

## Edith Weston Neighbourhood Development Plan

### Examiner's Clarification Note

This Note sets out my initial comments on the submitted Plan. It also sets out areas where it would be helpful to have some further clarification. For the avoidance of any doubt matters of clarification are entirely normal at this early stage of the examination process.

### Initial Comments

The Plan provides a distinctive vision for the neighbourhood area.

The presentation of the Plan is good. The difference between the policies and the supporting text is clear. The Plan addresses a range of distinctive issues in a comprehensive fashion.

### Points for Clarification

I have read the submitted documents and the representations made to the Plan. I have also visited the neighbourhood area. I am now able to raise issues for clarification with the Parish Council.

The comments made on the points in this Note will be used to assist in the preparation of my report and in recommending any modifications that may be necessary to the Plan to ensure that it meets the basic conditions.

I set out specific policy clarification points below:

#### *General*

Policies SG01, SG02 and DH01 provide a clear spatial strategy for the parish.

#### *Policy GE01*

The first part of the policy addresses a series of issues and would apply to all development proposals irrespective of their scale, nature, and location.

In this context, I am minded to recommend that the policy is recast to address these matters and to allow County Council to apply its provisions in a proportionate way. Does the Parish Council have any comments on this proposition?

In the fourth part of the policy what is meant by 'further deterioration'?

#### *Policy GE02*

Has the Parish Council assessed each of the proposed Local Green Spaces against the criteria in paragraphs 105 and 106 of the NPPF?

#### *Policy DH04*

Has the Parish Council undertaken (or commissioned) an assessment of the historic significance of each of the proposed non-designated heritage assets either using the guidance in the Historic England publication '*Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage Advice Note 7 (Second Edition)*' or another similar format?

#### *Monitoring and Review of the Plan*

Section 1.3 of the Plan positively addresses this important matter in a positive way.

I note that this part of the Plan acknowledges that national and local planning policies may change within the Plan period. In this context, I am minded to recommend the inclusion of an

additional sentence on this point to indicate that the Parish Council would consider the need or otherwise for a partial or full review of the Plan within six months after the adoption of the emerging Local Plan. Does the Parish Council have any comments on this proposition?

### ***Representations***

Does the Parish Council have any comments on the representations made to the Plan?

It would be helpful if the Parish Council responded to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation's comments on Policies GE02 (Local Green Spaces) and DH04 (non-designated heritage assets).

The County Council makes a series of detailed suggestions about the way some of the Plan's policies should be modified to ensure that the Plan meets the basic conditions and the way in which the proposed policies complement policies in the existing development plan. I would also find it helpful to have the Parish Council's comments on these matters.

### ***Protocol for responses***

I would be grateful for responses and the information requested by 7 August 2024. Please let me know if this timetable may be challenging to achieve. It is intended to maintain the momentum of the examination.

If certain responses are available before others, I am happy to receive the information on a piecemeal basis. Irrespective of how the information is assembled please could it come to me directly from the County Council.

In addition, please can all responses make direct reference to the policy or the matter concerned.

Andrew Ashcroft

Independent Examiner

Edith Weston Neighbourhood Development Plan

18 July 2024