation 14 responses. This is attached.

A spreadsheet which includes the details of '*persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan*' is also attached. Again, this has been provided by the Parish Council.

Barkway Parish Council have confirmed in an email (attached and dated 30 October 2024) that Essex County Council, Reed Parish Council and Hertfordshire County Council were consulted but that only Hertfordshire County Council responded.

Question 3

The District Council confirms that it did not consider the additional three policies constituted material changes to the policies in the pre-submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan and therefore additional consultation. Taking the policies in turn, this is because:

BN H1 : Affordable Housing – the policy did not add any further detail than is already included in the Local Plan;

BN H3 : Sustainable Construction – whilst the policy provided some additional detail, we did not consider it to be necessary to undertake further consultation; and

BN H4 : Design Codes – the preparation of Design Codes was not common place at the time pre-submission consultation in 2020.

Question 4

As part of the SEA Screening, the District Council did screen whether an HRA was required, using a template developed for all neighbourhood plans. This should have been included in the SEA Statement but was omitted in error. A copy of the template is attached.

Documents sent to the Examiner in response to the questions raised

1. Letter from Barkway Parish Council and Nuthampstead Parish Meeting – April 2014
2. Minutes of meeting from Barkway Parish Council – March 2024
3. Responses to Regulation 14 consultation – prepared by Barkway Parish Council (redacted)
4. Regulation 14 consultees – supplied by Barkway Parish Council (detailed contact information withheld)
5. Email from Barkway Parish Council – October 2024
6. Habitat Regulation Assessment – North Herts Council, January 2024

Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Area Designation Application

This application for neighbourhood area designation is submitted to the North Hertfordshire District Council Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

It is submitted on behalf of the following:

- Barkway Parish Council
- Nuthampstead Parish Meeting

A signed statement of support from each parish is provided in Appendix A to the application.

Definition of the area to which the application relates

This application relates to the combined administrative area of the two parishes of:

- Barkway Parish Council
- Nuthampstead Parish Meeting

A map showing the boundary is provided in Appendix B to the application.

Justification for why the area is considered appropriate for designation as a neighbourhood area

The parishes form a logical area for a Neighbourhood Plan with commonalities across the two parishes. Historically, it was one Parish as demonstrated by the fact that, for Ecclesiastical purposes, it still is.

The area is characterized by two villages, Barkway with 334 dwellings and Nuthampstead with only 50. The area shares similar concerns and interests with regard to being located amidst agricultural fields, with the B1368 bisecting Barkway and being the main access road to Nuthampstead.

The preparation of a neighbourhood development plan for the proposed area will enable the efficient preparation of planning policy which will better address the needs and wishes of the local community and will provide a degree of local distinctiveness with respect to how planning decisions are considered.



The Parish Council and Parish Meeting support the preparation of a neighbourhood development plan and are actively working with the community to achieve this. A steering group to drive the plan process has been established and a comprehensive Questionnaire has been designed answerable either online or on hard copy. Barkway is spearheading the application and subsequent preparation of the plan, as it has c.six times as many houses as Nuthampstead.

The legal entitlement to make this application

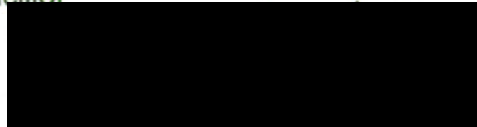
Barkway Parish Council and Nuthampstead Parish Meeting constitute 'relevant bodies' for the purpose of section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The specified area applied for consists of and only includes the combined administrative area of these relevant bodies.

Appendix A:
Statement of Support

We confirm that we support this application for designation of a neighbourhood area.

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Date</u>
Steve Alsop	Chairman: Barkway Parish Council		15.04.2014.

Sonia Falaschi-Ray, Councillor



15.04, 2014

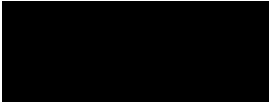


NUTHAMPSTEAD PARISH MEETING

Appendix A:

Statement of support for joining Barkway and Nuthampstead into a Designated Area for a Neighbourhood Plan.

Following consultation with the Residents of Nuthampstead and Barkway, the residents of Nuthampstead request that Nuthampstead should be included in the Designated Area with Barkway for Neighbourhood Plan purposes.



Andrew Grisbrooke, Clerk To the Nuthampstead Parish Meeting

15th April 2014

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CLERK TO THE NUTHAMPSTEAD PARISH MEETING



CHAIRMAN: MR N.ROUT - VICE CHAIRMAN: MR M.CHAPMAN

Appendix B.

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL



Proposed Neighbourhood Plan area for Barkway and Nuthampstead



Scale: 1:50000
Date: 06/03/14

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Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting
Held at the Pavilion, Barkway on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7.30pm.

- 1. Attendance:** Cllrs:
Mr W Dennis (Chair)
Mr P Baker (Vice Chair)
Ms L Fletcher
Mr W Sapsford
Ms J Cox

Also present: Mrs C Toms (Clerk/RFO) and County Cllr. F Hill.

Members of the Public: One other member of the public was present.

2. To receive and accept apologies for absence: Cllr. G Swann (away on business) and Cllr. D Marchant (unwell). Dist. Cllr. G Morris and the Police. Apologies were accepted.

3. To receive Councillor's Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and to remind Councillors of their requirement to update register of interests under change of circumstances – Cllr. Dennis – items 10.5.1 & 10.5.2. Cllr. Cox – item 10.2.2.

4. Minutes

4.1 To approve the minutes of the last meeting - Proposed, seconded and all in favour to approve. Resolved. **Action: Clerk**

4.2 To consider any matters arising from the last meeting – None.

5. Public Session – to receive representations from members of the public – No one wished to speak.

6. To receive report from the Police – No one was present.

7. To receive report from District Councillor – Cllr. Morris had sent in a report in his absence.

Some sort of investigative work had recently been carried out on the BK3 site.

Land west of Ashmill – The North Herts Council (NHC) Planning Control Committee supported the Planning Officer's recommendation to refuse the application to build 6 houses on the site.

Wisbridge Reservoir – Condition 9 of permission granted has been kept but amended. Biodiversity net gain of 10% is now part of planning policy. Which means that as part of a planning application there must be at least a 10% habitat improvement on that which is already there. This is considered to be a good environmental result.

Royston Area Forum Grants recommence in April, with a grant pot of £11,000.

8. To receive report from County Councillor - Cllr. Hill had stepped out of a Bus Workshop Meeting in Royston to briefly attend.

Items on the list to be investigated by Herts County Council (HCC) Highways in the forthcoming financial year included: the broken gully in the High Street, the drain in front of the War Memorial, and the problem of flooding in Gas Lane.

She was working with Cllr. Dennis and the HCC Rights of Way Officer regarding Bridleway 17.

She had been notified of an issue of flooding onto Birch Meadow (BK2) from the field of site BK3. The outcome of a resident's meeting with the Management Company (as Birch Meadow was not a HCC adopted road) was awaited. Riparian Rights were being investigated and the Planning Department at NHC had been contacted.

The Herts Lynx bus service was continuing until 2025, where it was hoped to continue subject to further funding being made available.

County Cllr. Hill was thanked for her report and she then departed from the meeting at 8.15pm.

Standing Orders were resumed.

9. Council Administration

9.1 To agree pledge to sign up for the Armed Forces Covenant – Of the various pledges there were some pledges that could be agreed to - to appoint a champion to lead support (Cllr. Sapsford), to ensure upkeep of the War Memorials (Barkway & Newsells) and to hold an annual Remembrance Day Service. Cllr. Sapsford to give the Covenant further consideration and report back at the April meeting with his recommendations for Council agreement. **Action: WS**

9.2 To agree to assist Nuthampstead Parish Meeting by applying for grant funding to purchase a defibrillator – Nuthampstead village had recently lost their defibrillator due to the recent relocation of the business that had provided the facility. County Cllr. Hill had invited them to apply for a £500 grant from her Locality Budget but for that they needed a bank account, which they didn't have as they received no Precept income. They planned to raise any additional monies needed through donations, so there would be no cost implication involved for Barkway Parish Council.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to apply for a Locality Budget Grant on behalf of Nuthampstead Parish Meeting. Resolved. **Action: Clerk**

9.3 To appoint an Internal Auditor for 2023/24 – It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to appoint Carol Willis as the Internal Auditor for 2023/24. Resolved.

9.4 To review the effectiveness of the Internal Audit – The document had been reviewed by the Clerk and Cllr. Cox. There were no proposed changes. These were the guidelines for the Internal Auditor. Proposed, seconded and agreed by all. Resolved.

9.5 To approve proposal for renewal of Zurich Insurance (including fidelity guarantee) – The renewal premium was £2,456.89 an increase of £145.59 (+ 6.29%) on the previous year. As insurance premiums had risen sharply across the board it was considered to be very reasonable. Fidelity Guarantee cover at £100,000 was considered to be more than adequate. It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to renew the policy. Resolved.

9.6 To approve changeover of Portfolio responsibilities for Highways and Sports & Recreation – Cllr. Sapsford to take over Highways and Cllr. Dennis to take over the responsibility of the Sports and Recreation Portfolio. Agreed.

10. To receive updates from Portfolio Holders

10.1 Corporate Governance – nothing to report.

10.2 Planning

10.2.1 To receive update on matters relating to site BK2 and agree any necessary action – No update.

Cllr. Cox left the meeting.

10.2.2 To consider and make comment on planning application:

Full Planning Permission : erection of one detached 5-bed dwelling, garage and associated parking, access and amenity land.

Langham, Church Lane, Barkway, Hertfordshire, SG8 8EJ – case Ref No: 24/00386/FP – After consideration of the application, it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that there was no objection to the application. Resolved. Action: Clerk to respond to NHC.

Cllr. Cox re-joined the meeting.

10.2.3 To consider and make comment on Section 73 Application: Rewording of Condition 9 (Excess imported Material) imposed on planning application reference 22/00910/FP granted on 17/10/2022 to:

The reservoir shall be constructed from material already on site in accordance with the approved plans. No excess imported material not required in connection with the development material shall be removed from the site without full details of a disposal/reprofiling plan being submitted to and thereafter approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such details shall include a timetable for implementation for the proposed works. Such works shall thereafter be carried out in complete accordance with the approved details or particulars and in accordance with the agreed timescale unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that any excess material imported onto the site is removed or dispersed appropriately following the completion of the development, in the interest of visual amenity.

Amended description only. Land Between Bush Wood and Rokey Wood, High Street, Reed, Hertfordshire. Case Ref No: 23/02887/S73 – The Clerk read out a detailed response of strong objection already submitted to NHC by Reed Parish Council. It was proposed, seconded and agreed (Cllr. Sapsford abstained from voting as he had little knowledge of the application) to respond to NHC fully endorsing the objection submitted by Reed Parish Council. Resolved. Action: Clerk to respond to NHC.

10.2.4 To receive update on decision of Planning Control Committee on land East of Ashmill Poultry Farm – (see item. 7)

10.2.5 To approve the BNNP Reg. 15 VERSION 05.02.24 of the Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for submission to North Herts Council subject to any minor wording amendments requested by the Steering Group or Parish Councillors at the Parish Council Meeting, in agreement with the Chair – The revised document had been circulated and thanks given to Cllr. Fletcher for her work proof-reading. It was agreed with the proposed amendment of Local Green Space (L4) to remove Manor Farm paddock, leaving just the area of the Carriage Wash and adjoining grass verge. After discussion other amendments agreed to be necessary were: removal of the word ‘proposed’ when referring to a Community Hub, to include a map of site BK3 clearly delineating the HCC Reserved School site and to strengthen the wording about the necessary upgrading of the Barkway Sewerage Treatment Plant and the associated condition imposed by NHC in the outline planning permission granted for site BK3. Nuthampstead Parish Meeting were due to meet on 20th March, which could result in further amendments to the draft BNNP.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to approve the current draft, subject to the above amendments being made. The Clerk to contact Ms. Veater. Action: Clerk

10.3 Highways – to receive update on progress being made to address the problem of traffic speeding in the village – Cllr. Dennis had met with PC Tom Wollard and PCSO Chris Brabrook who had visited the village. They had discussed the speeding problem and how to restart the Drivesafe campaign. Attempts so far to re-start

Drivesafe had failed due to 2 of the 3 proposed sites apparently not meeting the criteria. A useful point that had come out of the meeting was that previous anti-speeding campaigns would have had their monitoring locations approved. They would try and obtain a copy of that document from their files and this could be used when re-applying to the Police and Crime Commissioners Office. It was noted that there was continued pressure from Parishioners being put upon the Parish Council to address the traffic speeding problem.

