Consultation Statement



Whittington & Fisherwick Neighbourhood Plan



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Submission version (as required by Regulation 15.1.d of the **Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012)**

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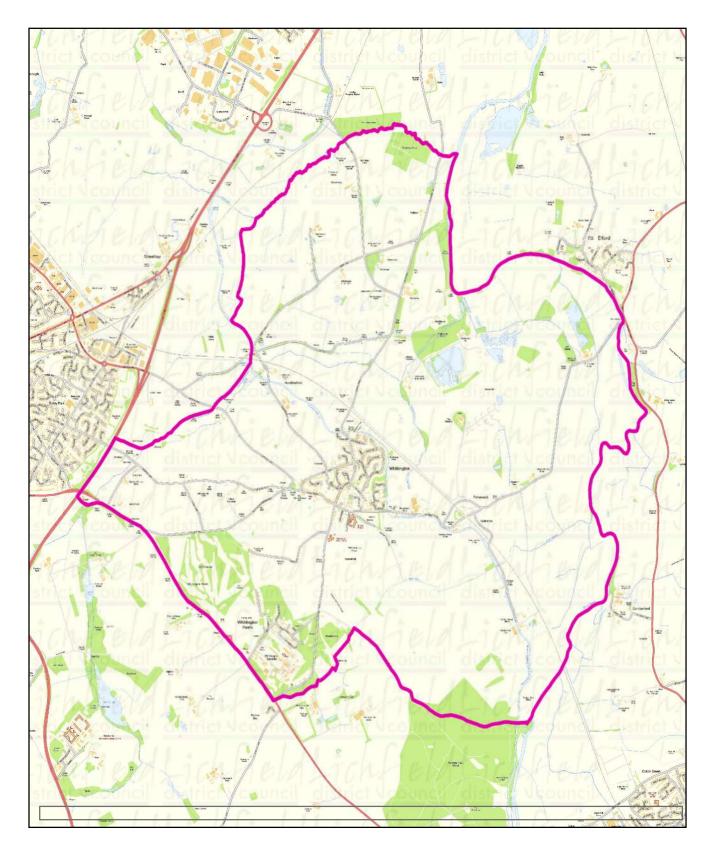
1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Whittington & Fisherwick Neighbourhood Plan (W&FNP) Steering Group (SG) identified consultation as the key to successfully developing a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). In doing so, it recognised the need for consultation with residents, businesses, landowners/developers and for statutory consultation with the prescribed bodies. This Statement describes the approach to consultation; the stages undertaken and explains how the Plan has been amended in relation to comments received. It is set out according to the requirements in Regulation 15.1.b of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012):
 - (a) It contains details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
 - (b) It explains how they were consulted;
 - (c) It summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
 - (d) It describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.
- 1.2 The Steering Group recognised the importance of community engagement throughout the process, with several stages of consultation:
 - Community Events and Questionnaire (September 2014 to March 2015)
 - Landowner and Developer Engagement (March to May 2015)
 - Local Housing Needs (January/February 2016)
 - Open Forum (June 2016)
 - Public and Statutory consultation, on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan (January to March 2017)
- 1.3 A Newsletter will be issued in June or July 2017 summarising the outcomes of Regulation 14 Consultation and to explain to local people how the Submission and Examination process works. This will be followed at the appropriate time on the promotion of the final plan and awareness raising for the local referendum.

2. Designation of Neighbourhood Area

- 2.1 The Localism Act 2011 empowers local communities to take the lead in planning how their own neighbourhoods will develop. Many communities have taken this opportunity to influence the future of their areas. "The Whittington and Fisherwick Neighbourhood Development Plan will enable the local community to shape the future development of the neighbourhood area (the Parish) for the benefit of the local community."
- 2.2 The Neighbourhood Area is the area that is covered by the Neighbourhood Plan. The Whittington and Fisherwick Neighbourhood Area, which is the same as the area of Whittington and Fisherwick Parish, was designated by Lichfield District Council on 8th April 2014 (See Annex 1). This decision confirmed that Whittington and Fisherwick Parish Council is legally empowered to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish. The Whittington and Fisherwick Neighbourhood Area includes the villages of Whittington and Fisherwick and is shown on Map 1, overleaf.

Map 1 Whittington & Fisherwick Neighbourhood Area (Reproduced from The Ordnance Survey Mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Offices (C) Crown Copyright: Licence No.100017765 - 2013).



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3. Earlier (Informal) Consultations (see website: www.wafnp.co.uk/pages/maps.html)

Community Events and Questionnaire (September 2014 to March 2015)

- 3.1 This initial phase involved several activities:
 - The village Countryside Fair held (September 2014)
 - The Open Day held on the 18th October in the Village Hall.
- 3.2 A questionnaire was issued to all residents/households in late 2014. It built on the comments received, and the issues identified at the village Countryside Fair in September 2014 and an Open Day held on 18th October in the Village Hall. The questionnaire addressed 6 issues: Overall village character: Village facilities: Housing: Families & community: Traffic & Parking and Environment. Details of the responses (327 were returned in total).
- 3.3 There was a specific effort to inform/engage **young people**. A youth questionnaire was circulated through groups in early 2015. Twenty five responses were obtained. Consultation was undertaken with the Brownies and Guides and also pupils at the local school.
- 3.4 A targeted effort was made to engage **businesses** and a questionnaire was circulated through in March 2015. Fifteen responses were made.
- 3.5 The analysis of all the responses is given in the (separate) Neighbourhood Plan Appendix B.

