HAMMERWICH

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2018-2040

CONSULTATION STATEMENT



Introduction

This Consultation Statement is one of the documents that Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 require the Parish Council to prepare when they submit their Neighbourhood Plan to the Local Planning Authority.

The First Step - PARISH SURVEY

The Steering Group set up by Hammerwich Parish Council to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan decided that the first step should be a Parish Survey to gather solid evidence of the views people have on the planning and environmental issues facing the Parish. This would help in formulating the overall strategy the Neighbourhood Plan should have, and what the policies should try to achieve.

The Survey was undertaken in May-June 2014 by delivering a survey form to every house in the Parish, some 1557 copies.

485 survey forms were received back by the Parish Council, representing a 31% response rate.

The results of the Survey are set out in the Evidence Base Document accompanying the Plan, and the key messages coming out of the Survey are set out in para 4.2 of the Neighbourhood Plan itself.

Lichfield District Council comments

Lichfield District Council made general and detailed comments on early, pre-consultation drafts in February 2016 and March 2018. They also responded to the consultation on the Second Draft in August 2019. With a few exceptions, their suggestions as to improvements and changes were accepted and incorporated into the Plan. Any that were not, LDC repeated in their subsequent consultation responses, the last being their response to the Third Draft, sent in November 2020. This is summarised on page 22 below, under the Third Draft heading, with the Parish Council's response alongside.

Consultation on FIRST DRAFT of the Plan

A first draft for consultation was ready late in 2016, but due to reasons set out in para1.4 of the Plan, it was not until 2018 that a first draft was published for comments.

All households in the Parish were sent the following letter from the Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Vance Wasdell, on 25th November 2018, and this is reproduced below.

The following were also contacted directly:

St Joseph's RC Church, Burntwood	Christ Church C of E, Burntwood
Burntwood Methodist Church	St Johns Church, Hammerwich
Hammerwich Hall Care Home	Burntwood Mums
Youth and Community Centre	Erasmus Darwin Academy
Ridgeway School	Natural England
Environment Agency	Historic England
Neighbouring Parish Councils:	South East Staffs & Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning
Wall, Chorley, Stonnall, Shenstone, Brownhills and Burntwood	Group
Network Rail	Highways England
Lichfield District Council	Staffordshire County Council
Coal Authority	National Grid
Western Power Transmission	Severn Trent Water & South Staffordshire Water

The First Draft was advertised for viewing and comments on: the Parish Council website; Women's Institute (notice board); and Ashmole Club (notice board). It was also advertised at Burntwood Library, in the local press - Lichfield Mercury and Lichfield Live (local news website) - and on Twitter and Facebook.

The consultation started on mid October 2018 and finished at the end of December 2018.

Three Public Events were held at: (i) Youth & Community Centre, Burntwood Road 3rd December 2018

- (ii) Erasmus Darwin Academy on 10th December 2018
- (iii) Ridgeway School [Triangle Ward] 17th December 2018

The meetings were introduced by the Chair of the Parish Council (and Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group) Cllr Vance Wasdell, and a Powerpoint presentation of the Policies was then given. Attendance varied between about 12 to more than 30 people.

The consultation started on mid October 2018 and finished at the end of December 2018.

Communication to Hammerwich Residents from Hammerwich Parish Council. 25th November 2018

Dear Resident.

DRAFT HAMMERWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Hammerwich Parish Council Local Neighbourhood Plan Committee has been preparing a Draft Local Neighbourhood Plan over the last few months and included local meetings with Residents. Having been approved by the Parish Council we now wish to consult with the residents of the Parish to see if we have identified the most important issues prior to submission to Lichfield District Council.

We have selected local reference points in the Parish to publicise this draft plan and would invite you to let us know your thoughts. Have we missed out important areas of concern, included inaccuracies or hopefully identified the issues you want to see incorporated into the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan that will have been sent in draft form to all residents of the Parish?

Your thoughts and comments can be sent by email to either Vance Wasdell (Chair of the Parish Council) Moira Constable (Vice-Chair) or Rod Campbell (Parish Councillor) at Hammerwich-consultation@outlook.com to reach us by the 31st December 2018. Alternatively, you can email Ellen Bird (Parish Clerk) at hammerwichparishclerk@gmail.com to reach her by the same date. A summary of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the Parish Web site at www.hammerwichparishcouncil.co.uk

Yours faithfully,

Vance Wasdell. Chair of Hammerwich Parish Council

Copies of Posters Advertising Public Meetings

One example of the 3 notices sort and in PUBLIC MEETING

MONDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2018
HERE AT HAMMERWICH COMMUNITY CENTRE

DRAFT HAMMERWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

6.30 TO 8.30PM

ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND AND GIVE YOUR VIEWS ON THE PLAN PREPARED BY THE HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL PRIOR TO DISTRICT COUNCIL INSPECTION.