10.4 Sports and Recreation

10.4.1 To receive update on project to upgrade the play area equipment – Cllr. Baker had requested a separate quotation from Playground Facilities for a slide for the multi-play equipment. They would also be asked to provide quotations for a re-planned adventure trail and a set of junior swings. He offered his apologies for the April meeting. He would update the Council by email ahead of the meeting. **Action: PB**

10.4.2 Update on football activities – The pitches were currently very wet and games were likely to be cancelled for the forthcoming weekend. Pitch inspections were always carried out ahead of any games.

The Clerk had emailed Royston United about their request to hold a tournament in August and Parish Council approval being subject to the requirement for them to submit an event management plan to the Parish Council well in advance of the event. No response had been received.

Cllr. Baker took over to Chair the meeting.

10.5 Community Property

10.5.1 To receive update from Working Party looking at updating the Constitution of the Reading Room – Cllrs. Baker and Fletcher had met with some key members of the Barkway Local History Group (BLHG) to discuss upgrade of the Reading Room. It had been a constructive meeting and it was left with them considering the updated proposals, including additional lighting and partitioning. They would then come back with any suggested modifications. If the project was likely to come in under budget then quotations would be sought. Work would include stripping out of the room, redecorating and re-fitting.

10.5.2 To receive update on progression of plans to improve accessibility to the Reading Room – The Clerk to contact the Architect to see if any progress had been made on the plans to improve accessibility. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr. Dennis resumed as Chair.

10.6 Environment – to receive update on progress with Carriage wash project – nothing much to report as attention had been diverted to sorting out the Reading Room. Cllr. Dennis informed the council that the BLHG were keen to support the campaign to restore the Carriage Wash and information could be put on their website, which enjoyed a substantial number of hits.

It was agreed that a campaign would need to be launched, commencing with the agreed £10,000 being transferred by the Parish Council into the spare bank account in April. **Action: Clerk**

10.7 Media and Communications

10.7.1 To receive update regarding the new website – It was agreed to seek help with the ongoing maintenance of the new website and the creation of a dedicated page for the BNNP. **Action: Clerk**

10.7.2 To discuss and agree content for the Spring edition of the Bulletin – After discussion the following topics were agreed for inclusion and Cllrs. to submit wording to Cllr. Cox:

Reading Room (LF/PB)
Bridleway 17 (WD)
Carriage Wash media coverage (WD)
New Telephone Systems (DM)
Armed Services Covenant (WS)
Play Equipment (PB)
Neighbourhood Plan (Clerk)

11. To receive finance reports from the Clerk

11.1 To provide update on current financial position

Parish Council Account:

The Parish Council bank balance at 12.03.2024 was £51,622.76
Petty Cash £9.28

Receipts since the last meeting:

CR £240.00 – Buntingford Cougars – Hire of Football Pitches
CR £6,393.44 – HMRC – VAT Reclaim
CR£207.89 – Barclays Bank - Interest

11.2 To authorise payments to be made

Approval of payments since last meeting:

DD £123.00 – EDF Energy – Electricity Pavilion
DD £22.48 – Castle Water – Water Pavilion
DD £87.14 – Nest – Pension Contributions
DD £9.60 – Sage – Payroll
DD £53.94 – BT – Broadband
DD £1,448.71 – NHC - Annual Dog Bin Emptying
DC £15.59 – Software Subscription - Zoom

Approval of payments to be made at meeting:

By bank transfer

BP £1214.97 - Catharine Toms – Clerk's Monthly Salary
BP £33.75 - Orla Swann – Litter Picking Jan
BP £15.00 - Annie McPherson – Litter Picking Jan
BP £2,456.89 – Zurich Municipal – Annual Insurance Renewal
BP £440.00 - Tim Drake – Line Marking Feb
BP £268.80 - Deluxe Perfect Cleaning Ltd – Cleaning at Pavilion Feb
BP £157.50 – R Bonfield – Maintenance Pavilion & Rec. Feb
BP £84.00 – Playground Facilities Ltd – Quarterly Inspection
BP £394.00 – A Dodkin – Maintenance
BP £150.00 – The Diary – Annual Advertising for Pavilion
BP £751.17 – The Printed Page – Printing for Neighbourhood Plan & Welcome Pack

Reading Room Accounts:

Bank Balance at 12.03.2024 was £20,140.05

Receipts since last meeting:

CR £34.90 – COIF – Interest
CR £41.54 – Barclays – Interest

Payments since last meeting:

DD £84.57 – British Gas – Electricity

12. Correspondence – Nothing not already covered elsewhere.

13. Items to be deferred to the next meeting – Play Equipment repairs/replacements, Carriage Wash project and ring-fenced Restoration Fund, Audit of Seats and Benches, Reading Room Constitution, Open Space tidying, shipping container for storage, Armed Services Covenant, Barkway Bulletin, Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan, Drivesafe.

14. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 9th April 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.53pm

Policy No.	Policy Name	Para/ Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Res Id	Consult Id	Completed Action
N/A	N/A	16	<p>Housing Needs Survey - The Housing Needs Survey which has been undertaken to support the neighbourhood plan has concluded that there is a need for smaller residential units in the parish and that there may be some interest in community led or self-build schemes to help address the need for affordable housing. However, these conclusions do not appear to have been addressed in the neighbourhood plan policies. Should the neighbourhood plan include policies which would support and encourage the provision of smaller residential units or self build schemes in the parish?</p> <p>The housing needs survey also identified a need for sheltered/adapted and bungalow accommodation. In terms of affordable housing the highest priority was for 2 bedroomed homes, followed by one bedroom homes and a couple of 3 bedroomed homes. When assessing any planning applications for Barkway, the Strategic Housing Team will consider the evidence in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Housing Needs Survey and advise the Planning Officer what affordable housing is required to meet identified housing needs.</p>	Policy change	<p>Make new policy for Affordable Homes in accordance with the Housing Needs assessment to include the need for smaller residential units, sheltered accommodation & affordable homes and add to 3.2.1</p>		NHDC	✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	18	<p>B) The plan states that 'good modern design outside the Conservation Area will be acceptable'. I wonder if this sentence could limit some good contemporary architecture being utilised in the Conservation Area? There are many good practice guides on the incorporation of contemporary design in historic settings by the likes of SPAB, Historic England etc.</p> <p>D) Current good practice guidance/conservation philosophy suggests in some circumstances it is necessary to differentiate between a new intervention and an historic structure (as per SPAB guidance), I wonder if this could be change to say is 'complementary' rather than blends?</p> <p>M) This is quite specific, I wonder if instead something like 'we would encourage the incorporation of best practice fire suppressant technologies' etc. I just think that these things have a habit of changing quite quickly and by being more generic it may future proof the Plan to some extent? The same for points N and O</p>	Policy change	<p>Policy BN H1 : b) remove apparent restriction on modern design within the conservation area d) amend to say complementary to instead of blends in with m) amend to say 'we would encourage the incorporation of best practice fire suppressant technologies' amend n) and o) to be more generic as per m)</p>	BNNP 06		✓
BN H1	N/A	18	<p>Policies BN H1, BN H2, BN H3 - These three policies are all aimed at influencing the design of new development within the Parish. However, Policy BN H1 with 20 criteria is unwieldy, covering a variety of issues. As written, all of the criteria need to be met, regardless of the scale of the development proposal, does this include developments for single dwellings? Consideration should be given to revising these policies into a number of more focused policies, for example: Design and layout of development (which might include Policy BN H1 a; b; c; d, Policies BN H2, BN H3 and BN H8); Landscape; Sustainable construction; Heritage</p> <p>Looking in more detail at the criteria: Within the policy as it is written, there are references to Lifetime Homes, energy standards and conservation, criteria (k) and (n). These references should be reviewed as in March 2015 the government published the optional technical housing standards for new housing which rationalised the different standards into a more streamlined system and withdrew the Code for Sustainable Homes. The accompanying Written Ministerial Statement states: local planning authorities and qualifying bodies preparing neighbourhood plans should not set in their emerging Local Plans, neighbourhood plans, or supplementary planning documents, any additional local technical standards or requirements relating to the construction, internal layout or performance of new dwellings. This includes any policy requiring any level of the Code for Sustainable Homes to be achieved by new development; the government has now withdrawn the code, aside from the management of legacy cases. Whilst the relevant amendments have not been enacted to date, the recent consultation document, Future Homes Standard includes options on whether to commence those amendments. If enacted this would stop any measures being set through planning policies.</p> <p>Criterion (l) is likely to have cost implications and in some cases the technology is still being tested/perfected. This will be difficult to achieve through S106 obligations as the affordable housing should be delivered through planning gain alone and additional investment would be needed. It is difficult to insist on building standards (over and above those required for planning permission) such as these.</p> <p>Criteria (s) and (t). These criteria should be deleted from the policy as the SHMA and the local Housing Needs Survey are taken into account when considering a development proposal and the provisions included in (t) are expected in all developments where affordable housing is provided.</p>	Policy change	<p>Design Policy section substantially re-written.</p>		NHDC	✓

BN H2	Layout of New Development	19	The pattern of development, or "urban grain" in Barkway tends to feature houses in rows at the back of the footway. Does criterion (a) in Policy BN H2 mean that development in the parish should not be in straight lines?	Policy change	Remove criterion a) in BN H2 Layout may be included in the Design Code		NHDC	✓
BN H3	Bin Storage	19	Should the requirement for bin storage set out in Policy BN H3 also include cycle storage?	Policy change	Delete H3 include bins and recycling in H1 (Environment) add cycle storage in same section. This may be included in the Design Code		NHDC	✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	19	Item t) I suggest "The exterior of Affordable Homes must be indistinguishable from market homes and built to the same standards. Affordable Homes must be integrated into and distributed throughout the site. Do the terms "Affordable Homes" and "Market Homes" have specific meanings?	Policy change	Policy re-written	BNNP 22		✓
BN H2	Layout of New Development	19	C: The Plan suggests that walls might not be in-keeping, however, when you look in detail at the village they are actually quite a recurring and defining feature, I wonder if walls could be taken out of this policy?	Policy change	Walls removed	BNNP 06		✓
BN H4	N/A	20	Policy BN H4 and BN H5 - As the Parish Council will be aware, resumed hearing sessions on the NHDC Local Plan are due to start on Monday 23rd November for three weeks. These scheduled sessions include several matters of relevance to the Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan, including in relation to the site BK3 and the proposed Villages for Growth designation. Any Regulation 16 consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan will not take place until these hearings have concluded and may not take place until the Inspector has issued some form of findings or his final report. The Neighbourhood Plan should appropriately reflect any outcomes from these hearings, and the (likely) content of the Local Plan at the point of any future consultation, to ensure there is no conflict with its strategic policies. Any conflict between the strategic policies of the Local Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan should be addressed and justified in the Basic Conditions Statement. The present Basic Conditions Statement lists the draft policy as compatible with the emerging Local Plan, which is inaccurate. To some extent the criteria set out in Policy BN H5 duplicate the provisions included in Policy BK3 in the emerging Local Plan and perhaps should be reviewed to ensure that there is no duplication. In terms of criterion (e), is it the intention that green roofs should be incorporated into all of the development as this will have a significant impact on the design of any scheme?	Policy change	Polic H5 re-written. Policy H4 deleted. Text updated		NHDC	✓
BN H6	Infill Development	21	Policy SP2 in the emerging Local Plan sets out the types of development which can take place in "category C" villages, that is limited affordable housing and facilities for local community needs. This criterion states that development must comply with the strategic policy and should therefore be deleted as it duplicates the policies in the emerging Local Plan.	Policy change	There is no detail in NHDC Policy SP2. Criterion d) has been deleted.		NHDC	✓
BN H7	Building Extensions	21	The policy broadly repeats Policy D2 – House extensions, replacement dwellings and outbuildings in the emerging Local Plan and should be deleted from the neighbourhood plan. If the policy is retained and amended, the policy title should also be amended to include outbuildings and garages.	Policy change	Policy amended to reference NHLP Policy D2 and some additional criteria		NHDC	✓
BN H6	Infill Development	21	I would be concerned that as this policy is currently worded it could encourage building in gardens. Barkway has quite a unique morphology with large gardens and fields attached to houses on a linear High Street which is probably due to the legacy of the Coaching Inn period. I wonder if this policy could be tweaked to focus more on brownfield sites and supporting development that retains/references the unique layout of the village?	Policy change	Add into a) 'large gardens' and into c) 'village layout.	BNNP 06		✓
BN H6	Infill Development	21	Concern that as worded the policy encourages building in gardens which would serve to further damage the linear layout along the High Street of Barkway.	Policy change	See reply to BNNP06	BNNP 13		✓
BN H7	Building Extensions	22	B) The Plan states that 'Materials used are similar to those of the existing house'. Again, current conservation philosophy supports good quality modern interventions in historic settings, there are many guidance notes on this from Historic England and SPAB etc. I wonder if perhaps this could be tweaked to say 'Materials used are complementary to those of the existing house'	Policy change	Policy BN H7: Change b) to say 'Materials used are complementary to...,	BNNP 06		✓
BN NE1	Local Green Spaces	30	Include the 1.5 acre of woodland enclosing Footpath 14 from the High Street to open fields – known as 3 Roop Lane.	Policy change	Added as a new LGS	BNNP 16		✓
BN NE2	River Quin Protection	30	We believe that the tributaries of the River Quin should also be specified in the policy wording. Any adverse activity on a tributary is likely to have a direct effect downstream on the River Quin. Two significant tributaries of the Quin run through the Parish, over land around Nuthampstead. (see attached geology map of the Report area showing the alluvial deposits in pale brown of the River Quin to the west and also its tributaries to the east)	Policy change	BN NE2 now includes tributaries of the Quin	BNNP 08		✓