Landowner and Developer Engagement (March to May 2015)

3.6 The Steering Group was very keen to engage **landowners and developers** in order that the approach set out to new housing in the plan could be realistic and all encompassing. This involved a series of five meetings with companies representing landowners which were held during the first week in March 2015. The notes of these meetings are given in the (separate) Neighbourhood Plan Appendix G. A Developers Open Forum was held on 16th May 2015, where people could come along to find out about and comment upon the ideas for new housing development. A total of 199 forms were returned. The analysis of public responses is presented in Annex 3 to this report.

Local Housing Needs (January/February 2016)

3.7 Midlands Rural Housing (MRH) undertook a Housing Needs Survey to give an overview of the housing situation in a parish and provide details of the need for local housing. Housing Needs Survey questionnaires were delivered to every household in the Parish in January 2016. The return date for the survey was 22nd February 2016 and returns were made via a postage paid envelope directly to MRH. In total 1400 survey forms were distributed and 267 (19%) were returned. The

survey identified a need for 28 affordable and open market properties within the next 5 years. Details are given in the (separate) Neighbourhood Plan Appendix C.

Open Forum (18th June 2016)

3.8 This was held to give people an opportunity to see and comment on the policy headings which had been drawn up from previous consultations and evidence gathering, prior to detail being added through the drafting of this document. The event was attended by 72 people and the responses were in the main positive.

4. The 6 Week (Regulation 14 Consultation (July to September 2016).

Public Consultation

- 4.1 A report was presented to the Whittington & Fisherwick Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on 22nd Mar. 2016 outlining the public responses to the Draft Plan during the 6-week consultation which ran from January to March 2017.
- 4.2 Two exhibitions/meetings were held in Whittington. There were attended by a total of 78 people (including Steering Group members). A total of 156 questionnaires were completed and returned by the deadline of 13th March. Table 1, overleaf, gives the numbers & percentages in relation to each of the questions and lists the other comments made by respondents. The text below summarises the main conclusions to arise from the consultation.
- 4.3 The Vision, Strategic Aims, Planning Policies and Community Proposals were all agreed by over 80% of respondents with the levels of disagreement generally correspondingly low, with all less than 10% except for the Community Proposal CPT M 1 (speed limits and traffic management), at 13%. The neutral responses were also generally low, ranging from 1 to 16%. This level of agreement and support for the Draft Plan is very pleasing and there is no basis for the significant amendment or deletion of any of the Strategic Aims or Planning Policies.
- 4.4 Data on age showed bias towards older age groups which is typical for a Neighbourhood Plan. The lack of opposition to any particular elements of the Draft may indicate that younger families are content rather than disengaged. However, efforts will need to be made to ensure that younger people are aware as of the NP as it moves thorough Submission, Examination and Referendum.
- 4.5 In accordance with the recommendation, the Steering Group noted and welcomed the high level of support for the Draft Neighbourhood Plan that has been expressed by local people and agreed that, based on the responses obtained, no substantive changes are required to the Vision, Strategic Aims or Policies prior to Submission.
- 4.6 Some other comments were received that were generally supportive and do not require substantial changes to the Draft Plan because of the scope of and intent of the objectives and policies in it. Where non- planning issues have been raised, they will be passed onto the Parish, District or County Councils or other appropriates agencies (e.g. The Police). Detailed comments

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were also made by the Whittington and Fisherwick Environment Group (WFEG). They were set out, with suggested responses to the points made, at the end of the report.

Table 1 – Numbers and Percentages and summary of comments.

156 Questionnaires returned – Not all questions were answered on all questions the 77 non-completed answers (on a range of individual questions across a number of forms) were treated as neutral and included in the neutral figures.

Vision & Strategic Aims	Agree	Disagree	Neutral
Vision	128 (82%)	9 (6%)	19 (12%)
Strategic Aim 1: New Housing and the Settlement boundary	134 (86%)	5 (3%)	17 (11%)
Strategic Aim 2: Design	150 (96%)	1 (1%)	5 (3%)
Strategic Aim 3: Environment and Landscape	152 (98%)	2 (1%)	2 (1%)
Strategic Aim 4: Traffic and Movement	149 (95%)	1 (1%)	6 (4%)
Strategic Aim 5: Community Facilities and Open Spaces	147 (94%)	1 (1%)	8 (5%)
Strategic Aim 6: Flooding and Drainage	152 (98%)	1 (1%)	3 (1%)
Strategic Aim 7: Landscape	149 (95%)	1 (1%)	6 (4%)
Strategic Aim 8: Local Business IT & Telecommunications	132 (85%)	7 (4%)	17 (11%)