A COPY OF THE PLAN WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR YOU AT THE MEETING.

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT HAMMERWICH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PUBLIC EVENTS AT

ERASMUS DARWIN ACADEMY (small Meetir Room in Sports Block)

MONDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2018

FROM 6.30-8.00PM

RIDGEWAY SCHOOL

MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2018

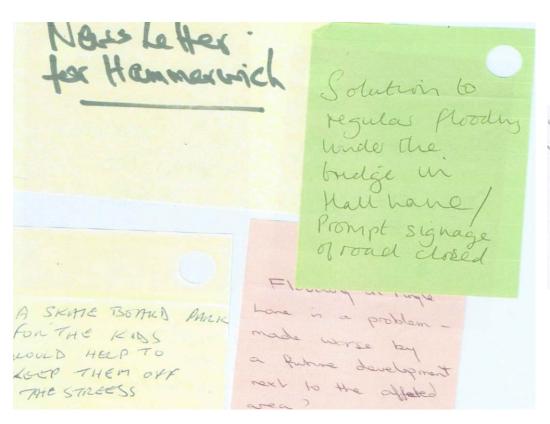
FROM 6.30PM-8.00PM

All welcome to come and view a slide show receive a copy of the draft plan and give your view: on the Plan. Attendees at the Public Events were asked to record their responses to the presentation on the First Draft on post-it notes (see images below of a few of them). The full list of comments were:

"More bungalows for elderly would free up larger homes for	"Working from home needs better internet connection poor in
larger families."	Hammerwich area" "BT broadband speed too low"
"Against back garden/infill developments in Highfield Road	"Gas line needs to be extended beyond Overton Lane into
area" (x3 comments)	Meerash Lane"
"[Neighbourhood]Plan needs to be rubber-stamped before	"Thanks for keeping Hammerwich an attractive place to live"
[general] election and State forces something on us"	
"51% [Referendum] approval a tough challenge"	"Only 2 iconic views? There are others"
"LDC have ignored Burntwood and Hammerwich"	"Good to keep young families in the Village to keep it alive –
	affordable housing needed to do this
"Please include something on importance of trees around	"As footpaths are important to 90% of [Survey] respondents,
Village"	please include map showing them and text on why they are of
	value."
"Retain existing open green space"	"Essential to maintain Green Belt to avoid Burntwood and
	Brownhills becoming combined and indistinguishable. Would
	entirely change character of area."
"Dog mess on pavement" (x2 comments) "Horse mess on	"More pedestrian crossings on the estates required so that the
pavement" "Signs requesting not to drop litter".	many children can access play areas"
	"Crossing needed across Hospital Road to playing field" (x5
	comments)

 "Concerns regarding Hall Lane: Volume and speed of traffic State of road/repairs Flooding under bridge (x2 comments) Car boot sales" 	"Traffic calming/speed restriction with enforcement required on Hospital Road" (x3 comments)
"Flooding in Pingle Lane is a problem – made worse by a future development next to the affected area?"	"Surface water is an issue in Pingle Lane, Mill Lane and Rail Bridge [Hall Lane]"
"Road surface of Overton Lane between Pingle Lane and Coppy Nook Lane needs repairs"	"Parking situation in Overton lane is dire – through traffic movement is becoming impossible. Future development needs to be mindful of limitations of existing roads"
"Concern about exit for vehicles from Ridgeway to Hospital Road – view towards Burntwood restricted"	"Misuse of car park on Hospital Road playing fields – gates need to be locked at night"
"Better use could be made of Wharf Road scrap dealer as a bus depot"	"Provision needed for parking especially on new developments. Parking for the WI is an issue"
"Cycle routes should be improved to Brownhills"	"Boy racers on M6 Link Toll Road" [M6 Toll Road Link?] "M6 Toll Road noise pollution"
"Trim hedges to avoid cars having to go into middle of road on Coppy Nook Road" (x3 comments) " on Norton Lane" "around the Village" "Get SCC to force landowners to cut hedges and verges"	"Infrequent public transport – needed for elderly, and younger people to get work if don't have car. Infrequency contributes to apparent underuse." (x5 comments) "Bus very important"
	"Coppy Nook Lane not suitable for buses."
"Doctors and Dentists services needed if more houses are being built"	Outdoor facilities need improving for children – are there youth clubs/facilities for teens in the area? [Public] transport to Burntwood Leisure centre poor"
"A skateboard park for young people would help keep them off the streets"	"Newsletter for Hammerwich" [required]