BN NE1	Local Green Spaces	30	Suggestion for addition : Wheatsheaf Meadow Garden	Policy change	Added as a new LGS	BNNP 10		✓
BN NE2	N/A	30	<p>We strongly suggest that commercial activities with the potential to seriously pollute water courses in the event of an uncontrolled incident should not be supported. This is also related to Policy BN NE2, the protection of the River Quin.</p> <p>Visual pollution should be minimised. The use and maintenance of natural vegetation as screening should be strongly encouraged for any commercial development that does not fit in sympathetically with the immediate surroundings. There should be no development or construction, including masts and chimneys, at a level above the average level of surrounding houses.</p> <p>Agricultural facilities may need to be included under some sections of the Policy. For example, it seems unreasonable to establish a new silage heap or set up a grain processing facility in close proximity to housing. To enhance the environment and wellbeing of the community, any expansion of an existing industrial operation should be accompanied by a reduction in emissions and the adoption of a 'best practise' approach to emission control and waste management should be encouraged.</p> <p>All signage should be minimal, low level, discreet and in keeping with the surrounding area. Signage should be limited to one per entrance, any additional signage being set back inside the relevant area.</p> <p>Commercial operations that are likely to significantly increase the volume of HGVs through Barkway and Nuthampstead should not be supported. This was a concern to 86% of respondents in the recent survey in Barkway. (Section 3.10.5)</p> <p>We propose an annual summary report on their environmental and social impacts, both positive and negative, be made to the community by larger enterprises and any landowners of multi-use industrial areas.</p> <p>We suggest that a two-way conduit for information between stakeholders is encouraged with a member of the Parish Council acting as a liaison officer and who would facilitate periodic reporting on commercial activities in the Parish.</p> <p>We feel that the proposals above would help in some way to emphasise the position of the community as expressed in Para 1.4 regarding the protection and enhancement of the environment along with environmental and social impacts, adding necessary focus on commercial activities which is currently unclear in the Plan.</p> <p>Potential commercial operators would benefit from understanding the position of the local community enabling them to better establish their social licence to operate and as a result, be better placed to provide sustainable employment.</p>	Policy change	<i>Extra para added into policy BN E1 to cover some oemissions control and potential of pollution to the River Quin.</i>	BNNP 08		✓
BN NE3	Conserve and Enhance Biodiversity	32	<p>It would be helpful if the local wildlife sites in the policy were referenced in accordance with the map include in the neighbourhood plan as Appendix F. It is not clear which description matches each reference number. The emerging Local Plan includes a policy for biodiversity and geological sites which sets out a range of restrictive criteria which should be taken into account when considering development proposals. The wording in the draft neighbourhood plan should be reviewed to ensure that there is no conflict. The wording in criterion a) states "Does not impact" – on reading the policy it is assumed that this is a negative impact rather than a positive impact but it is not clear and should be amended.</p> <p>Criterion b) – should "habitat" be plural?</p>	Policy change	BN NE3 - change a) to clarify that this means no negative impact and change b) to say habitats Change Appendix F to clearly show each of the sites listed in this policy		NHDC	✓
BN NE5	Chestnut Avenue Protection	46	<p>A policy in a neighbourhood plan cannot require the local planning authority to serve a tree preservation order. The wording of the policy could be reviewed to ensure that any development does not have a negative impact on this group of trees.</p>	Policy change	Policy BN NE5 - last sentence should be changed to say 'Any development must not have a negative impact on this group of trees.'		NHDC	✓
BN NE4	Priority Views	46	<p>Suggestions for additions :</p> <p>1.View from the Joint , near the mast northwards towards Cambridgeshire</p> <p>2.View from Earls Wood westward towards the village.</p> <p>3.View from Footpath No 8 and the Buckland Road eastwards towards the village</p>	Policy change	Views reviewed and maps updated	BNNP 10		✓
BN HA2	Non-designated Heritage Assets	53	<p>Policy BN HA2 includes a list of historic structures which have been identified as non-designated heritage assets. Heritage assets include archaeological remains and historic landscapes, as well as historic buildings so it is important that it is clear that the policy will help to conserve all heritage assets and not just those specifically mentioned. Consultation of the Hertfordshire historic environment record will allow the Plan to be aware of all the non-designated heritage assets which have currently been identified in the parishes. Nevertheless it is encouraging that this policy makes an effort to be locally distinctive.</p>	Policy change	HA2 expanded and listed buildings deleted from policy		HCC	✓

BN HA2	Non-designated Heritage Assets	53	<p>There is a thread in the Plan which seems to assume that non-designated heritage assets refer to structures. For example a conservation area statement is repeatedly referred to. This is not true, they can include below ground archaeological remains as well as historic gardens and landscapes. The latter is noted amongst the reasons for retaining some Priority Views in Policy BN NE4 and should have a wider application in the plan.</p> <p>The Plan has not consulted the historic environment record, which is a requirement of the NPPF. It therefore does not have access to the full range of non-designated heritage assets which have so far been identified in the parishes.</p> <p>The Plan does not include any provision for heritage assets that have not yet been identified or provide for this to happen.</p>	Policy change	Historic environment record consulted to get a full range of non-designated heritage assets and add to policy HA2. Include a reference to the historic environment record in appendix D. Wording updated.		HCC	✓
BN HA2	Non-designated Heritage Assets	53	<p>Stallibrass Almshouses Ex Inn The Chaise and Pair, No. 1 High Street</p>	Policy change	Included in policy	BNNP 16		✓
BN L1	N/A	55	<p>Policies BN L1 & BN L2 - The District Council acknowledges that there are a number of facilities within the villages which are valued by the community and that these should be retained where they are viable. However, the policies as drafted duplicate the provisions of Policy HC1: Community Facilities in the emerging Local Plan and should be deleted.</p>	Policy change	Additional wording added to demonstrate local circumstances		NHDC	✓
BN L3	Development of a Community Hub	56	<p>The District Council welcomes the idea for the development of a community hub to serve Barkway and Nuthampstead. However, as written the policy seems to indicate that this would be acceptable only if existing facilities are used, is this the intention? The criteria set out in the policy set out what such a facility could be used for and as such are not planning issues and should be deleted from the policy.</p>	Policy change	Policy BN L3 - change 1st sentence to say ...potentially use existing facilities and remove the list of what the facility could be used for (the supporting text covers this)		NHDC	✓
BN L1	Valued Community Assets	56	<p>I don't think individual named businesses should be listed as Valued Community Assets.</p> <p>a) Walsh's Garage, Barkway dog training centre, The Woodman Inn and Barkway Service station are businesses which may thrive, move, fail or simply come to a natural conclusion. I don't think the Parish Plan should require their presence for the next ten years. To take a hypothetical example, if Brian decides he's had enough of fixing cars and wants to sell up and retire to the coast, are we really saying that the next person to buy his land must run a repair garage and call it "Walsh's Garage"? Why? What's the benefit to the village? Or is the desire that there must be a business of some kind at that location? And, if so why? What if the next owner wants to use the plot to run a bike repair shop, is that OK? Should the Parish Plan stop that?</p> <p>b) I understand the value of a pub in the village, but it doesn't have to be the Tally Ho or the Woodman in, does it? And the pub doesn't have to be located where it currently is, does it? Isn't the desire of the Plan, that there should be a Public House with each of the village boundaries? If so, then isn't that what the plan should state?</p>	Policy change	Policy re-written	BNNP 22		✓

BN L1	Valued Community Assets	<p>56</p> <p>It is not something used by the local community nor a commercial business open to the public; It is in the middle of a working farm, privately owned and has no public access via road or footpath, all access gates from the road are kept locked outside of working hours and has clear signage stating that it is a working farm and active airstrip with no unauthorised access. It is used by only a handful of small light aircraft mostly over the summer months via a rental agreement and they in turn grant access to allow the model aircraft club (not based on the airstrip but some land adjacent to the shooting ground) to fly over the strip when not in use. Both have substantial public liability insurance; strict health and safety procedures; authorised access to specific persons and guidelines in place due to the high-risk activities carried out there and would not welcome additional foot traffic which would increase the potential of significant harm. By highlighting the area in the plan as a community asset, it implies that it is an area openly accessible to the public which we have been working hard to discourage. During this lockdown period, unauthorised access/trespass has caused us as landowners some significant problems resulting in the need to call the police for one incident.</p> <p>It was stated (3.8.1) that the parishes of Barkway and Nuthampstead have a low crime rate in general and the main areas for concern were fly tipping and hare coursing; by having this large open space highlighted, there is a potential to provide information of an open site for coursing which at the moment we do not have a huge problem with which concerns us enormously.</p> <p>At no point were we as landowners consulted before the plan went into draft: referring to government guidance on open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space, it states that although land does not need to be in public ownership, “the local planning authority (in the case of local plan making) or the qualifying body (in the case of neighbourhood plan making) should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their lands as Local Green Space)</p> <p>The persons responsible for selecting and bringing the airstrip site to the draft plan have totally disregarded this advice, furthermore, the guidance also advises that “Designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with landowners, whose legal rights must be respected.” In this instance we believe that by including the airstrip on the neighbourhood plan there is a strong chance of the site being misinterpreted by the observer to assume that it is a community resource and as such should be removed to ensure that this cannot happen.</p> <p>In the minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting Held in the Community Room, Barkway on Tuesday 8th October 2019 7.3, it was commented that Nuthampstead and Newsells Stud needed better representation within the Plan. One would wonder if this site was included to increase this representation and made to fit a category rather than</p>	Policy change	Policy BN L1 amended to remove airstrip as it is not open to the public.	BNNP 23	✓
BN L1	Valued Community Assets	<p>56</p> <p>We are also extremely concerned regarding the airstrip being included and highlighted on the plan as a leisure facility valued by the community, again all other sites listed in this category are commercial businesses open to the public whereas the airstrip is a private facility on private land with no public access. It is not something used by the local community nor would they be able to lay claim as to improving the facilities due to it being part of a privately owned working farm. By including it in this category, the potential for misinterpretation which implies the airstrip as a public facility is high as opposed to the reality of it actually being a private airstrip with no public access via footpath or road unless authorised by the landlord. The risk assessment and responsibility of us as landowners is again a grave concern due to the high risk associated with the activities carried out here; not only the aviation risk which carries significant risk to life, but also that of a working farm; We have to fulfil specific criteria to enable safe use and restrict access to ensure safety to minimise what is a potential risk to life. By including and highlighting this private strip of land within the plan, we feel it will lead to members of the public being misled into the belief that it is an accessible facility to them. We would pose the same question as we did for our lake as liability is a real issue and if we have taken all reasonable measures to ensure our obligations are met by ensuring a strict private access policy; would the parish council therefore consider a written confirmation that they will take on any legal liability responsibility to any incidents which may occur as a result of having the location highlighted on their plan?</p> <p>It was pointed out at the village meeting by a member of our family that it was private land with no public access, we have had no consultation regarding the inclusion to the plan or asked our view on it. As it is not a facility used by the local community, we request this area to be removed from the plan to ensure no misinterpretation can be made as to the function of the site and thus ensure we can comply with our legal obligations of a duty to care within our health and safety responsibilities.</p>	Policy change	Policy BN L1 amended to remove airstrip as it is not open to the public.	BNNP 24	✓

BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	3.5.14/57	<p>The extent of the cricket ground needs to be defined accurately on Map inset 2. As this clause leads to the policy BN L4 Protected Recreational Open space the description at 3.5.14 needs to be amended to reflect the basis of occupation of the ground and the lack of open access. It should include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •That it is a privately owned cricket ground which is rented by Cokenach Cricket Club under a commercial lease solely for the use as a cricket club and for the playing of cricket by their members, visiting teams and their supporters. •The ground is not used or available for the wider community and is restricted to the Cricket Club and their invited visitors •The land is not open for recreational use by anyone, it is not open to the public and there are no public rights of way on the site •The owners were not approached directly or consulted on regarding inclusion in advance. It is not expected to be available for open public use after the plan is published <p>Any amenity, accessibility, community value or setting must be in context of its purpose and recognise that this is not public land. The clause needs to make it explicit that the designation as Recreational Open Space does not give any rights of access, community or other use. Whilst we recognise the site may have particular importance to the village as a cricket ground the wording of the policy lacks clarity and gives the misperception that it is an</p>	Policy change	Change Policy BN L4, second para, b) replace 'residents' with 'users'. Add to para 3.5.14 "		CL	✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	57	Remove R5 - Barkway Stud	Policy change	Policy BN L4 - remove R5	BNNP 01		✓
BN L1	Valued Community Assets	57	<p>We also request for the airstrip to be removed. This is not a community asset and should not be categorised as a leisure facility valued by the community as this is in the middle of a working farm which is privately owned and has no public access via road or footpath. A private working farm is not a place for the general public to be able to freely wander around and is not safe to do so with machinery in regular use and light aircrafts in use on the airstrip. The airstrip is used by just a small number of light aircrafts through a rental agreement who have strict health and safety procedures to adhere to and would not welcome any additional foot traffic with the potential of significant harm.</p> <p>Again, we as landowners have at no point been consulted before this plan went to draft. It is stated that the local planning authority or the qualifying body should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any of their lands as Local Green Space. The airstrip cannot be considered as a valued community asset</p>	Policy change	Policy BN L1 amended to remove airstrip as it is not open to the public.	BNNP 25		✓
BN E1	Preserving and Developing Local Employment Opportunities	58	The 2nd and 3rd sentences in the policy are largely descriptive and should be taken out of the policy but incorporated into the supporting text. Examples of types of development which might be supported are described in the final sentence. However, would a large extension to a business premises be acceptable?	Policy change	Last two sentences removed		NHDC	✓
BN E2	Superfast Broadband	58	Could the policy be amended to support the provision of facilities to support broadband coverage would be supported? There is an example of a policy like this in the recently "made" Preston Parish Neighbourhood Plan.	Policy change	Policy BN E2 - change to similar wording for Preston NP		NHDC	✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	<p>The objective of Policy BN L4 to develop, preserve and maintain community facilities is welcomed. However, the policy emphasis of Policy BN L4 on the 'open space' aspect and the inclusion of the shooting ground therein, is concerning. The reference to open space implies some form of public access, which of course raises potential safety issues</p> <p>The shooting ground is evidently an important local facility which provides employment to several local people and shares vital economic links with other local businesses, including the local gunsmith and village pub. The business is better defined as a leisure and/or recreational facility. While Policy BN L4 does fit appropriately with a number of the sites listed, for example the recreation or cricket grounds, in terms of the shooting ground, it is leisure/ recreational offering that we understand the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to retain, as set out in paragraph 3.5.16.</p> <p>We therefore request that the policy is reviewed to differentiate between areas protected to preserve/improve the provision, quality and accessibility of the open space, and those leisure/ recreational facilities which the</p>	Policy change	The areas listed in policy BN L4 reduced to R1, R2, and R3		NSG	✓

BN E1	Preserving and Developing Local Employment Opportunities	58	In third sentence, remove the words "Barkway Stud,"	Policy change	Policy BN E1 - remove reference to Barkway Stud	BNNP 01		✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	With regard the sites listed as important to the local community. I agree with protecting recreational open space, however I don't understand why the Nuthampstead fishing pond is listed as public open space as it is on private land with private access. I would suggest that this is removed as a listed protected space to ensure credibility for the other spaces listed.	Policy change	Policy BN L4: Remove R9 - Nuthampstead fishing pond from the list as it isn't used by the general public. Map amended.	BNNP 03		✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	<p>The area referred to as the Nuthampstead fishing pond should be removed from the neighbourhood plan document as the description is both misleading and meets only minimal criteria to be selected as a potential site: "A site that is so defined must meet the criteria specified in the NPPF by being: a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves; b) demonstrably special to a local community and holding a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and c) local in character and not an extensive tract of land.." The Lake site can only be said to meet only one of the 'detailed' criteria and this is rather tenuous due to the lack of public accessibility. Indeed, on two occasions, notes from the NP SG meeting 24th July 2019 (3a1) and 21st August 2019 (2c) had noted that it probably needed to be removed from the LGs. We would also like to point out that the locking of the lake gate was not a new development but a delayed replacement nor was it done as a result of poaching so do not understand why this was stated; we have not once been consulted about the proposed inclusion of the site. The main access gates onto the airfield are also kept locked outside of working hours and always has been, there are also signs clearly stating working farm and active airstrip with no unauthorised access.</p> <p>Quoting and responding to each criterion from the draft plan we can address the misinterpretation by the persons selecting this as a potential site and thus demonstrate the requirement for it to be removed as a recreational area on the village plan:</p> <p>To assess each site a detailed set of criteria was used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beauty - Does the site stand out as being particularly beautiful or tranquil? We would agree with this statement however it is not able to be seen from any public access site and therefore only applies to the people given permission to use the site whom the overwhelming majority are not from the local community and strictly by permission of the land owner. Both the public footpath and road access to the airfield open to the public are too far for the enclosed lake to be seen and therefore cannot be enjoyed without trespassing. • Intrinsic local character - Is the site particularly special to the local community or used for community events? We do not agree with the lake meeting this criteria as it cannot be classed as particularly special to the local community; it has never been used for local community events and was dug as part of a farm diversification project to support the income of a small mixed family farm; as such it was rented out privately to a large company for its employees to use as part of their social club activities and was never used for the local community as a facility. On the cessation of that agreement it has again been let to a private syndicate who are also not from the local community. As part of the agreement us as the landowners have minimal rods to use at our discretion by strict permission and adhering to comprehensive health and safety restrictions. 	Policy change	Nuthampstead fishing pond is removed as a recreational open space and map amended	BNNP 23		✓

BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	<p>We are exceedingly concerned that the categorisation of the lake under Leisure as a recreational open space (important to the local community) as it implies a public amenity as opposed to a private lake within our farm which has no public access and is purely on private land accessed with permission only. It is a manmade feature and has no historical relevance to the area. It is surrounded by tall hedging and therefore cannot be seen from any public access. All the other spaces listed in this category are commercial/public use amenities which further identifies/implies our lake to be a public amenity. Our main concern is the potential for trespass and in turn the risk of significant harm; there is a strict policy in place for health and safety reasons as it is deemed to be high risk; in particular risk of death by drowning which both the health and safety executive and our insurers for public liabilities have strict guidelines to which we must adhere to; particularly around people accessing the site. By allowing this to show on the plan, we are gravely concerned that it will mislead the public to considering it to be a public facility. Liability is a real issue and if we have taken all reasonable measures to ensure our obligations are met by ensuring a strict private access policy; would the parish council therefore consider a written confirmation that they will take on any legal liability responsibility to any incidents which may occur as a result of having the location highlighted on their plan?</p> <p>The fact that the lake is neither a public amenity or accessible to the public, was pointed out at the village meeting by a member of our family and we have not had any other consultation regarding the use or our view, so we were surprised to see it included on the plan, particularly as it would not be considered as a developmental option purely by its nature.</p> <p>We request this area to be removed from the plan to ensure no misinterpretation can be made as to the function of the site and thus ensure we can comply with our legal obligations of a duty to care within our health and safety responsibilities.</p>	Policy change	Nuthampstead fishing pond is removed as a recreational open space and map amended	BNNP 24		✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	<p>We request for the area of the fishing lake to be removed from the plan as this is not a recreational open space, it is our own private lake on private farmland which has no public access. We have a strict policy in place for health and safety reasons which we must adhere to. It is a high risk area and is not safe to be accessed by anyone without our prior permission. The gates to the airfield are kept locked outside of working hours and there are visible signs stating that it's a working farm and no unauthorised access. By allowing this on the plan, it is misleading and deemed to be a public facility. The lake is neither a public amenity or accessible to the public. At no point have we as landowners been contacted about any proposal to designate any part of our land as recreational open space so we wish for this to be removed from the plan.</p>	Policy change	Nuthampstead fishing pond is removed as a recreational open space and map amended	BNNP 25		✓
BN E1	Preserving and Developing Local Employment Opportunities	59	<p>Agriculture and rural business are an important employer in the neighbourhood (8.1% defined at clause 1.21). NPPF and PPG and the local plan supports rural businesses, a prosperous rural economy and the development and diversification of agriculture.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood plan should in accordance with clause 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4 should make reference to national and local planning policies for rural businesses. NPPF is supportive of rural businesses being allowed to grow and has policies on the reuse of rural buildings. Policy BN E1 should refer to the growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas, including agriculture, through the conversion of existing buildings and well designed new buildings. We would hope it would promote the development and diversification of agricultural and other land based rural businesses in a sustainable manner as per objective 6. Some references and policies in this neighbourhood plan conflict with this policy and local and national planning policies. Agriculture as an industry evolves and the principles and processes involved in agricultural enterprises change over time. In the future agricultural businesses in the parish may need further agricultural buildings to meet their business demands and needs, which will allow them to develop, expand and to provide employment opportunities. It would be beneficial if the plan could support this.</p>	Policy change	Agricultural businesses now covered in policy		CL	✓
BN E2	Superfast Broadband	59	<p>I think the term "superfast broadband" has a specific meaning with gov/planning circles and is a classic example of a misnomer. "Superfast" is actually quite slow and refers to broadband download speeds of 24Mbps or more (source: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/building-digital-uk#superfast). That's not what is meant is it?</p> <p>I suggest the policy title is "Internet infrastructure" and would be better expressed as "All new residential and commercial development proposals within Barkway and Nuthampstead must include the provision of fibre optic broadband infrastructure to each premises - that is infrastructure to provide "Fibre To The Premises" (FTTP). This requirement will not apply to proposals to change existing premises that are already served by FTTP, or by FTTC (Fibre To The Cabinet)".</p> <p>There shouldn't be any "get out" of the requirement for new developments.</p>	Policy change	Policy and supporting text amended to highlight the difference between FTTP and FTTC	BNNP 22		✓