Planning Policies	Agree	Disagree	Neutral
DP1 Development Principles:	130 (83%)	11 (7%)	15 (10%)
DP2 Local considerations for proposed locations for new housing development	147 (94%)	3 (2%)	6 (4%)
Policy DP3 Flood Prevention & Management	154 (98%)	1 (1%)	1(1%)
POLICY HOU1: Development inside the village settlement boundary.	130 (83%)	9 (6%)	17 (11%)
Policy HOU2 Smaller infill sites – general criteria.	133 (85%)	11 (7%)	12 (8%)
Policy HOU3: Housing mix and affordability	138 (88%)	6 (4%)	12 (8%)
POLICY D1: The Design of New Development	136 (87%)	8 (5%)	12 (8%)
Policy D2: Reflecting Local Character and Design.	146 (94%)	4 (2%)	6 (4%)
Policy D3: The design of residential conversions and extensions	143 (92%)	2 (1%)	11 (7%)
Policy HE 1: Designated Heritage Assets.	144 (92%)	1 (1%)	11 (7%)
Policy HE 2 Local (Non- Designated) Heritage Assets	136 (87%)	3 (2%)	17 (11%)
Policy HE 3 - Historic Farmsteads	134 (86%)	3 (2%)	19 (12%)
Policy HE 4 Archaeology	128 (82%)	4 (2%)	24 (16%)
Policy NE&L 1 - Landscape Character	145 (93%)	3 (2%)	8 (5%)

Policy NE&L 2 - Biodiversity and Habitats	145 (93%)	4 (3%)	7 (4%)
Policy NE&L 3 for new development and	146 (94%)	3 (2%)	7 (4%)
approaches to Green Infrastructure			
Policy CFOS 1 – Existing Community Facilities	140 (90%)	2 (1%)	14 (9%)
Policy CFOS 2 - New Development	145 (93%)	1 (1%)	10 (6%)
Policy CFOS 3 – Healthcare	150 (96%)	2 (1%)	4 (3%)
Policy CFOS 4 - Existing Open Spaces	148 (95%)	1 (1%)	7 (4%)
Policy CFOS 5 - Open space provision as part of new development	140 (90%)	1 (1%)	15 (9%)
Policy T and M 1 – The impact of new development	143 (92%)	4 (2%)	9 (6%)
Policy T and M 2 - Pedestrian/cycle access and connections	139 (89%)	3 (2%)	14 (9%)
Policy T and M 3 – Managing the impact of HS2	149 (96%)	3 (2%)	4 (2%)
Policy T and M 4 - The West Coast Mainline	136 (87%)	5 (3%)	15 (10%)
Policy T and M 5 The Coventry Canal	146 (93%)	1 (1%)	9 (6%)
Community Proposal- CPT M 1 speed limits and traffic management	116 (75%)	21 (13%)	19 (12%)
Community Proposal - CPT and M2 Public Transport.	144 (92%)	3 (2%)	9 (6%)
Policy LE&B1: Supporting Local Employment and Businesses	132 (85%)	9 (6%)	15 (9%)
Policy T and RE 1 – Telecommunications	132 (85%)	4 (2%)	20 (13%)

Policy T and RE 2 -	125 (80%)	12 (8%)	19 (12%)
Renewable Energy			
Policy AB1 Defence	140 (90%)	4 (2%)	12 (8%)
Medical Services (DMS)			

Age Groups

18-40 8 (5%)	41-60 39 (25%)	60+ 100 (64%)	Not Recorded 9 (6%)

Summary of other comments from the public and the detailed response comments from Whittington & Fisherwick Environment Group

Thanks and appreciation	21
Housing	
Housing is needed for younger people	4
Ensure a good variety of new homes	2
110 houses is too many	2
Housing must be affordable	1
Common Lane is the best place to build	1
Support carbon-neutral homes	1
Only small developments	1
Give preference to local people for new housing	1
Environment	
Concern about HS2 construction leading to disruption	4
Green belt- allow only small encroachment	4
Protect green spaces in the village from infill development	3
New developments must have adequate off-road parking	2
Involve the community in green belt allocation	1
Build on Gills Cable site	1
Too much litter in the village	1
Green belt dev. should be justified in terms of "exceptional circumstances"	1
Brownfield sites should take priority over green belt	1
Traffic and Movement	
Congestion issues around the school	10
Lower speed limit is desirable	8
Further parking restrictions needed in Main Street (e.g. by old post office)	7
No traffic calming "bumps"	5
Developers must address traffic issues	4
Have smaller more frequent buses	3
Facilitate footpath and disabled access to Canal Bridge 80	2
Control timing of deliveries to the Co-Op	2
Ban HGVs from canal bridges	2
No golf course access from Common Lane	1