Examples of Some of the Public Meeting Comments Left on Memo Notes



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Consultation on SECOND DRAFT of the Plan

The consultation period was from 22nd July to 2nd September 2019.

The Second Draft appeared on the Parish Council's website, with the opportunity to comment online. Press releases were sent to Lichfield Mercury, Touch FM (local radio station), Lichfield Live (local news website).

Notification was sent to all those on the consultation list for the First Draft (see above), plus Burntwood Dragons (football club) and it was advertised on Facebook.

Responses were received from: (i) Natural England, referring to their standard statement on issues and opportunities that should be taken into account when preparing a neighbourhood plan;

- (ii) The Coal Authority, who had no comments since no sites were being put forward for development;
- (iii) Staffordshire County Council, whose comments are summarised below, with comments on how they were used in refining the Neighbourhood Plan towards its Third Draft;
- (iv) Claremont Planning on behalf of Harworth Group plc; and
- (v) Turley Associates Ltd on behalf of Redrow Homes Ltd.

Both Claremont Planning and Turley represented clients who were putting forward separate Green Belt developments in the Parish. The Harworth Group proposal for 1300 homes effectively filled in the Green Belt between Hammerwich Village and the built-up area of Burntwood. Redrow Homes were pursuing a site for 250 homes that would form an urban extension from Burntwood onto Green Belt land south of Highfield Road.

Both responses to this Neighbourhood Plan were on the basis that it had "no regard to the fact that a review of the Lichfield development plan has already commenced to take account of identified cross boundary [primarily West Midlands] housing requirements" (Claremont Planning) and "that the HNP is being progressed in accordance with the [old] Local Plan Strategy rather

than the emerging Local Plan Review (LPR)" (Turley Associates). They "fear that the HNP will almost immediately become obsolete (upon the adoption of the LPR)." (For an explanation of the Local Plan Review and its relation to providing for West Midlands housing needs, see para 3.2 of the NP document).

Following this consultation on the NP Second Draft, considerable work was undertaken to ensure that the NP not only conformed generally to the strategic policies of the current Local Plan Strategy (against which, according to the Regulations, the NP must be examined), but also the most up to date version of the Local Plan Review when this had reached an advanced stage, having been through considerable public consultation. Subsequent to the August 2019 comments from Claremont Planning and Turley, Lichfield District Council, using their Green Belt Review as evidence base, are proposing Green Belt sites in other parts of the District, but not the two sites put forward by Harworth and Redrow, or any other site in the Parish.

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTS	RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
Support for Lichfield District policies which aim to improve biodiversity	Comment welcomed.
is welcomed. Community woodland and hedge planting are also	
welcome and will help improve ecological connectivity as well as	
benefiting species already present in the area such as bats and badgers.	
Support for Lichfield District policies which aim to improve biodiversity	Link between canal sides and biodiversity has now been strengthened in text.
is welcomed. Community woodland and hedge planting are also	LDC Local Plan Strategy Policy NR3 (and Policy ONR2 in the Review) appears to
welcome and will help improve ecological connectivity as well as	offer sufficient reference to the local Biodiversity Action Plans (including the
benefiting species already present in the area such as bats and badgers.	one for the National Forest) and the need for development to take the relevant
Where opportunities arise (such as canal restoration) it would be	documents into account.
helpful to have a clear idea of what biodiversity opportunities and	
priorities will be. The Neighbourhood Plan should therefore refer to	
biodiversity network mapping currently being undertaken for LDC,	
which will indicate habitat priorities. In terms of species local	
interventions could benefit farmland seed-eating birds, amphibia	
(several ponds are present in the area) and hedgehogs to name a few.	
The Parish has only small watercourses. However, they are headwaters	
so protecting them from pollution and being vigilant concerning	
invasive non-native species, such as Himalayan balsam is important.	
Agricultural pollution in the form of soil (silt) and fertilisers affects	

