

Honeybourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Basic Conditions Statement

July 2019

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1. Legal requirements

1.1. This statement has been prepared by Honeybourne Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on the behalf of Honeybourne Parish Council to accompany its submission to Wychavon District Council of the Honeybourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan under section 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

1.2. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Parish Council, a qualifying body, for the area covering the parish of Honeybourne, as designated by Wychavon District Council on 25 September 2015.

1.3. The neighbourhood area is contiguous with the parish boundary as shown on the map accompanying the neighbourhood designation application. For clarity, the Plan area is shown at Figure 1 over leaf. There are no other neighbourhood plans in place for the Honeybourne neighbourhood area.

1.4. The plan proposal relates to planning matters (the use and development of land) in the designated neighbourhood area and covers the period from 2019 to 2030.

1.5. The Plan proposal does not deal with County matters (mineral extraction and waste development), nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as 'excluded development'.

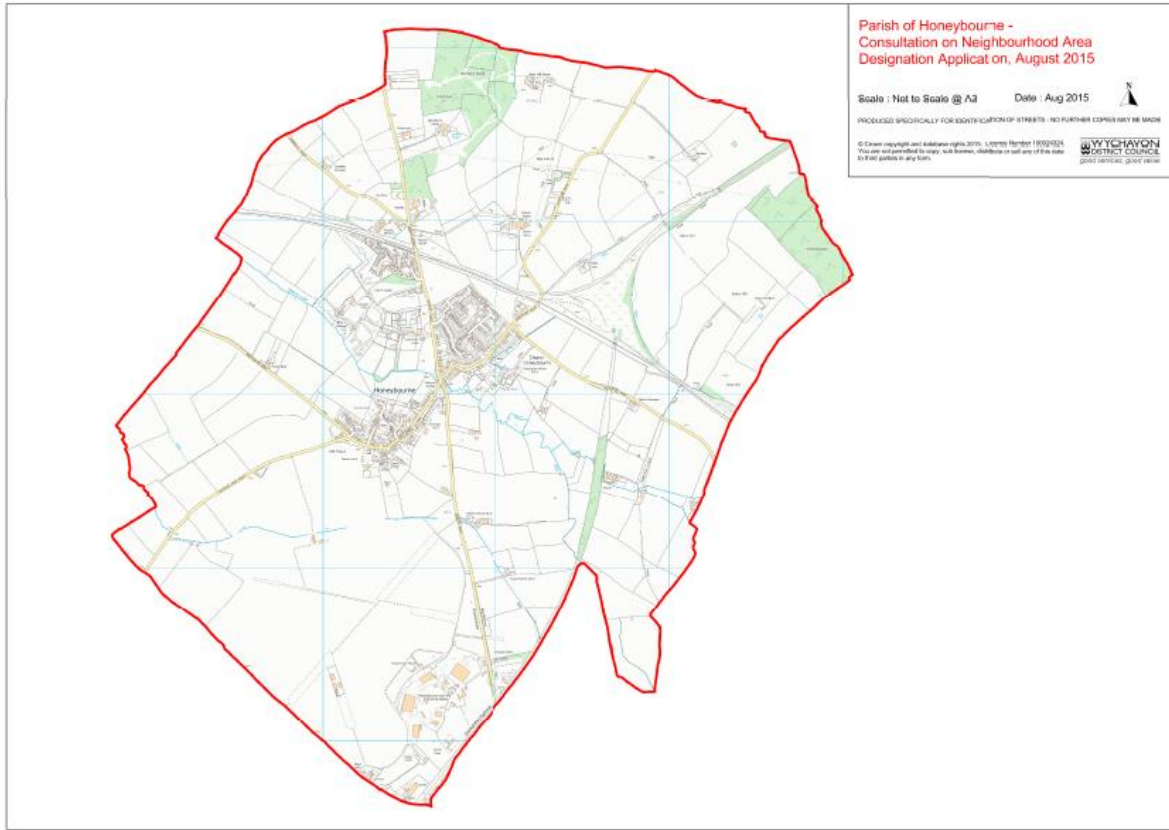
1.6. The Draft Honeybourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan was made available for consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations March 2012 from 1st March 2019 to the 14th April 2019. Some amendments have been made to the document based on the comments received and these are summarised in the document entitled 'Consultation Statement' that is submitted with the Neighbourhood Plan.

1.7. The following statement will address each of the 'basic conditions' required of the Regulations and explains how the Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirement of paragraph 8 of schedule 4B to the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act (as amended).

1.8. The Regulations state that the Neighbourhood Plan will have met the basic conditions if it:

- Has regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
- Contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- Is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area;
- Is compatible with and does not breach European Union (EU) and European Convention on Human Right (ECHR) obligations; and
- Does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Figure 1: Honeybourne Neighbourhood Plan Area.
Source: Wychavon District Council



2. Introduction and Background

2.1. The Parish Council commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan in December 2016 after engaging planning consultants Brodie Planning Associates to steer the process and to provide impartial professional planning advice.

2.2. The key drivers of the decision to produce a Neighbourhood Plan were the encouragement of the District Council to parishes to prepare neighbourhood plans and the local community concern over the volume of new development in the parish. The community were keen to protect the defining characteristics of the parish including key open spaces, the rural character, heritage assets and community services, and to ensure that new development was of good design and appropriately located.

2.3. A Steering Group was formed comprising Parish Councillors and members of the local community and regular meetings were held and chaired by independent planning consultants Brodie Planning Associates. Small working groups were established for undertaking site assessments and areas of research, and matters were always brought back to the wider group to gain consensus to carry forward into the draft Plan.