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Traffic-free links to local communities	1
Traffic lights at Dog crossroads	1
Pedestrian crossing at crossroads	1
Problem with speeding cycling groups	1
Access issues to Huddlesford Lane	1
Enforce existing speed limit	1
Introduce one-way system	1
Traffic calming needed	1
Facilities	
Development must not compromise school and surgery	12
Housing needed to support shops and facilities	1
Superfast Broadband too expensive	1
Mobile phone reception is poor	1

Comments from Whittington and Fisherwick Environment Group

Comments	Suggested Response
Many of WFEG's 200+ members have responded individually to the various Neighbourhood Plan consultations. WFEG as an organization also wishes to comment on the draft plan. WFEG brings a unique perspective to bear on the plan as an organization in the village that has worked consistently with significant success to tackle the critical issues of reducing carbon emissions and encouraging biodiversity and wildlife. We have 200 members and have helped to have the parish recognized as one of the greenest and most sustainable in the country winning several regional and national awards and gaining coverage in the national, regional and local media. WFEG warmly welcomes the production of the final draft neighbourhood plan and wishes to put on record its thanks to the Plan team whose diligence and very hard work over the past 3 years have resulted in this document. Broadly speaking we are in strong support of the policies set out in the document and believe that it goes a long way towards seeking to secure the environmental and other policies that will	Suggested Response The overall support for the Plan is noted and welcomed.
benefit our community. In particular, the strong references to enhancing biodiversity and promoting wildlife are very welcome. However,. we would like to suggest some changes to the document which we believe would make it an even better. Our proposals are as follows:	
THE VISION We think environmental issues should be central to the vision of the parish 20 years hence. The past few decades have seen major declines in the richness of local	

wildlife, as older villagers will testify and this needs to be reversed. Climate change is having a growing impact on our weather and our lives. Many residents of the parish have made great efforts to reduce their carbon footprints and it is vital that this process is continued and that we maintain our profile as an exemplary village in that respect.

In 20 years' time Whittington and Fisherwick will be a thriving and vibrant community whilst retaining and enhancing its historic and rural context. It will be a safe environment for all, with a broad range of local facilities that help to maintain its strong community spirit. Sensitively located development will have met the local needs of people of all ages and incomes whilst reflecting local character. It will have further reduced its carbon footprint and will be rich in wildlife and biodiversity.

STRATEGIC AIMS

Aim 2 - Addand to minimise their energy consumption

Aim 4 – After pedestrian add 'and cyclist'

Aim 7 – After wildlife habitats add 'biodiversity'

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

Add a further point as follows:

6. Ensuring that new development maximises energy conservation while minimising use of fossil fuels and carbon emissions.

DESIGN POLICIES Policy D1 – Add 'and minimize the need for use of fossil fuels'

HOUSING - Add a new section as follows:

Policy HOU3: Low Carbon Construction Methods

'Subject to the development being found to be acceptable when judged against other policies in the Plan, innovative approaches to the construction of low carbon homes which demonstrate sustainable use of resources and high energy efficiency levels will be supported. Examples would include, but would not be limited to earth sheltered, rammed earth, or straw bale construction, construction to Passivhaus standards, conversion to EnerPHit standards.'

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT POLICIES Policy HE 3 Historic Farmsteads

Add: Redevelopment, alteration or extension of historic farmsteads and their agricultural buildings, field boundaries and field patterns within the Parish...

Add a new section as follows:

Policy HE 5 *Retrofitting Historic Buildings*

'The sensitive retrofitting of energy efficiency measures and the appropriate use of micro-renewables in historic buildings This could be added, but it should be noted that some of the subsequent measures proposed by WFEG fall outside planning control and/or what can be included in a Neighbourhood Plan.

As above

Agreed

Agreed

No change needed

Already covered by clause 2, which is framed within the limits of current government guidance for the content of Neighbourhood Plans.

This could be included, but the policy is about design and layout and so it would need to be framed as.. "taking design opportunities to minimize the need for use of fossil fuels'

This could not be a formal planning policy because it is outside the limits of current government guidance for the content of Neighbourhood Plans.

It could be included as a Community Proposal

Agreed

It is not possible to add a new policy without reconsulting on the Plan.

will be encouraged, including the retrofitting of listed buildings, buildings of solid wall or traditional construction and buildings within in conservation areas, whilst safeguarding the special characteristics of these heritage assets for the future.'

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE POLICIES Policy NE&L 1 Landscape Character

Remove 'in the rural areas'; as the policy applies within the village envelope as well as outside it.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS POLICIES

Add a fourth point as follows: d) maximum effort is made to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy generation and encourage compliance with BREEAM excellent rating.

TELECOMS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Add a further bullet point – 'The significance of the contribution to reducing the Parish's carbon footprint'. **AREA BASED POLICY 1 (MoD SITE)** Add another bullet point 'the remnant acid grassland and lowland heath habitats on the ranges off Common Lane should be protected'

We hope you will find our comments helpful and constructive. **Deborah Barnish, Chair, Whittington & Fisherwick Environment Group** (for the WFEG Management Committee).