BN E2	Superfast Broadband	59	<p>“Superfast Broadband” (defined as at least 30Mbps) is very old technology. BT deliver this via FttC (Fiber to the Cabinet), but still use copper cables to the house. Since 17th March 2020 the government have committed new legislation to ensure all new build homes come with “Gigabit speed Broadband” (defined as at least 1000Mbps). This requires fiber to each individual house. The UK government propose to make this a legal requirement, so there should also be no exclusion clause as stated within this plan.</p> <p>Also worth noting that neighbouring Essex villages already have gigabit fiber (supported by Essex council and Gigaclear). Mandating gigabit fiber</p> <p>The requirement in BN E2 should be changed to Gigabit Broadband (from Superfast Broadband) and the exclusion clause should be removed.</p>	Policy change	Policy and supporting text amended to highlight the difference between FTTP and FTTC	BNNP 20		✓
BN T1	Sustainable Transport Provision	60	The policy states that electric vehicle charging points could be provided at each end of the village. It should be noted that conditions have been used across the District requiring residential properties to incorporate an Electric Vehicle (EV) ready domestic charging point. The second paragraph of the policy should be simplified with the details of the types of initiatives deleted from the policy and included in the appendices.	Policy change	Detail reduced and Action Plan in Appendix added to		NHDC	✓
BN T1	Sustainable Transport Provision	61	one charging point at each end of the village would not be enough	Policy change	Policy amended	BNNP 13		✓
BN T1	Sustainable Transport Provision	61	Fully support the provision of electric charging points – a major blocker for electric car adoption today in the village given many homes do not have driveways. Agree with the aspiration to support autonomous vehicles. Disagree with funding a minibus. We already have viable alternatives (Royston Community District Transport, and the bus service to Royston – why not just support these services being improved instead?).	Policy change	Policy amended	BNNP 20		✓
BN T2	Vehicle Parking in Residential Development	62	The second sentence of this policy should be deleted as the introduction of HGV restrictions is not a planning issue.	Policy change	<i>Policy BN T2 - change 2nd sentence to remove reference to HGV weight restriction</i>		NHDC	✓
BN T4	Safe and Accessible Walking and Cycling Routes	62	Policy BN T4 - Suggest that the first sentence in the policy is amended. New developments should feature an appropriate package of safe and attractive walking and cycling routes that link to schools and services.	Policy change	Policy BN T4 - change 1st sentence as suggested		NHDC	✓
BN T5	Vehicle Parking in Residential Development	63	Policy BN T5 - The emerging Local Plan sets car parking standards for new residential development. This policy supports those standards and as such it is not necessary to include the policy in the neighbourhood plan. Consideration could be given to amending the 2nd and 3rd sentences which would provide a policy which would support a proposal for additional off-street parking? The Basic Conditions Statement (para 5.4) suggests that new car parking standards are introduced in the neighbourhood plan, but that does not appear to be the case. The Basic Conditions Statement should be reviewed to ensure that it is correct.	Policy change	<i>Policy BN T5 - re-word to make it clear that additional off-street parking (more than in the Local Plan) is required. New wording to replace 2nd & 3rd sentences ' Due to the limited public transport facilities in Barkway and Nuthampstead, household car ownership is higher than the county average and off-street parking for new development therefore needs to be at least 2 spaces per dwelling unless there is a clear justification for a lower standard'. Comparison of % car ownership for Barkway and North Herts added</i>		NHDC	✓
BN T4	Mitigating Traffic Impact	63	BN T4: Urgently need to improve cycle / e-scooter routes to Royston from Barkway. This is the main reason many continue to drive – the cycle route is exceptionally dangerous, with busy / blind bends on a 60mph speed limit road. How about taking some braver steps to promote green transport, including provision of electric car charging points and autonomous vehicle support as already mentioned, but why not consider designating the Barkway to Royston direct road a cycleway in part, and / or reduce the speed limit to encourage cars to use the A10 instead?	Policy change	C hange BN T2 to say services such as shops.	BNNP 20		✓

BN H8	Backland Development		Please see comments made in respect of Policy BN H1.	Policy change	BN H8. Change to clarify that this is for small-scale development		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	3.10.8/61	The left-hand photograph shows the number plate on the red vehicle which should be blurred if it is kept in the neighbourhood plan.	Photo change	Photo amended		NHDC	✓
N/A		1.4/4	We agree with the sentiment expressed in Para 1.1 concerning the improvement of the area (final sentence) and propose a change in Para 1.4 as follows '... seeking to protect and enhance the environment...'. There is now a broad movement to try and improve the environment rather than just maintain the status quo and the wellbeing of the community is surely served by adopting this position. This proposed additional wording would then also mirror that used in the 'Our Vision' statement (Section2) of the Plan regarding the protection and enhancement of our neighbourhood's character.	Para change	Change para 1.1.4 to include 'and enhance' in relation to the environment	BNNP 08		✓
N/A	N/A	1.16 - 1.17/7	The plan does not indicate the building growth already achieved in the village since 2011.	Para change	57 homes have been built of granted planning permission in Barkway since April 2011 - detail added in new section	BNNP 02		✓
N/A	N/A	20	I believe this paragraph should be updated as BK2 is now complete – not pending.	Para change	Amend para 3.2.7 to reflect that BK2 is complete	BNNP 02		✓
N/A	N/A	3.2.8/20	The sentence 'BK3 is opposed by residents' should read 'BK3 is strongly opposed by residents' (see NP page 55 policy BN L2 Existing Pubs, where the word is inserted)	Para change	Change para 3.2.9 to state strongly opposed	BNNP 02		✓
BN NE2	River Quin Protection	30	The policy as written requires that development should not be permitted within at least 10m from River Quin. This is different to the 8m buffer required in the emerging Local Plan policy, NE9 – Water quality and environment. Whilst the supporting text states that the Environment Agency has provided guidance for the Braughing Neighbourhood Plan, has the same guidance been provided by the Environment Agency in support of this policy?	Para change	EA have not responded to this NP. However, although the district plan policy NE9 states 8m, this river is a chalk river which needs more protection than an average river so guidance provided by EA for the same river should apply in this case. Text justification added.		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	31	The Forestry Commission works with communities and partners with the aim of protecting, improving and expanding England's woodlands. Within those aims it is my role to give guidance on the protection of ancient woodlands i.e. woodlands that are known to have existed before the date of 1600 A.D. Looking at our mapping system I see that the parishes of Barkway and Nuthampstead include 10 ancient woodlands, which is an extremely valuable asset in a comparatively small area. The ancient woodlands are ; Rokey Wood, Earl's Wood, Scales Park, Pondbottom Wood, Wigney Wood, Cross Leys, Messop's Wood, Sheepwash Grove, Ash Grove, Oaks Bushes	Para change	Change para 3.3.11 to reference all ancient woodlands (though some of these are already mentioned as wildlife sites in 3.3.13 - only Pondbottom, Wigney, Cross Leys & Oaks Bushes are not on that list).		FC	✓
N/A	N/A	39	Remove the last sentence of the second paragraph under photograph of View 6 (referring to Barkway Stud)	Para change	Remove last sentence of 2nd para under photo of View 6 on page 39	BNNP 01		✓
N/A	N/A	45	V12 - View from Skylark Cottage towards Cokenach. The objective of the neighbourhood plan is not to protect an individual's private view. Many other views from residential properties equal this view in merit, which are not included. The narrative regarding this view is subjective and clearly protecting a non-objective opinion regarding the agricultural buildings. Inclusion is confused as to why this view is included and the criteria it meets. We do not believe this is an outstanding view that is particularly different to many others along this road and others leading into or out of the village. The description that defines the view shows a subjective view that is in contradiction of Clauses 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7.1 and 1.7.2, Objective 6 and BN E1. Much of the description includes details of a private meadow in the foreground of the proposed protected view. In light of the importance highlighted of this meadow and use by the community and wider population should this be included within BN L4 as a Protected Recreational Open Space?	Para change	The meadow shown in view V12 would not qualify as a recreational open space as it is a private meadow & not used for recreation and it did not meet the criteria for a LGS so the only way of protecting this attractive meadow is via a view. The importance of this view is that it protects the views in several directions from the Hertfordshire Way. The view is from the road and not from the cottage. Amend title of V12 and map to show view from road.		CL	✓

N/A	N/A	1.3/ 47	NPPF supports a prosperous rural economy to enable the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas. We would welcome if the policies of this neighbourhood plan could promote rural and agricultural businesses in line with NPPF. This is not reflected in many of the policies of this neighbourhood plan and is in direct conflict with the personal views regarding agricultural buildings detailed in V12.	Para change	Policy BN E1 outlines support for the local economy. Add 'residential' before 're-use' in V12 description. Views don't prevent development but could influence design.		CL	✓
N/A	N/A	3.4.5/ 48	It is not clear what the map of Barkway Village signifies or is trying to illustrate. Would this map be better placed in the appendices?	Para change	Change the wording in para 3.4.5 to reference a new appendix and move the Barkway village map below this para to this new appendix		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	3.4.5/ 50	Paragraph 3.4.17 includes a reference to a website, British Listed Buildings. The definitive list of designated heritage assets is available through the Historic England website and the link should be amended.	Para change	Change para 3.4.17 to reference Historic England		NHDC	✓
BN HA2	Non-designated Heritage Assets	52	The government guidance states that "...Plan-making bodies should make clear and up to date information on non-designated heritage assets accessible to the public to provide greater clarity and certainty for developers and decision-makers. This includes information on the criteria used to select non-designated heritage assets and information about the location of existing assets..." (my italics) The document doesn't detail for each listed Non-designated Heritage Asset, the criteria by which the asset was deemed to have "local historic importance". I think the rationale for their inclusion should be included in the policy, or at least a link to the rationale. And what is the process for adding or removing assets from the list of non-designated heritage assets? Also, I wonder about the last paragraph in this section. What are the "...other non-designated heritage assets..." mentioned? Are these assets that may be declared as "heritage" in the future? Or is there another list somewhere	Para change	Explanatory text and policy amended. A new Appendix contains the rationale for each non-designated heritage asset.	BNNP 22		✓
N/A	N/A	56	Remove paragraph 3.5.13 in its entirety	Para change	Remove para 3.5.13	BNNP 01		✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	57	The policy identifies a number of recreational open spaces in the Parishes. However, the wording of the policy largely duplicates the provisions of Policy NE4: Protecting open space in the emerging Local Plan which could cause confusion when considering development proposals in the future.	Para change	Policy is retained because it identifies the recreational open spaces valued by the community and now refers to NHLP policy NE5		NHDC	✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	The definition of these areas as 'recreational open space' is extremely misleading. As a document in the public domain the use of the word 'open' will lead to confusion as to the rights over this private land. Many of the sites are not public land. The context and existing use of these privately owned, managed and let sites mean the policy needs to recognise that they are not public land and are not open for free public access. As private property they could be locked at any time. The policy needs to make it explicit that the designation as Recreational Open Space does not give any rights of access, community or other use. We would therefore express concern that the plan is misleading as to the accessibility onto this private land to the general public. We request that all the site details are reviewed and should be amended to refer to their private ownership and not shown in anyway as accessible to the public without permission to prevent confusion by the general public and local residents. The policy does not define what rights are being created by this designation and this needs to be clearly defined before any of these sites are publicised in the public domain R4 - There is no public access to the cricket ground, it is a let property which is solely for the use of the village cricket team. The site is not available to local residents other than those who are members of the cricket team and there is no plans to increase the access in the future as this is a let site with exclusive possession. There are no public rights of way crossing or within the ground. By using this description, the security of the site could be compromised and could lead to unauthorised use by individuals with associated health and safety concerns for the cricket club and an increase in their risk liability. As a privately let property the club could lock the gates to this area at any time.	Para change	Clarification included in now included in text.		CL	✓
BN E1	Preserving and Developing Local Employment Opportunities	59	Likewise, as we have indicated above, the business is an important element of the local economy and it is suggested that specific reference should also be made within section 3.6 and in policy BN E1. It is the intention to improve the shooting ground over the coming years with upgrades to the facilities and the inclusion in and support of this policy would be appreciated.	Para change	Change para 3.6.2 to include the shooting ground as an existing local employer		NSG	✓