many watercourses and can be reduced by features such as buffer	
strips. Tree planting alongside short lengths of water is also important	
in cooling water, while re-naturalising watercourse form and adding	
large woody debris are also beneficial in most situations.	
It is pleasing to note that the Hammerwich Neighbourhood Plan	Comments welcomed. Evidence Base document includes relevant Historic
acknowledges the importance of heritage to the identity of the parish	Environment Character Assessment maps and Historic Character Assessments.
(Section 4.3) and that local communities actively engage with their	
history (Section 6.8). The plan also sets out clear policies in relation to	
local heritage assets, including archaeological sites and features (Policy	
LEnv3), their importance in relation to historic character, setting and	
landscape views (Section 7.7 and Sections 9.7-9.10) as well as	
acknowledging the potential for previously unrecorded archaeological	
remains to survive within the parish (Section 9.11). Section 9 and Policy	
LEnv3 could be strengthened by linking back to the relevant sections of	
the NPPF (Section 16: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic	
Environment) and the Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy (Section 12:	
Built and Historic Environment). It would also benefit from more clearly	
identifying both designated and undesignated heritage assets within	
the parish, for example by the inclusion of a heritage asset map and or	
gazetteer (which can be supplied by the Historic Environment Record	
upon request (email: her@staffordshire.gov.uk). Examples of other	
local Neighbourhood Plans which have done this successfully include	
Whittington near Lichfield.	
Policies around Housing, Building Design and Local Green Space could	It is considered that sufficient reference to this has been made.
also be expanded to make reference to opportunities for the	
conservation and enhancement of the historic character of the parish.	
Further advice on the contribution of the historic environment to	
Neighbourhood Plans can also be found on Historic England's website.	
The Neighbourhood Plan also includes a policy relating to redundant	Policy LE1 (now LEc1) now has a cross reference to LDC Strategic Policy NR5 on
farm buildings (Policy LE1). Staffordshire County Council, in partnership	historic landscapes.
with Historic England, have produced guidance which provides a	
framework for understanding the contribution of such heritage assets	
to the historic landscape character of Staffordshire as well as offering	

design advice to enable their longer term conservation and sensitive conversion. Policy LE1 may benefit from making reference to such guidance, which is available online.

The plan recognises to some degree the need to retain, promote and protect local parks and open spaces within and the surrounding area of Hammerwich, which is an important factor in helping to promote healthier lifestyles. The Plan notes an increase in the level of housebuilding and new developments should seek to improve nonvehicular public access to the wider path network. In this context the plan could strive to increase the levels of physical activity and the public rights of way network should be integral to any schemes that are developed e.g. improving accessibility on the walking, horse riding and cycling networks (including towpath links) throughout the District.

It is considered that this matter is adequately covered in the Plan.

It should be noted that the production of a Transport Statement to support new development usually relate to developments of 50+ dwellings. As the Plan seeks to support small scale in-fill development it may be that a Transport Statement is not an appropriate mechanism. In accordance with Planning Guidance on Travel Plans, Transport Assessments and Statements (Paragraph: 004 Reference ID: 42-004-20140306) it is suggested you contact our Highways Development Management to discuss what evaluation may be needed to address the concerns the Parish has. In this respect please contact Mark Evans - mark.evans@staffordshire.gov.uk.

Whilst there are no public transport services in Hammerwich itself, there are services on the periphery of the Parish and there is a service operating along the road from Brownhills/A5 into Chasetown (Ogley Hay Road/Hanney Hay Road/Highfields Road) NX service 10A every 20-30 mins Mon-Sat, hourly on Sunday. In addition, the Lichfield and District Voluntary Car Scheme would serve the Hammerwich area. It is open to all residents who pay their council tax to Lichfield District.

Paragraph 111 of the National Planning Policy Framework sets out that all developments that generate significant amounts of transport movement should be supported by a Transport Statement or Transport Assessment. Para 004 of Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), to which Staffs County Council refer, refers to transport assessment of the Local Plan. It is paragraphs 013 to 015 (Reference ID: 42-013-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014) of PPG that set out the requirements for Transport Assessments and Statements when considering planning applications . It is the potential requirement for a Transport Statement when considering planning applications which is the subject of NP Policy T1. There is no mention in either NPPF or PPG of a minimum size of development requiring either one of these documents. The Staffordshire County Council's own advice is that developments as small as 10 dwellings or 500 to 1000m² of commercial floorspace might require a Statement:

https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Highways/highwayscontrol/Documents/SCC-Highways-Pre-Application-Info-Pack-Nov17-v1.0.pdf This document also states that for developments of 50 dwellings upwards, either Statements, or the more comprehensive Assessments, might be required. The scale of development envisaged in Hammerwich is unlikely to require a full-scale