However, the text could be included in the explanation for policies HE1 & HE2.

Agreed

This goes beyond government guidance on the content of NP. It is not possible to add a new policy without re-consulting on the Plan. However, the text could be included in the explanation for the policy.

As above

Possibly agree, but there are MoD objections to the policy. An alternative is to make reference to this in Policy NE& 2 in conjunction with satisfying the SWT comments on the NP

Statutory Consultees

A report was presented to the Whittington & Fisherwick Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on 22nd Mar. 2016 outlining the consultee responses to the Draft Plan during the 6-week consultation which ran from January to March 2017. Thirty-five (35) organisations and individuals were formally consulted and invited to comment on the Draft Plan (see Appendix 1) during the formal Regulation 14 which ran for six weeks from January 30th to Monday 13th March. Reminder emails sent to non-respondents on 2/3/17. Twenty (20) substantive replies were received. The comments which required substantive amendments to policies in the Draft Plan or to the evidence base were;

Lichfield District Council. The vast majority of the suggested amendments will be incorporated in to the plan for submission, but further discussion is need on the content and status of policy DP2 and on the question of the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment. This decision will be informed by the publication of a Draft Site Allocations Local Plan on 20th March by LDC.

Staffordshire County Council. The sites requirements (drainage) will be incorporated into the evidence based and copies passed to site owners and LDC

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. The availability of additional bio-diversity data will be considered in conjunction with the Wildlife Trust and added to the evidence base, where necessary.

Canals & Rivers Trust The suggested changes to Policy T&M5 (Coventry Canal) will be made.

CT Planning (land East of Common Lane). A contention that the NP must allocate sites is rejected but factual material provided about the site will be incorporated into the evidence base and the suggestions to avoid duplication of policies will be considered.

CT Planning (Elford Homes). A contention that the NP must allocate sites is rejected but factual material provided about the site will be incorporated into the evidence base and the suggestions to avoid duplication of policies will be considered.

Pegasus Planning (Land off Huddlesford Lane). It is noted that the approach take not to allocate sites is supported. Factual material provided about the site will be incorporated into the evidence base and the suggestions to avoid duplication of policies will be considered.

Defence Medical Services Objects to two polices which they seek to clarify and/or amend; Policy CFOS 4: Existing Open Spaces and Policy AB1: Defence Medical Services (DMS).

An updated version of the Plan (Policy Document) was subsequently circulated to Steering Group members showing the detailed changes that have been made, including:

- Changes to Policies.
- Changes to wording or evidence as suggested by consultees.
- Updating to reflect the Submission Status of the document.
- The removal of detailed material, e.g. on consultation from the Policy document which is to be included in the Consultation Statement, thereby avoiding complexity and duplication.

The Steering Group agreed amendments to the Draft Plan (and recommendations for no change), as set out above and detailed in Table 1 (overleaf).

Table 1 – Summary of responses and suggested actions

Consultees (29)	Contact Name and Comments	Suggested Actions
Councils		
1 Lichfield	_	
District Council	Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Neighbourhood	
10/03/2017	Plan at this Pre-submission stage. It is clear a significant amount of	
(Heidi Hollins)	work has been undertaken. Prior to commenting in detail on the Plan	
	the following more general points may be worth considering should	
	you wish to amend the Plan in light of the comments received and	
	prior to progressing the Plan further.	
	General Comments Generally, the Plan as a drafted is very long and	Noted the NP will be audited
	includes a number of policies which repeat national and local policies	against the adopted Local Plan
	and planning guidance. Some of this repetition may not be necessary	Strategy and the emerging
	and could be removed to make the document more succinct and user	Allocations Document to
	friendly. In addition a number of policies are worded in a more	remove any unnecessary
	negative way than the District Council would usually seek to support.	duplication (see Appendix 1).
	As advised through the Screening Assessment the Plan was	The Steering Group believes
	considered to have significant effects due to the requirements of	that the earlier changes to DP2
	Policy DP2 and as such a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is	were more substantial than

required. It is noted that minor changes have been made to the policy however this has not enabled a different conclusion to be made by this Authority. Therefore, at present as no further stages of SEA have been undertaken the Plan would not meet the tests required to achieve legal compliance. It may be possible to remove the requirement for SEA and this is set out in the comments in relation to Policy DP2 set out below in the section titled Specific Comments. It is hoped the comments below are helpful and whilst they may seem extensive they reflect our previous discussions and reflect the scope of what planning is able to influence and the subtleties of wording necessary to enable scrutiny at the highest level.

minor. However, the restated views of LDC will be considered positively.

Specific Comments

duplication.

Foreword 3rd para. Request: Delete 'carries statutory weight and' The statement is misleading a Parish Plan does not carry 'statutory weight' in the same context as a 'made' neighbourhood plan.

Agreed. To be amended.

Noted and welcomed.

Paragraph 2.15 Request: In the sentence beginning 'The main windows... Replace the word 'element' with 'pane'

Agreed. To be amended.