N/A	N/A	59	<p>Para 3.6.4 should also include expansion of any existing facilities as well as the creation of new ones.</p> <p>Para 3.6.4 should read 'sympathetically designed and maintained to.....'. It should be deemed unacceptable to develop a facility in line with the Plan and then change the operation to conflict with the Plan.</p> <p>The term '24 hour activities' in Section 3.6.4 does not adequately cover the required situation and should be replaced with 'activities during anti-social hours'. For example, an operation requiring the frequent movement of HGVs delivering or collecting supplies throughout the night should not be supported even though the facility may only be operational for 20 hours/day.</p> <p>The term 'noisy' requires better definition. Noises that are unacceptable include both low level, continuous noise as well as intermittent loud noises. For example, the noise of a mechanical production line or continuous canned music or a phone ringing over an amplified loudspeaker should be avoided.</p> <p>The term 'malodorous' is inadequate. Many smells would not be described as malodorous but are also totally inappropriate to being emitted in a village environment. For example, the smell of cooking food is perfectly acceptable in a kitchen as is the scent of perfume in a social situation - neither are necessarily deemed malodorous but neither would be appropriate to be emitted over our villages. Just as for noise, there should be no emissions of smell other than low level, occasional and intermittent.</p> <p>Prevailing wind direction should not be considered an adequate mitigating factor for either noise or odour emissions.</p> <p>The impacts of air and noise pollution related to traffic are mentioned elsewhere in the report as a factor that could potentially affect the health and wellbeing of the community and it would seem logical that the Plan should take the very logical next step by aiming to avoid future development of the same impacts created by commercial/ industrial operations.</p>	Para change	Last bit of para re-written	BNNP 08		✓
N/A	N/A	4.3.3/65	Priorities section. For information - The Parish Council does not own the Village Hall	Para change	Change the last bullet in 4.3 to remove the words about parish council ownership	BNNP 10		✓
N/A	N/A		<p>In addition to the detailed comments on individual policies, there are a couple of more general comments which we would like to make:</p> <p>☒ There are a number of policies in the neighbourhood plan where the words "will normally be permitted" or "should be" are used. Some of these phrases lead to some uncertainty about how a policy can be applied. There is some useful guidance prepared by Locality on writing planning policies which might be helpful in addressing this issue: file://svr\fp02\UserDocs\$\cskeels/Documents/Downloads/Writing-planning-policies-toolkit-HK-071218-0907-COMPLETEDJS-complete-%20(1).pdf</p> <p>☒ There is a significant amount of explanatory text throughout the plan. Consideration should be given to moving some of this text into appendices which will help to focus the neighbourhood plan on the planning policies.</p> <p>☒ It would also be helpful if the chapter headings were made clearer so that they stand out in the document.</p>	Para change	<p>Check all occurrences of 'will normally be permitted' or 'should be' and change to follow guidance. Move some of the text to appendices e.g. para 1.22-1.31 and some of section 3.4. make sure that all headings stand out more - maybe bold and larger font</p>		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	10	Objective 1 - Could the wording be simplified? "To ensure that all new development is well designed and sympathetic....."	Objective change	Change objective 1 as suggested to simplify text		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	10	Objective 2 - Could the wording be simplified, by deleting the later part of the sentence? "To preserve the character, appearance and setting of all designated and non designated assets."	Objective change	Change objective 2 as suggested to simplify text		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	11	Suggestion for addition : ' To promote and actively encourage the development of sustainable transport solutions to / from nearby towns and villages. '	Objective change	Objective 7 amended to include sustainable transport	BNNP 10		✓
N/A	N/A	12	<p>Reference L2, this land was until recently the orchard belonging to Townsend House, 109 High Street where we have lived since 1973. Three years ago we got permission to build ourselves a house in the orchard which we moved into in January 2020.</p> <p>Recently a surveyor for the Land Registry completed plans showing the orchard as a separate dwelling area and new owners have now moved into Townsend House. I imagine that the plans as shown in your recent document were completed some time ago which may explain the wrong delineation, although it was never a village amenity.</p>	Map change	Change the border of L2	BNNP 21		✓
N/A	N/A	12	Map Insets 2 and 3: there seems to be a gap between the two...	Map change	Maps redrawn	BNNP 13		✓

N/A	N/A	12	Policies Map - Layout observations : There are 4 different blocks outlined. Why are they not connected at the edges? Also - Inset 1 and 2 could have been put on one page for better continuity and visual comprehension? It would also better illustrate the significance of the area of the green outline in comparison to the area of BK3. The area outlined by the green line and the BK3 area coloured yellow, when compared, IS HALF AS MUCH AGAIN.	Map change	Maps redrawn	BNNP 15		✓
N/A	N/A	14	Map Inset 2 – Barkway Central Map. The plan is incorrect. An area greater than just the cricket pitch is shown on the plan, which includes part of arable field and a conservation area. The private farm track separates the pitch and the field. The plan should be corrected to show the correct extent. The cricket pitch is not public recreational space. It is privately owned and let on a lease. It is not 'open' space. The map is therefore misleading and should be amended before being put in the public domain.	Map change	Change the boundary of R4 on main map & inset 2. Recreational open space is not the same as Local Green Space and it does not matter if it is leased or owned as long as it is being used for recreational purposes		CL	✓
N/A	N/A	14	V3 – View South to Recreation Ground. There is no public right of way at the point where the view is shown and no open public access. This view therefore is not publicly accessible as per 3.3.14. The field does not form any form of link between the privately let Cricket Club and the recreation ground and there is no public right of way over the Cricket Club to or from this field. These statements are misleading and any references to such should be removed as factually incorrect.	Map change	Change the arrow for V3 to clearly show it from a public ROW or the road. Does the text need to be changed as the public RoW stated in the text to support V3 is being disputed?		CL	✓
N/A	N/A	15	We also take this opportunity to clarify the site area of the shooting ground shown on Map Inset 4 on page 15 and attached aerial photograph detailing the extent of the facility.	Map change	Change the outline for R8 (the shooting ground) on the maps (main & inset 4)		NSG	✓
N/A	N/A	15	Remove R5 as identified on Policies Map Inset 3 - Barkway south map	Map change	Maps redrawn	BNNP 01		✓
BN NE1	Local Green Spaces	30	L2 : Field to the west of Rushing Meadow. My Comments are : 1.The area is under represented on Map No 3 2.My understanding is that the footpath mentioned is in fact a RUPP and is still identified on the Herts CC map as <u>leading into Rushing Meadow and not as indicated in the photograph.</u>	Map change	L2 area changed	BNNP 10		✓
BN NE4	Priority Views	33	In this section, it would be helpful to have a map insert on each page showing the location of the view in addition to the maps showing the location of the views on pages 11 -15.	Map change	Detailed Views Maps now in Appendix with photographs and Views evidence		NHDC	✓
BN HA3	Barkway Conservation Area	54	Would be helpful to have a map showing the Conservation area in this section of the neighbourhood plan or a link to the District Council website as the conservation area boundary is split over two pages earlier in the document?	Map change	Add a new map before 3.4.28 to show just the conservation area in one map		NHDC	✓
N/A	N/A	3.3.14/ 33	The statutory basis of this policy in local or national planning (Local Plan, NPPF, PPG) should be outlined. The criteria listed in this plan are wide, vague and prone to being subjective. We would suggest there is a conflict of interest in V12. More information is required on the rigorous criteria testing of each view required - how was each specific point was identified, rather than for example 50m east or west of that point, why was that view determined appropriate for inclusion in comparison to others and how were the affected landowners consulted?	Append change	Priority views are a key aspect to include in Neighbourhood Plans. Landowners do not need to be consulted on priority views specifically. See new Appendix with evidence for views.		CL	✓
N/A	N/A	51	a) The definition of a "Designated Heritage Asset"? https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment#designated-heritage-assets b) The definition of a "Non-designated Heritage Asset"? https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment#non-designated c) The Barkway Conservation Character Statement? https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/sites/northherts-cms/files/Barkway%20CA%20Character%20Statement.pdf and because these phrases have a particular meaning, where they appear in the text, perhaps they should have capital letters? IE "Non-designated Heritage Asset", rather than "non-designated heritage asset" or use Italics? This last point about font style should apply throughout the document, I suggest. My personal preference would be to use italics.	Append change	Appendix updated to include definitions. Capitalisation and italics suggestions not accepted as Historic England does not use capitals.	BNNP 22		✓
N/A	N/A		Wherever references are made to other documents and policies, include a web link to that document or policy.	Append change	Include web links in Appendix D	BNNP 22		✓

	1.4/4	The designation of golf club, shooting range, driving range and other areas as Recreational Open Space will prevent such private rural businesses growing. The subjective views regarding agricultural buildings expressed in V12 also is in conflict with this clause Agriculture, agricultural growth and the re-use of buildings in the Parish should be encouraged within the plan to allow sustainable growth.	No change	The policy BN L4 (recreational open spaces) will not prevent these rural businesses from growing and policy BN H6 (Infill development) includes the re-use of rural buildings.		CL	✓
	4	One further point, reference the Chairman's statement page 4, footpath 11, High Street to Rushing Wells. The path and land alongside the orchard belongs to us. It did get very muddy last winter but we don't want any contractors cutting into the trees and shrubs on the northern side. We will cut back any protruding foliage as necessary.	No change	Noted	BNNP 21		✓
	1.7.1/5	The NPPF encourages early, proportionate and effective engagement in the development of plans, supports a prosperous rural economy enabling the growth and expansion of all types of businesses in rural areas and the development of agriculture. It also supports accessible local services and recognises that access to opportunities for sport and physical activity is important. In developing the plan as a local business we feel there has been very limited consultation and discussions with local businesses and landowners affected by the plan.	No change	All residents have been invited to consultation events prior to the issuing of the draft NP and the presubmission phase has enabled everyone to provide feedback		CL	✓
	1.7.2/5	Throughout the plan there is no details provided of where and what form of development, other than housing, will be permitted or encouraged. Priority view policies put a blanket ban on any form of development, even those that over large swaths of the parish in conflict to other policies in the plan (BN E1) and those in NPPF and Local Plans. Recreational Open Space Policies are preventing private rural businesses developing, expanding or diversifying their enterprises.	No change	Policies H6 and E1 cover development to support business as well as housing. Policy L4 does not prevent rural businesses developing		CL	✓
	7	Local Plan Dev. Sites, BK3 page 4, Policy BN H1-8: I strongly object to the proposed building on site BK3 because of the following reasons: 1)I will suffer loss of privacy and it will be a visual intrusion into my property. 2)The current view from my property onto open green fields will not be maintained. Should this go ahead I will be looking directly onto 100 plus houses instead of a field, from both my kitchen and bedroom. 3)The quiet, rural village life that Barkway offered when making the decision to move here would be negatively affected. 4)The wildlife, including but not limited to deer, hare, owls, bats, pheasants would be threatened as many occupy plot BK3. 5)The increase in traffic on both Cambridge Road and the High Street would be a potential risk to runners, cyclists and horseriders. It is already congested along the High Street due to parked cars. 6)No demand for housing as houses still on market in Barkway for over a year including 6 unsold properties in BK1. 7)No amenities in Barkway for the increase in population and no public transport links other than a bus (infrequent) which would contribute to increased traffic. 8)Increase in light pollution from lighting on new footpaths and cycle paths. 9)Strain on water supply, already suffer from frequent loss of pressure. 10)Noise from proposed building of new school on land at south-west of site.	No change	The designation of BK3 is determined at a district council level. This policy does not support the development but aims to put constraints on what is developed	BNNP 17		✓
	8	The recognition of the shooting ground as an important local facility in paragraphs 1.24 and 3.5.5 is welcomed	No change	Noted		NSG	✓
	8	Remove the photos of people's houses on page 8 - if photos are needed there, I suggest photos of other public spaces EG The duck pond, or The Rec.	No change	This related to the summary document and not the NP	BNNP 22		✓
	1.26/9	NPPF and local plan policies promote rural businesses and a prosperous rural economy. The policies within the plan should reflect national and local planning policies to enable the expansion and diversification of all forms of businesses and employers, including agriculture.	No change	Policies H6 and E1 cover development to support business as well as housing.		CL	✓
	11	Section 2, Objective 6. We are in support of this objective, but policies throughout the plan conflict with this objective – BN EN4 (Priority Views), BN L4 (Protected Recreational Open Space), Objective 10 (Priority views) and policy BN E1 needs to be expanded to encourage and support the growth of agricultural and rural business	No change	Policies NE4 & L4 do not conflict with the creation & preservation of local employment opportunities and policy E1 actively supports it		CL	✓
	11	Section 2, Objective 10. We are unaware of any national or local policy basis for inclusion in the plan or what statutory criteria the view identified must meet. The views identified are subjective and often conflict with other policies in the plan.	No change	Views reviewed, maps updated and evidence base included		CL	✓
	11	The county council supports the fact that Objective 2 includes the conservation of both designated and non-designated heritage assets.	No change	Noted		HCC	✓