There are currently no resources identified to provide significant new cycle infrastructure in this location, but new developer funding could be used to provide improvements to the network locally if available and work towards completion of a link between the A5 and Lichfield, east of Hammerwich. The provision of a link adjacent to the A461 could form part of a link into Lichfield from the A5 and onto the A5190 north east of Hammerwich. There is an existing advisory cycle route running along Hall Lane from the A5 into Hammerwich and a further advisory route running along Burntwood Rd from Hammerwich towards Burntwood.

Assessment, but could very easily justify a Statement if traffic problems are likely to occur.

The bus services currently serving the Parish as a whole are set out in para 8.6 of the NP.

Funding towards appropriate sections of the cycling improvements listed in the NP would be sought from a number of sources, including Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds, when available to the Parish Council.

We note the residents' concerns regarding open space within The Local Environment Section. Potentially, somewhere between paragraphs 9.3 and 9.6, it may be appropriate to include a statement along the lines of the following:

New development where areas of open space are included within the proposed layout, should be encouraged to incorporate above ground SuDS features within the drainage design to offer amenity value, enhancement of biodiversity and minimise flood risk. This may go some way to encouraging developers to consider the appropriate

allocation of space at the concept stage of the development.

The incorporation of SuDS features is certainly supported, but the scale of development likely to come forward in the Parish is unlikely to be large enough to support such a feature.

Consultation on THIRD DRAFT of the Plan (Regulation 14 Consultation)

Consultation on the Third Draft of the Plan was due to take place early in 2020, but this was delayed until October 2020 by the restrictions in place due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The consultation took place from 6th October to 16th November 2020 when lockdown restrictions had been relaxed slightly (though not sufficiently to allow meetings etc).

The following were contacted:

	Consultation Body	Contact
(a)	Local Planning Authority, County Council or	Lichfield District Council
	Parish Council any part of whose area is in or	Planning Policy Manager
	adjoins the area of the local planning authority	Lichfield District Council
		District Council House
		Frog Lane
		Lichfield
		Staffordshire
		WS13 6YY
		developmentplans@lichfielddc.gov.uk
		Staffordshire County Council
		Planning, Policy & Development Control
		Staffordshire County Council
		1 Staffordshire Place (Floor 2)
		Stafford
		ST16 2LP
		planning@staffordshire.gov.uk
		All NEIGHBOURING Parish Councils
		Wall
		Chorley
		Stonnall
		Shenstone

		Brownhills
		Burntwood
		Adjoining Local Authorities
		Walsall Council
		Planning Policy
		Walsall Council
		The Civic Centre
		Darwall Street
		Walsall
		West Midlands
		WS1 1TP
		PlanningPolicy@walsall.gov.uk
		The strong of th
		Cannock Chase District
		Planning Policy
		Cannock Chase Council
		Civic Centre
		PO Box 28
		Beecroft Road
		Cannock
		Staffordshire
		WS11 1BG
		planningpolicy@cannockchasedc.gov.uk
		<u>pianningpolicy@cannockcnaseuc.gov.uk</u>
(h)	The Coal Authority	The Coal Authority
(b)	The Coal Authority	200 Lichfield Lane
		Berry Hill
		Mansfield
		Nottinghamshire

		NG18 4RG
		planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk
(c)	Natural England	Natural England
, ,		Hornbeam House
		Crewe Business Park
		Electra Way
		Crewe
		Cheshire
		CW1 6GJ
		consultations@naturalengland.org.uk
(d)	The Environment Agency	Environment Agency
		Sentinel House
		9 Wellington Crescent
		Fradley Park
		Lichfield
		WS13 8RR
		Kazi.hussain@environment-agency.gov.uk
		becky.clarke@environment-agency.gov.uk
		swwmplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk
(e)	Historic England	Highways England
		The Axis
		10 Holliday Street
		Birmingham B1 1TG
		west.midlands@english-heritage.org.uk
		e-wmids@english-heritage.org.uk
		peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk
(f)	Network Rail	Town Planning Team LNW
		Network Rail
		1 st Floor, Square One
		4Travis Street
		Manchester
		M1 2NY