Assessment of possible locations for new housing

The paragraphs should be numbered after para 2.17. In addition the last paragraph in this section, first sentence, the range in the adopted Local Plan Strategy is '35-110'

Agreed. To be amended.

Request: Delete '30' and replace with '35' to be in conformity with the Local Plan Strategy.

Other changes are recommended to this section see response to Policy DP2 below.

Agreed. To be amended.

Policy DP1 – Sustainable Development Principles

Request: Deletion of the 5th **bullet point.** The requirement is too onerous to be applicable to all types of development.

Policy DP2: Local considerations for proposed locations for new housing development. General Comments: Delete the Policy. No SEA has been undertaken and the policy seeks to influence which sites are allocated in the Local Plan Allocations document. The policy goes beyond the provisions of the NPPF.

Alternatively, and as recommended previously the text should not be a policy but could remain in the Neighbourhood Plan as a set of priorities which the Parish has provided to support small scale development and could be considered by the District Council in determining applications in accordance with Local Plan Strategy Core Policy 6: Housing Delivery. Many of the bullet points are addressed in other policies within the NPPF, Local Plan Strategy and this Neighbourhood Plan so if left as a policy this is unnecessary

Agreed to be deleted.

Request: The results of the survey(??) are included in the section titled: Assessment of possible locations for new housing at the front of the Neighbourhood Plan as the addition of the criteria completes

Agreed and welcomed, but the Steering group would prefer to retain DP 2 as a criterion based Community Proposal (DP CP1), albeit amended as suggested by LDC. In addition, the clauses to be audited to avoid unnecessary duplication with the Local Plan

Details of landowner engagement are given in Appendix G of the Plan document this section by adding the preferences expressed through the Agreed Neighbourhood Plan. Amend the final sentence of that section to delete reference to the plan including Policy DP2. If included as a list of priorities, these should be amended to be in conformity with the NPPF and the following is suggested: A number of local considerations for proposed locations for new housing developments have been identified these are as follows: Agreed -the need to-minimise the release of land from the Green Belt Agreed -taking into account take account of factors including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land quality, intrusion into open countryside, a reduction in the separation between Whittington and Fisherwick and the loss of important views identified in the Village Plan Agreed -the need to-respect for the historic character and setting of Whittington (village?) including a need for and to preserve and enhance the Conservation Area and its setting, and for density, layout Agreed and design to reflect the surroundings -the need to meet access and sustainability criteria (where are these **specified?**) including proximity and /or walking and cycling routes to Agreed shops, community facilities, school and bus stops. -the need to avoid the loss of national and locally designated wildlife habitats and where it is practicable to retain significant hedgerows Agreed and trees -the need to maintain and where possible improve, existing public Agreed rights of way -the need to ensure that support community infrastructure is Disagree this stance is maintained and where necessary improve it supported by SCC (Drainage -the need to ensure the sustainability of existing utilities and authority) services (water, drainage, sewage and waste). Application of Policy DP2 Request: Minor changes to improve the grammar within para 2. The Agreed avoid doubt the paragraph begins: 'It is considered...' Fourth line – replace 'it us' with 'It is' and also insert 'be' in Agreed Agreed the sentence 'will be needed but in...' **Sixth line** – insert full stop after openness. To be considered **Seventh line** – remove word 'of' before Green Belt Request: Move paras 3-6 to accompany the deleted policy. To avoid doubt the paragraphs commence 'The criteria on local character...' Request: Minor change to improve the grammar within para 4. To Agreed avoid doubt the paragraph commences 'It is important..' Third line – re-punctuate – 'with services, facilities and To be considered transport developing to match the growth' Renumber Policy DP3 to reflect the deletion of Policy DP2. Disagree this policy is supported by SCC (Drainage authority). Policy DP3 Flood Prevention and Management - Request: Delete **Policy** – Whilst flooding is clearly a local concern a Flood Risk

Assessment will be required to be submitted along with appropriate

planning applications for consideration through the planning process. As such the objectives of the policy are already achieved through national and local policy and the requirements of the planning application process. Therefore, the policy provides unnecessary duplication.

Policy HOU1: Development inside the Whittington village settlement boundary

The policy makes reference to the 'Proposals Map' is this to be included within or alongside the neighbourhood plan? Given that the District Council is making progress with its Local Plan Allocations document which will seek to define the village settlement boundary it would be better for this policy simply to reference the settlement boundary identified within the Lichfield District Local Plan. **Request:** Amend the final sentence as follows: "The village settlement boundary, as defined on the Lichfield District Local Plan Policies Maps".

Agreed.

Policy HOU3: Housing mix and affordability

This Policy is insufficiently precise to be used. Use of the phrase proportion allows this to be a 0 calculation which is contrary to the aims of the policy.

Agreed

Request: deleting the phrase 'which must include a proportion of' and replacing it with 'including some'

Policy D1: The Design of New Development

The policy is a very generic policy and could be tailored more to Whittington and Fisherwick

Agreed

Request: Delete Bullet point 5. Bullet point 5 seeks to provide a mix of housing types/tenures to suit local needs, with units suitable for older people. This is not a matter of design but usage and is addressed in the policy and evidence in HOU3: Housing mix and affordability.