		11	Policies maps - It appears that Priority View No. 1 has been omitted from the maps?	No change	Views maps updated		NHDC	✓
		11	Objective 9 - Has Granta Medical Practices been consulted about whether a further few hundred individuals would put a strain on the workload at Barley Practice locally? (Assuming an average of 3 people per household).	No change	They have been consulted	BNNP 15		✓
		11	Objective 6. How would these extra homes create local employment opportunities?	No change	The extra homes won't create local employment opportunities. The objective is general for the parishes rather than related to new homes	BNNP 15		✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	18	The county council supports the ambition of Policy BN H1 for new buildings to use local architectural styles and building materials. This will enhance existing historic settlements and historic buildings and reflect local character, <u>maintain local distinctiveness and sense of place.</u>	No change	Noted		HCC	✓
		18	Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Services (HFRS) capacity to deliver an emergency response is not unduly effected by individual developments contained within the Barkway & Nuthampstead Neighbourhood plan 2018-2031 . HFRS would request that planners and developers continue to consult on requirements for the provision of water supplies and that the fire hydrant(s) served by the mains water supply shall be provided prior to any dwellings being occupied and to the satisfaction of the Fire & Rescue Service. Expansion within North Herts through development provides an opportunity for planning authorities to take a national lead by applying a proactive approach towards protecting the community and infrastructure through in-built fire suppression systems. HFRS would recommend greater inclusion of Automatic Water Suppression Systems (AWSS) in the built environment. Sprinklers save lives, protect property, reduce the impact of fire on the environment and support UK businesses by reducing interruption.	No change	Noted		HCC	✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	18	It's hardly credible that a new development on BK3 can be architecturally sympathetic to existing village buildings. Even less so that 'affordable' homes can be provided that are indistinguishable from market homes, unless they all conform to some lowest common denominator. I do not see how this thoretically admirable policy could ever be implemented.	No change	Policy BN H5 is designed to do the best it can to put constraints on a site which is not supported	BNNP 04		✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	18	BK3 would have a huge impact on our privacy as currently our views are straight across to the countryside field where there is open space. We would feel overlooked by the new housing and our outlook would be of a large housing estate.	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constaints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 11		✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	19	Reference is made to sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) being incorporated within the design for all residential proposals. Anglian Water support the requirement for applicants to include the provision of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). The use of SuDS would help to reduce the risk of surface water and sewer flooding and which have wider benefits e.g. water quality enhancement. Similarly, we are supportive of the requirement to the provide a maintenance plan for any SuDs features and how this will be managed. (Anglian Water is an adopting body for SuDs features which meet the legal definition of sewers and the Water sector Design and Construction Guidance and encourages applicants to contact us as early as possible.)	No change	Noted		AW	✓
BN H1	Design of New Homes	19	The Design of New Homes does not take into consideration the lack of community facilities, e.g. schools, GP services, public transport, social facilities and amenities that will be required to support the increase in the village population. There is also little provision for road access and parking in the village to support an increase in road traffic that the new houses will cause. While I am not against the provision of new houses I do feel there is a lack of insight into the impact this will have on the village as a whole. I also believe the increase in population of the village will impact on the local wildlife causing the loss due to road death and loss of habitat	No change	Policy BN H1 is related to the design of new homes only, not the infrastructure or traffic related changes which are covered in other policies	BNNP 18		✓
BN H3	Bin Storage	20	Waste & Minerals Planning. The county council, as the Waste Planning Authority, is in full support of Policy BN H3 Bin Storage. Providing adequate space for bin storage within developments encourages greater recycling rates and subsequently contributes towards moving waste management up the waste hierarchy.	No change	Noted		HCC	✓

		20	As valuable Grade 11 agricultural land the proposed change of use should be unacceptable. Recently it has been announced that the UK grain harvest has had the biggest fall in 20 years (Farmers Weekly / BBC) The harvest worldwide has also decreased. With the coming exit from the EU, the UK should have food security as one of its priorities. Keeping agricultural land to feed the nation is essential. There has also been concern recently in the media regarding rapid mammal decline and the need to preserve our open spaces.	No change	Already mentioned in BN H5 and 3.2.9	BNNP 02		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	I object to building on:- arable fields which will have great impact on wildlife, noise and light pollution, views from my property. Traffic – Barkway High Street, Barley to Flint Cross, Royston one-way system. Affect on local people, to retain historic rural life, there is virtually no employment in Barkway and everyone will have to commute to work. The size of the development is way too big and not in keeping with the village	No change	The designation of BK3 is determined at a district council level. This policy does not support the development but aims to put constraints on what is developed	BNNP 14		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	Others will have commented on the very considerable impact the proposed numbers of houses on BK3 will have on a small village. Of particular concern is the effect on road congestion created by the need for residents to have – probably – at least two cars per dwelling. Are here plans (or available funds) to carry out any road widening/traffic control? Few modern developments I've seen have anything like adequate parking space for residents, especially when visitors arrive. There should be very strict conditions imposed on any developer to ensure that this aspect is firmly controlled. Other concerns are for the adequacy of water supply within the village. What plans have been laid to secure this?	No change	Policy BN H5 is designed to do the best it can to put constraints on a site which is not supported	BNNP 04		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	I strongly object to the proposed building on site BK3 for the following reasons: 1.Loss of privacy and visual intrusion into my property 2.The current outlook from my house will not be preserved and instead of a farmed field it will be 100+ houses immediately opposite. 3.The rural village environment that Barkway offered when moving here would be negatively impacted. 4.Nature and wildlife such as deer, hare, owls, bats, pheasants, trees would be threatened by the removal of this habitat. 5.Footpaths and bridleways on the perimeter of the proposed site running east/west and north/south would be compromised, damaged or lost. 6.Increased traffic on both Cambridge Rd and the High St would negatively impact the village, which already suffers from congestion and too many cars parked on the road. 7.There is questionable demand for more housing in Barkway, with several properties remaining on the market for over a year, including over half the new houses in BK1. I am concerned that the proposal may be a result of the government's much criticised, random planning algorithm. 8.There are no amenities in Barkway for such an increase in population and no public transport links other than an infrequent bus. 9.The development would cause a significant increase in vehicle, noise and light pollution and place additional strain on water supply which already suffers from frequent loss in pressure.	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 05		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	I strongly object to the proposed building on site BK3 for the following reasons: 1.Loss of privacy and visual intrusion into my property 2.The current outlook from my house will not be preserved and instead of a farmed field it will be 100+ houses immediately opposite. 3.The rural village environment that Barkway offered when moving here would be negatively impacted. 4.Nature and wildlife such as deer, hare, owls, bats, pheasants, trees would be threatened by the removal of this habitat. 5.Increased traffic on both Cambridge Rd and the High St would negatively impact the village, which already suffers from congestion and too many cars parked on the road. 6.There is questionable demand for more housing in Barkway, with several properties remaining on the market for over a year, including over half the new houses in BK1. I am concerned that the proposal may be a result of the government's much criticised, random planning algorithm. 7.There are no amenities in Barkway for such an increase in population and no public transport links other than an infrequent bus. 8.The development would cause a significant increase in vehicle, noise and light pollution and place additional strain on water supply which already suffers from frequent loss in pressure.	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 07		✓

BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	<p>I strongly object to the proposed building on site BK3 for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Loss of privacy and visual intrusion into my property 2.The current outlook from my house will not be preserved and instead of a farmed field it will be 100+ houses immediately opposite. 3.The rural village environment that Barkway offered when moving here would be negatively impacted. 4.Nature and wildlife such as deer, hare, owls, bats, pheasants, trees would be threatened by the removal of this habitat. 5.Increased traffic on both Cambridge Rd and the High St would negatively impact the village, which already suffers from congestion and too many cars parked on the road. 6.There is questionable demand for more housing in Barkway, with several properties remaining on the market for over a year, including over half the new houses in BK1. I am concerned that the proposal may be a result of the government's much criticised, random planning algorithm. 7.There are no amenities in Barkway for such an increase in population and no public transport links other than an infrequent bus. 8.The development would cause a significant increase in vehicle, noise and light pollution and place additional strain on water supply which already suffers from frequent loss in pressure. 	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 09		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	We feel that the positioning of the housing will not maintain the view we have as this will be directly in front of our house. From all the front windows we will have a view of the new housing development instead of the open countryside.	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 11		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	<p>Policy BN H5 and BN NE4: This land (BK3) is at a landmark view point over the North Herts countryside and to Cambridge including the war memorial on the Newsells land. A development of new homes will have a great impact on the appearances of the beautiful rural area. This kind of loss of view cannot be reclaimed (V5 and V7). The Cambridge Road that would be the access point to the site is a fast and poorly speed controlled road that is already dangerous with the limited traffic that currently uses it. More local traffic on the Cambridge and Royston Road would have a significant impact on safety for residents of Barkway and on the narrow roads between Barkway and Royston.</p> <p>Such a large development will engulf this small village community. This will overwhelm the limited amenities and infrastructure. Furthermore there are no jobs for the residents of such a development and an insufficient public transport service for those who do not have cars. It is not possible to walk safely to the nearest shop (2 miles away) in Barley as there is no pavement.</p>	No change	The aim of V5 and V7 and policy BN H5 are to constrain what is developed on BK3. It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 12		✓
BN H5	Framework for BK3	21	<p>I strongly object to the proposed building on site BK3 for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Loss of privacy and visual intrusion into my property 2.The current outlook from my house will not be preserved and instead of a farmed field it will be 100+ houses immediately opposite. 3.The rural village environment that Barkway offered when moving here would be negatively impacted. 4.Nature and wildlife such as deer, hare, owls, bats, pheasants, trees would be threatened by the removal of this habitat. 5.Footpaths and bridleways on the perimeter of the proposed site running east/west and north/south would be compromised, damaged or lost. 6.Increased traffic on both Cambridge Rd and the High St would negatively impact the village, which already suffers from congestion and too many cars parked on the road. 7.There is questionable demand for more housing in Barkway, with several properties remaining on the market for over a year, including over half the new houses in BK1. I am concerned that the proposal may be a result of the government's much criticised, random planning algorithm. 8.There are no amenities in Barkway for such an increase in population and no public transport links other than an infrequent bus. 9.The development would cause a significant increase in vehicle, noise and light pollution and place additional strain on water supply which already suffers from frequent loss in pressure. 	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 19		✓