		townplanninglnw@networkrail.co.uk
(g)	Highways England	Highways England
		The Cube
		199 Wharfside Street
		Birmingham
		B1 1RN
		planningm@highways.gsi.gov.uk
		ominder.bharj@highways.gsi.gov.uk
(h)	Primary Care Trust (PCT)	South East Staffs & Seisdon Peninsula Clinical Commissioning Group
		Merlin House
		Etchell Road
		Tamworth
		Staffordshire
		B78 3HF
		Sessp.ccg@nhs.net
		East Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
		Edwin House
		Second Avenue
		Centrum 100
		Burton-On-Trent
		DE14 2WF
		Cannock Chase Clinical Commissioning Group
		Greyfriars Therapy Centre
		Unit 12
		Greyfriars Business Park
		Greyfriars
		Stafford
		ST16 2ST
		cannockccg.feedback@northstaffs.nhs.uk

(i)	Person to whom a licence has been granted	National Grid
	under the Electricity Act (1989)	Network Analysis, Network Strategy
	Person to whom a licence has been granted	Brick Kiln Street
	under the Gas Act (1986)	Area 6 Block 4
		Hinckley
		LE10 ONA
		Nationalgrid.enquiries@nationalgrid.com
		Western Power Transmission
		Herald Way
		Pegasus Business Park
		East Midlands Airport
		Castle Donnington
		DE74 2TU
(j)	A sewerage undertaker	Planning
	A water undertaker	Severn Trent Water
		PO Box 5309
		Coventry
		CV3 9FH
		South Staffordshire Water
		Green Lane
		Walsall
		WS2 7PB

(k)	Voluntary bodies whose activities benefit all or	Ridgeway & Erasmus Darwin Schools	
	any part of the neighbourhood area.	Wildlife Group	
(I)	Bodies which represent the interests of different	Ramblers Association	
	racial, ethnic or national groups in the	Cyclist Group	
	neighbourhood area.	Cyclist shop in Lichfield with poster	
(m)	Bodies which represent the interests of different	Cricket Club	
	religious groups in the neighbourhood area.	Ashmole Club	
(n)	Bodies which represent the interests of persons	Burntwood Dragons FC	
	carrying out business in the neighbourhood area.	. Women's Institute	
(o)	Bodies which represent the interests of disabled	St.Johns Church, Hammerwich	
	people in the neighbourhood area.	Burntwood Library – (burntwood.library@staffordshire.gov.uk)- 01543 334466	
		Touch FM Radio Station	
		Lichfield Live (local news website)	
		Facebook	
		Twitter	

The following responses were received:

	RESPONDENT	SUMMARY OF RESPONSE	PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE
1	Coal Authority	Our records indicate that within the Neighbourhood Plan area there are areas of likely historic unrecorded coal mine workings at shallow depth. Surface coal resource is also recorded to be present within the area defined for the Neighbourhood Plan boundary. These issues require more detailed consideration if new sites are proposed for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan. I have reviewed the Neighbourhood Plan and note that it does not propose to allocate any new sites for future development, on this basis we have no specific comments to make.	Comments welcomed
2	Historic England	No adverse comments to make upon the draft plan which we feel takes a suitably proportionate approach to the main historic environment issues pertaining to the plan area. We commend the commitment in the Plans Vision, objectives and policies to support well designed development that is sympathetic to the character of the area whilst conserving significant local heritage assets (including through Local Listing) and archaeological remains. Proposals to consolidate and enhance existing green infrastructure, protect open spaces and respect views are equally commendable.	Comments welcomed
3	Lichfield District Council	A number of points are made in a reply dated 12 Nov 2020, many of which are minor textual changes which have been subsequently incorporated into the final version of the Plan formally submitted to LDC. LDC pointed out that the NP will be examined against the existing, adopted Lichfield District Plan, not the Local Plan Review policies currently passing through stages of	Whilst it is true that the NP is examined against the existing adopted Local Plan, it would be foolhardy to ignore the Local Plan Review which is at an advanced stage of preparation. The introduction to the Plan sets out the reasons and risks in taking this

preparation. LDC also wish to see reference to local knowledge on locations liable to local flooding removed because their Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has identified those sites to which Local Plan and national policies should be applied. LDC also wish to see the parking standards in Policy T2 deleted.

approach. In the Basic Conditions
Statement, the NP policies are compared to both the existing and the forthcoming strategic policies, and found to be in general conformity with both sets.