Agreed

Policy D2: Reflecting Local Character and Design in new development. Request: First paragraph, third line: replace the word 'vernacular' with 'design'. Vernacular may be read as precluding contemporary designs.

Agreed

Request: Second paragraph, second line: insert 'use of high quality materials,' after 'high quality design of buildings,'

Agreed

Application of Policy D2

Request: In the sentence beginning 'The main windows... Replace the word 'element' with 'pane'

Agreed

Policy D3: The design of residential conversions and extensions Request: second bullet point be amended by adding '-the scale of development including roof heights as extensions should always be subservient to the existing building'

Conservation Area would be duplicate but agree second point

HE1: Designated heritage assets

Explanation. Request: After ',including' add 'the conservation area,' add to the end of the sentence 'the significance of which needs Agreed preserving or enhancing.' Policy: Paragraph 2 amend so it reads 'Applicants must explain, in a Design and Access Statement or Heritage Statement, where required by national and local validation guidance how the proposed developments will protect, complement or enhance the historic rural setting character of the Parish, including the Conservation area and Listed Building, with special regard to: ' Agreed **Evidence Base/Local Plan Policy** Request: Add the following references: NPPF, Lichfield Local Plan Core Policy 14 (Our Built and Historic Environment), Local Plan Policy BE1: High Quality Development, Historic England National List, Historic Environment SPD. Delete reference to: Lichfield Local Plan Core Policy 13. Agreed Policy HE2: Local (Non-Designated) Heritage Assets Policy Request: Replace 'The identified local heritage assets listed in Appendix D' with 'Any non-designated heritage assets, such as **locally listed buildings'** This will enable the policy to be applicable to all present and future non-designated heritage assets so the policy Agreed remains up to date. Application of Policy Request: Amend the first sentence so it reads: 'The buildings and structures covered by the policy are listed in Appendix G-E and are on the list of local heritage assets maintained Agreed by Staffordshire Historic Environment Record' Second sentence: Replace 'English Heritage' with 'Historic England' Last sentence: The paragraph refers to a number of sources which are Agreed not referenced within the Evidence Base or Glossary. Request: Replace 'Local Heritage List' with 'local heritage assets' Evidence Base. Request: Add the following references: NPPF, Lichfield Local Plan Core Policy 14 (Our Built and Historic Environment), Local Plan Policy BE1: High Quality Development, Staffordshire Historic Environment Record, Historic Environment SPD. Delete reference to: Lichfield Local Plan Core Policy 13. Agreed Policy HE4: Archaeology **Explanation First sentence: Delete 'that can be overlooked'** this is not consistent with the NPPF or the Local Plan. Agreed Policy NE&L1: Landscape Character **Explanation; Request: inserting in the first sentence: T**he full title of the character study as it is the first time it is referred to in the policy: Agreed The Whittington and Fisherwick Character Study Second sentence: insert a phrase so it reads as: ' ...where characteristic features, such as those referred to in this policy, are Agreed well represented...'

Policy: Request amending the policy so it accords with the Council's validation guidance and does not relate to minor applications such conservatories. The first sentence should be altered:

Any proposals for development in the rural areas should recognise and seek to protect and enhance the historic landscape and local character of the Parish. Field patterns and elements of the landscape heritage of the area, including ridge and furrow, field ponds, mature trees, historic hedgerows, river valley meadows and areas of lowland heath should be protected and incorporated into any landscape design schemes and their long-term maintenance ensured. 'Proposals for wind turbine applications, major commercial and residential developments should include consideration of the above factors through an appropriate landscape analysis. Proposals impacting upon non-designated heritage assets will require an assessment to be included in a Heritage Statement. either as a freestanding report or as part of a design and access statement.

Policy CFOS 2: New Development

The policy is considered too onerous for developments of 10 dwellings whilst the policy states 'larger housing sites' the Application of the policy states 'larger housing sites (usually defined as 10 or more dwellings). There is no evidence that there is insufficient capacity within the Neighbourhood Plan area for community facilities to meet the scale of development proposed within the adopted Local Plan Strategy, however should the Parish wishes further enhancement of facilities it can be achieved as stated through use of the meaningful proportion of CIL.

Request the Policy should be amended to a 'Community Proposal' rather than a Policy (bold deleted)

The first paragraph deleted

Removal of the 2nd bullet point 'Provision by the County and/or District Council using funding provided by the developer' as this is beyond the scope of a Neighbourhood Plan.

Delete last sentence starting 'All developers must ensure...

Policy CFOS 3: Healthcare Facilities

Request the Policy is deleted as it goes beyond the scope of a Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy CFOS 4: Existing Open Spaces

The policy should be amended so it is more flexible in recognising that it may be appropriate to develop open spaces where it is demonstrated that such open spaces are no longer required or alternative suitable provision can be found elsewhere.