BN H6	Infill Development	21	b) A development of the size proposed will increase traffic on the High Street and make peak travel time extremely difficult.	No change	BN H6 is not proposing specific development (e.g. BK3) but only stating what constraints should be applied if small infill development is put forward during the life of this NP	BNNP 15		✓
BN H6	Infill Development	21	Views and the open space will not be maintained of the countryside that we currently see. The view of the countryside is important to us and was a major factor in us moving to Barkway. We love the village as it is a quiet, rural village but we believe a housing development of this size would affect our quality of life. Noise and air pollution would increase because of such a big development.	No change	Policy BN H6 relates to small infill development whereas this comment seems to relate to BK3. It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 11		✓
BN H8	Backland Development	22	This policy could be seen to contradict policy BN H6?	No change	Don't think it contradicts H6	BNNP 06		✓
BN H7	Building Extensions	22	Our privacy, outlook and sunlight will be dramatically affected by BK3.	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 11		✓
BN NE1	Local Green Spaces	30	The District Council has no objection to the designation of the Local Green Spaces in the neighbourhood plan. However, the Parish Council should ensure that the landowners have been consulted about the proposed designations.	No change	All landowners of proposed LGSS have been informed		NHDC	✓
BN NE3	Conserve and Enhance Biodiversity	32	Hopefully the Chalk Pit is the ancient one below the mast site	No change	Yes it is	BNNP 16		✓
BN NE4	Priority Views	46	In addition to specific comments made in relation to views V3 and V12 concern is raised in relation to the definition of this clause. Development should be limited to housing development so as not to conflict with policies in the Local Plan and NPPF (and associated clauses 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.7.1 and 1.7.2 and Objective 6 of this plan) supporting the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business in rural areas. In addition, policy BN E1 of this plan supports the retention of existing businesses and the development of new local employment opportunities, which in some of the views identified is in direct conflict.	No change	No conflict between BN E1 & the selected views - other than removing the clause about re-use of agricultural buildings for V12		CL	✓
BN NE4	Priority Views	46	From reviewing this I did wonder whether some of these views are not accessible to the public and are private? I am afraid in some cases it is quite difficult to establish where the views are from and to on the plan, could the arrows be clearer or maybe with a view corridor added? There are two views that I think could also do with adding if possible? One is from the High Street close to the duck pond there is a good view of the Church which is rather wonderful. The second view is from the footpath to the East of the village if you walk from the Cokenach estate via the footpath that cuts diagonally across the field, again, there is a fantastic view of the Church from the middle of the field.	No change	Views reviewed and maps updated	BNNP 06		✓
BN NE5	Chestnut Avenue Protection	46	Currently these trees may be at risk because of the enormous amount of ivy growing up them. Yes, a Local Tree Preservation Order is needed now.	No change	NHDC have made it clear that we cannot request a TPO for these trees as part of a NP	BNNP 15		✓
		47	We welcome the production of this neighbourhood plan, and are pleased to see that the historic environment of your parish features throughout. In particular, we welcome Section 3.4: Heritage, and policies BN HA1, HA2, and HA3. We consider that overall, this plan has a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment in your parish.	No change	Noted		HE	✓
BN HA1	Designated Heritage Assets	52	The county council supports the aim of BN HA1 to conserve designated heritage assets and their setting and of Policy BN HA2 to conserve non-designated heritage assets. Nevertheless policies BN HA1 and BN HA2 should be examined to make sure that they are not simply repeating national and local planning policies.	No change	Both BN HA1 & HA2 contain specific local sites so are not simply repeating national planning policies		HCC	✓
BN HA2	Non-designated Heritage Assets	53	Happy that Ash Grove Woodland is an area of ancient woodland and does not relate to the name of my house Ashgrove. Also content that the house Ashgrove remains in policy BN HA2 Non-Designated Heritage Assets.	No change		BNNP 01		✓

BN HA2	Non-designated Heritage Assets	53	Suggestion for addition : Bath House	No change	Bath House is a listed building	BNNP 10		✓
BN L3	Development of a Community Hub	57	We are living on the BK1 site, so we understand the need for new housing, however we are a small 12 house unit and not all these houses have been sold yet. The small development means that we have not impacted the wider village too much, however we are aware of the impact this small development has had on the residents. We believe having such a large development next to our development would segregate us from the main village	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 11		✓
BN L4	Protected Recreational Open Space	58	The classification for this area on the Neighbourhood Plan is currently showing as "Recreational Open Spaces". I feel that this classification should be removed as this area is private and is open by appointment and authorisation only and there should not be any misinterpretation that this area is open to the general public which may lead to the misuse of it. The landowners require that authorised users have Full public liability insurance to enter this area along with a Health & Safety risk assessment. As a business I am required to pre-book my attendance with the landowners and supply on request full details of all persons attending my dog training classes. My attendees are restricted to this area and limited to accessing it at the specifically booked times and areas.	No change	Barkway Dog Park is not designated as a Protected Open Space, it is only identified as a valued community asset	BNNP 26		✓
BN E1	Preserving and Developing Local Employment Opportunities	59	Para 3.6 We agree that local employment opportunities should be encouraged and we also believe that it is vital that such facilities are only supported by the Community if they are sustainable, will have an overall positive impact on the area and will protect and enhance both the environment and wellbeing of the community. We believe that to better achieve a number of the Plan's Objectives (Section 2), as well as adequately addressing the purpose of the Plan expressed in Para 1.4. (The Purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan), a more detailed representation needs to be provided on the position of the community relating to the development of commercial activities. This would also help inform potential new businesses, as well as any existing businesses planning to expand, about the level of community support they could enjoy, or otherwise, for their plans and could also strengthen their social licence. Whilst there are some common considerations for development of housing and commercial activities, there are some additional considerations that apply to, for example, light industry that should be considered for inclusion in the Plan. We make some suggestions in the accompanying paragraphs below.	No change	<i>See below for suggested changes relating to local employment comments</i>	BNNP 08		✓
		60	Transport and Parking : We are already concerned about the traffic flow through the high street. The speed of the cars and high traffic volumes are already too busy, especially during school drop off/pick-ups. I know this from walking to school with my daughter every day and the lack of parking. More housing will massively increase the traffic flow through both ends of the village.	No change	It is already noted in the NP that residents are opposed to BK3 and policy BN H5 is there to put constraints on this site if it goes ahead	BNNP 11		✓
BN T2	Mitigating Traffic Impact	63	Include local people who work at Barkway School? Traffic impact would be increased with extra houses – how can this reduce existing congestion?	No change	Policy BN T2 is only a mitigation policy and is not saying that the congestion would be reduced by extra houses	BNNP 15		✓
BN T5	Vehicle Parking in Residential Development	64	BN T5 Vehicle Parking: Should the provision of off street parking for new developments be included in H1 (Design of New Homes)?	No change	We don't want to include the same statement twice in different policies	BNNP 10		✓
			We have reviewed the information submitted and have no further comments to make at this time. (Property Planning Team)	No change	Noted		HCC	✓

Barkway Parish Council - List of Consultees

Organisations only – addresses and contact details withheld

Hertfordshire Gardens Trust

H & MWT

Herts Biological Records Centre

Community Development Agency for Herts

Herts Building Preservation Trust

NH Friends of the Earth

Herts Constabulary

Environment Agency

HCC

Sport England

NHS East and North Hertfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group

Anglian Water Services

Anglian Water Services

Herts Constabulary

Hutchinson 3G

O2

T Mobile

Vodafone

Natural England

English Heritage

Arriva

East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust

BT

Centrica

EDF Energy

Diocesan Board of Finance

Herts Fire & Rescue

Hertfordshire Highways

National Grid

Powergen

RWENPOWER

RSPB

Transco

Affinity Water

Local Nature Partnership

National Grid - Gas

UK Power Networks

UK Power Networks - Asset Management

UK Power Networks - Electricity
Orange

NHDC Estates

Barley
Reed
Royston Town Council

Buckland – East Herts
Wyddial – East Herts
Anstey – East Herts
Meesden – East Herts
Langley Parish – in Uttlesford

East Herts DC
Uttlesford DC
Essex CC

Shire Consulting

Clare Skeels

From: clerk@barkwayparishcouncil.gov.uk
Sent: 30 October 2024 13:41
To: Clare Skeels
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Barkway and Nuthampstead NP - Examiner's queries
Attachments: Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting - Tues 12th March 2024.docx
Categories: Barkway NP

Dear Clare,

Thank your email of yesterday.

Please find attached a copy of the Minutes from the Barkway Parish Council meeting held on 12th March 2024 (item 10.2.5) where it was resolved to approve the Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan for submission to North Herts.

I am still awaiting a copy of the minutes from Nuthampstead Parish Meeting, which I believe took place on 20th March. I will forward these as soon as I receive them. I understand that the Clerk has been away.

I can confirm that I did consult with Essex County Council, Reed Parish Council and Herts County Council but only Herts County Council responded.

With thanks and kind regards,

Catharine Toms
Clerk to Barkway Parish Council
[REDACTED]

Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan 2018 - 2031

Habitats Regulation Assessment – Initial Screening	
Name of Neighbourhood Plan	Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan 2018 – 2031 – Regulation 14 version
Name of Qualifying Body	Barkway Parish Council
Date of screening	17 January 2024
Screened by	Clare Skeels

Initial screening question 1		
	Y / N	Commentary
Does the Neighbourhood Plan propose any development allocations which are additional or alternate to the sites proposed in the North Hertfordshire Local Plan 2011-2031?	No	<p>The neighbourhood plan does not allocate any sites for development. There are policies which address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the design of new development, particularly residential development; • the protection of the natural environment and built heritage assets; • the protection of community facilities; and • mitigating traffic impact and making provision for safe and accessible walking and cycling routes.

If the answer to the above question is “No”, the Neighbourhood Plan is not considered to have the potential to cause a likely significant adverse effect on a European Site and no further action is required.

If the answer to the above question is “Yes”, please proceed to Initial screening question 2.

Initial screening question 2		
	Y / N or N/A	Commentary
Does the designated neighbourhood area (or any part of it) lie (i) wholly or partially within; or	Y	The designated Barkway and Nuthampstead neighbourhood planning area falls within both the Thames River Basin District (Lee Upper Management Catchment) and the Anglian

(ii) in close proximity to* the Thames River Basin District?	<p>River Basin District (Cam and Ely Ouse Management Catchment.</p> <p>See maps available at: https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/</p> <p>There are no new proposals for site allocations in the neighbourhood plan and it is considered that no further assessments are required, as set out in the explanatory notes below.</p>
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If the answer to the above question is “No”, the Neighbourhood Plan is not considered to have the potential to cause a likely significant adverse effect on a European Site and no further action is required.

If the answer to the above question is “Yes”, please contact the District Council who will advise on how to proceed.

**Sites close to watershed boundaries may be subject to commercial or operational agreements where water is pumped to, or otherwise treated within the adjoining River Basin District. Please contact the District Council for further advice if you consider the answer to (ii) may be “Yes”.*

DRAFT

Explanatory Note

The Habitats Regulations say that relevant plans should identify whether they are likely to have a significant effect on certain types of nature conservation sites. These are known as European Sites. This requirement applies to both Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans.

The District Council will address any requirements in relation to the Habitats Regulations that arise from its Local Plans. Qualifying Bodies in the District will only need to address the requirements of the Habitats Regulations insofar as they relate to any new or different proposals in their Neighbourhood Plans. From work carried out to date for the Local Plan, we already know that:

- There are no European Sites within North Hertfordshire District. Plans within the District cannot result in the direct physical loss or damage of habitat;
- There are no European Sites within 500m of North Hertfordshire District. This is the buffer within which disturbance from noise, vibration or light might be an issue;
- There are no European Sites within 5km of North Hertfordshire District. This is the buffer within which additional visitors to the site(s) might need to be managed;
- There are three European Sites within 15km of the District. This is the initial zone within which species might reasonably be assumed to travel in search of food (forage) from:
 - Eversdon and Wimpole Woods Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
 - Wormley – Hoddesdonpark Woods SAC
 - Lee Valley Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Further analysis shows that the specific species for which the Eversdon and Wimpole Woods SAC and Lee Valley SPA are designated are unlikely to forage more than 8km from these sites. No part of the District falls within this buffer;
- Further analysis shows that Wormley – Hoddesdonpark Woods SAC is designated for the presence of specific tree species, rather than animals. This means that it is not necessary to look at (potential) foraging pathways from this site;
- **It is therefore not necessary for neighbourhood plans within the District to consider any of the above matters further under the Habitats Regulations;**
- Assessment may be required outside of the buffer zones above where development may impact upon a European Site for other reasons. One European Site is identified on this basis.
- Wastewater from those parts of the District within the Thames Water catchment is treated at a site next to the Lee Valley SPA. If this site does not have the capacity to appropriately treat wastewater arising from new development, it could have an effect on the SPA. This is a matter that requires further investigation under the Habitats Regulations;
- Relevant sites within local plans that fall within, or otherwise in close proximity to, the Thames Water catchment will be identified and assessed through the local plan process. Local plans will contain any necessary measures to avoid significant effects from these sites;
- **Any neighbourhood plans that do not propose additional or alternate development sites to those in local plans will not need to consider this matter further under the Habitats Regulations.**
- **Any neighbourhood plans proposing additional or alternate development sites but which are wholly outside or not otherwise in close proximity to the Thames Water catchment will not need to consider this matter further under the Habitats Regulations.**