The SFRA assesses strategic areas, and would not necessarily pick up individual locations where localised flooding might take place, particularly from run-off. Hall Lane was one location mentioned during earlier consultation (see record above of comments made at Public Events) and also by parish councillors. This Policy highlights: the problem; the opportunity for developers to check with the Parish Council if their development might alter local drainage patterns; and it helps LDC development management officers by providing a point to be checked off when evaluating a planning proposal particularly in the rural area of Hammerwich Parish.

With regard to the parking standards in NP Policy T2, it is clear that the LDC standards (included in a Supplementary Planning Document, and not therefore "strategic policies") are (i) not compliant with NPPF para 106 as they are "maximum" standards. (ii) Para 106 of the NPPF suggests a maximum approach might be reasonable in, say, somewhere like the historic core of Lichfield, where parking

			needs to be severely curtailed, but the LDC standards are "one size fits all", intended to cover all types of area from the city centre of Lichfield, through suburban Lichfield and Burntwood, through to isolated villages and hamlets with no public transport, like Hammerwich Village. It is therefore necessary for these LDC standards to be modified for the widely varying circumstances that prevail throughout the District, and the NP is the place to do this. It is noted that the Elford NP, already "made", incorporates higher standards than the LDC ones.
4	Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust (LHCRT)	Paragraph 3.7 mentions the importance of linkages between habitat areas. We feel that the re-opened towpath, towpath hedgerow, and restored canal channel of the Lichfield Canal within the Parish should be mentioned. While some of this work is proposed rather than completed, the present Plan covers the period until 2040 and I'm sure by then there will be more progress within the boundary of the Parish. The sites where we have already worked include Muckley Corner and the towpath leading westwards from the north side of the Boat Inn, over the Crane Brook, and to the M6 toll aqueduct. Paragraph 3.9 The name of our organisation is the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust, and our scope includes the Lichfield Canal (with a route through the Hammerwich parish) and the, separate, Hatherton Canal with a route near Cannock. Thus this paragraph, and elsewhere in the Plan, should refer to the Lichfield Canal.	Response welcomed, and changes made as requested, including correcting name of Canal throughout the NP, and using the updated map as suggested.

Paragraph 6.3 We are very pleased to see 'our' canal achieve third place in this list of amenities which the residents of Hammerwich wish to see. It is our objective, too, to bring the old canal back into use for the public - with a through route from Ogley junction near Brownhills to Huddlesford on the Coventry Canal.

Page 34 - The title above paragraph 8.7 should refer to the Lichfield Canal.

Paragraph 8.10 - We are supportive of the canal towpath being used by cyclists as well as by pedestrians, with appropriate consideration shown by both for the presence of others. The towpath would need to be appropriately surfaced to enable this shared usage.

Page 37 - We note that you have used the map of the Lichfield Canal from the Lichfield District Council website, which we are not able to update. There is an up-to-date map on our website - the link is: https://www.lhcrt.org.uk/lichfieldcanalmaps.htm. The map, as of today, shows a further active worksite within the Hammerwich parish boundary at Summerhill. The Atkins Feasibility Study report can be accessed from our website at https://www.lhcrt.org.uk/atkins.htm.

Paragraph 9.8 We would wish to see the existing (already reopened) and projected sections of the canal towpath within the Hammerwich parish mentioned in this context. You may be aware of our planning application to Lichfield District Council to construct stairways to either side of the M6 toll aqueduct so that the aqueduct can be used by pedestrians. This application has their approval and further work here is planned for early in 2021.

		Appendix 1 item 4 should make mention of our existing restored towpath for pedestrian use from the Boat Inn to the M6 toll aqueduct, and the projected route for the further restored towpath sections within the Hammerwich parish as these are likely to progress during the lifetime of the present Plan.	
5	Inland Waterways Association, Lichfield Branch	The response from LHCRT details how the Hammerwich Neighbourhood Plan can better acknowledge and encourage the local benefits that restoration of the Lichfield Canal is bringing to the area for access to the countryside, heritage restoration and nature conservation. It is important also to acknowledge that this is a charitable community venture entirely run by volunteers for public benefit. Therefore, the Lichfield Branch of IWA is pleased to fully support LHCRT's comments as above.	See above

The Hammerwich Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by Hammerwich Parish Council with the assistance of gjplanhelp