Request: adding to the end of the first sentence '.... Will be protected from development unless it can be clearly demonstrated that alternative provision of an equivalent or better standard in terms of quality are being provided in a location which is equivalent or

Agreed, the reference to 20 or more dwellings has been removed. Community engagement showed a high level of concern over pressure on community facilities and so a formal policy should be retained. However, the Policy refers to the need to "to meet the identified community needs specifically arising from their proposal" and so, any requirement is directly linked to a given development.

Agreed to be added to the explanation section

Agreed, but retain as a Community Proposal

Agreed but retain pc agreement

better, improves access and results in no loss of amenity or environmental quality.

Policy T&M 3: Managing the impact of HS2

There are very few planning applications that will be submitted for determination by Lichfield District Council in relation to HS2. It is considered that this policy is beyond the scope of the Neighbourhood Plan as it relates to design/construction of HS2.

Request: Delete the policy and perhaps insert it to provide as evidence from the community and context for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Application of Policy. Request: Paragraph 2 line 4: Delete 'Listed' as the clubhouse is not a listed building.

Policy T&M 4: The West Coast Mainline

The requirements of the policy are not appropriate for a Neighbourhood Plan as they are more appropriately delivered by other legislation. It is not the role of the Neighbourhood Plan to duplicate legislation. **Request: Delete Policy**.

Policy T&M 5: Coventry Canal

Explanation Request: Second sentence be amended to include reference to the canal being part of the historic environment 'The canal is an important landscape feature, and it provides recreational opportunities for local people and visitors and is part of the historic environment.'

Evidence Base/Local Plan Policy Request: Replace reference to 'WCML' with 'Coventry Canal' Add reference to NPPF and Historic Environment SPD.

Community proposals: Delete this paragraph. It does not relate to the Coventry Canal.

Policy LE&B1: Supporting Local Employment and Business

The requirement to include a connectivity statement is considered as too onerous as large parts of the Parish are rural. The policy could be written to support proposals which achieve this.

Request: Development proposals for new employment development should include a Connectivity Statement setting out how the development will help should seek to achieve a fibre optic connection to the nearest connection chamber in the highway. Wherever Where this is not possible the development should consider providing provide-suitable ducting to enable'

Policy T&RE 2: Renewable Energy Policy: Amend the policy as nature conservation and heritage assets have differing legislation and planning policy.

Disagree. The policy has not been questioned by HS2 Ltd and is acknowledged/supported by SCC.

Agreed

Disagree, the policy has not been questioned by Network Rail (and is based on their policy wording in another NP) and is acknowledged by SCC.

Agreed

Agreed

Agreed

Agreed

Agreed

Agreed

	Request: amend third bullet point so it reads: The setting of the Conservation Area and other designated and non-designated heritage assets. Amend fifth bullet point: Delete 'and heritage assets'	
2 Staffordshire County Council 13/3/2017	(Policy Planning Officer) Thank you for consulting Staffordshire County Council on Neighbourhood Plan. In general we are broadly supportive of the plan and its aspirations. The majority of the comments below reference that support and provide further input for consideration. Ecology. Strategic aims are in accordance with the NPPF and Lichfield Local Plan policies for the natural environment and biodiversity enhancement. Policy NE&L 2: Biodiversity and Habitats and Policy NE&L 3: Requirements for new development and approaches to Green Infrastructure and policy references related to open space and the Coventry Canal are welcomed.	Noted, no amendment required
	Landscape. Landscape Character and Historic Landscape Character are comprehensively included in the Plan in setting the context, and embedded in the Policies, and this is welcomed & supported.	Noted, no amendment required
	Historic Environment. Strategic Aims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8 are supported but in regards to Strategic Aims 3 and 7 we would raise the following:	,
	1. Strategic Aim 3 - Environment and Landscape - In principal we agree with the supporting statement and the objectives included within the final draft of the Neighbourhood Plan (p18). However, the headline statement 'To preserve and enhance wildlife habitats, local landscape character, public open spaces, footpaths, bridleways, and the canal towpath networks' has omitted any reference of the importance of preserving and enhancing heritage assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area. It is advised therefore that this headline statement be amended to include reference to the preservation and enhancement of heritage assets.	Agreed text to be amended
	2. Strategic Aim 7 – Landscape - As with the statement for Strategic Aim 3, the headline statement 'To preserve and enhance landscape character, wildlife habitats, green infrastructure and the footpath in Whittington and Fisherwick' has omitted any reference of the importance of preserving and enhancing historic landscape character within the Neighbourhood Plan area. It is advised therefore that this headline statement be amended to include reference to the preservation and enhancement of historic landscape character.	Agreed text to be amended
	Rights of Way - We welcome the information within the plan and the aspirations to improve accessibility on the walking, horse riding and cycling networks throughout the Parish as set out in strategic Aim 3 and Policy T&M 2. We would welcome discussions with Parish Council's to become more heavily involved in the maintenance of their local path network. The Plan provides for developers to enhance the existing path network where possible and appropriate. In such	