2.4. Consultation was held with the wider community at key stages to gain an understanding of community issues and to ensure that the plan represented the views of the majority. This included an initial residents' questionnaire, a business questionnaire and a consultation event focusing on the vision and objectives, site allocations and local green space designations. More detail on community engagement is provided in the accompanying Consultation Statement.

2.5. The Parish Council has had careful regard for policies in the adopted Local Plan the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP). Care has been taken not to duplicate policies already addressed in the SWDP and to where necessary add a level of local detail that is considered appropriate to the parish.

2.6. The parish is regarded as a fairly sustainable location in the SWDP, with the village itself being designated as a Category 1 village in the settlement hierarchy. Some growth is considered appropriate to meet locally identified housing need. The recent high level of growth in the parish and the impact this has had on existing facilities and services in the village, has shaped the Neighbourhood Plan's focus on managing development proposals through a housing site allocation that will be delivered later in the Plan period.

3. Having regard to National Planning Policy

3.1. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared initially having regard to the policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) of April 2012 and more recently been reconsidered against the Revised NPPF July 2018 and subsequently Revised NPPF February 2019. It also gives regard to National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) published by the Government between April 2014 and May 2019 in relation to the formation of neighbourhood plans.

3.2. The NPPF provides a framework within which local communities can produce neighbourhood development plans for their area and sets out how planning should help achieve sustainable development.

3.3. The following table shows which sections of the Revised NPPF 2019 the Neighbourhood Plan has had regard to.

Table 1: Sections within NPPF 2019 that the Neighbourhood Plan has had regard to.

NPPF 2019
Achieving sustainable development (para 7-14)
Plan making (para 15-37)
Delivering a sufficient supply of homes (para 59-79)
Building a strong, competitive economy (para 80-84)
Promoting healthy and safe communities (para 91-101)
Promoting sustainable transport (para 102-111)
Making effective use of land (para 117-123)
Achieving well-designed places (para 124-132)
Meeting the challenge of climate change flooding and coastal change (para 148-169)
Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (para 170-183)
Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (para 184-202)
Annex 1: Implementation (para 212-217)

3.4. Table 2 sets out a summary of how each policy has regard to the Revised NPPF 2019. As the Plan is being submitted after the 24 January 2019 policies in the previous Framework no longer apply (paragraph 214, NPPF, 2019). The paragraphs referred to are considered to be the most relevant to the policy and are not intended to be a comprehensive list of every possible relevant paragraph.

Table 2: How the NP policies have regard to the NPPF

NP Policy Number and Title	NPPF 2019 Paragraph(s)	Comment on regard to NPPF (2019)
Policy H1 Site to the Rear of Harvard Avenue behind Badham’s Garage	8,13,15,28,78	<p>The policy has regard to paragraph 8 – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations. The policy includes requirements that will make effective use of the land whilst helping to improve biodiversity, and mitigating and adapting to climate change. Providing footway connections to link up with access to shops and the train station will encourage more walking.</p> <p>The policy has regard to paragraph 13 as the Neighbourhood Plan, whilst supporting the delivery of the SWDP strategic policies, takes the opportunity to <i>“shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies”</i> by allocating a site for development. It is the intention that by allocating a site chosen by the community that future development in the parish will be <i>“plan led”</i> (paragraph 15).</p> <p>The allocated site will provide a sustainable development within the settlement of Honeybourne and will contribute to the vitality of this rural community supporting the local services including shops and railway station, in conformity with paragraph 78 the Neighbourhood Plan has identified an opportunity for the village to grow and thrive in the future.</p>
Policy H2 Housing Mix	8, 28, 61	<p>The policy has regard to paragraph 61 where the size and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community has been assessed and reflected in this planning policy.</p> <p>The social objective paragraph 8 – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations is also met through this policy.</p>
Policy H3 House types to meet the needs of our community	8, 28, 61	<p>The policy has regard to paragraph 61 where the type of housing needed for different groups in the community has been assessed and reflected in this planning policy.</p> <p>The social objective paragraph 8 – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations is also met through this policy.</p>

		The policy encourages new buildings to be future proof and adaptable to meet occupants existing and future needs.
Policy H4 General Design Principles	8, 28, 91, 105, 124, 125, 126, 127, 130, 131	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan establishes overarching design principles that should be addressed in all development. Its intention is to provide clear guidance to ensure new development takes account of its setting. The policy is split into sub areas to aid the applicant and decision maker. In accordance with paragraph 124 “<i>The creation of high quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve.</i>” The neighbourhood Plan sets out “<i>a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable</i>” paragraph 125. This policy has been created by locals taking account of the areas defining characteristics and aspirations for high quality design in the future.</p> <p>The policy has been informed by paragraph 127. Important consideration is given to the context in which development takes place understanding the character and history of the built environment and landscape setting, these are addressed within the sections of the policy dealing with Local Character, Boundary Treatments and Landscape and the Natural Environment. However the policy is not overly prescriptive and does not prevent or discourage appropriate innovation or change.</p> <p>The policy seeks to maintain a strong sense of place, by encouraging applicants to demonstrate that full account has been taken of the existing local area to create attractive, welcoming and a distinctive place to live, work and visit. It is the intention of the policy to deliver visually attractive designs and ensure that effective and appropriate landscaping is provided in this rural location. This will provide multifunctional benefits including flood mitigation, biodiversity opportunities, recreational space and visual amenity.</p> <p>The policy encourages development that is accessible with integrated pedestrian routes in accordance with paragraph 91.</p> <p>With regard to parking, local evidence suggests there are issues with on street parking in 23 streets within the parish in both the historic core of the village and within new more recent developments. Maintaining access through the narrow lanes is vital, and with high car ownership and commuting levels (see paragraphs 6.75-6.77 in the Plan) the Plan with regard to paragraph 105 has taken the opportunity to set local standards to address the matter.</p>

Policy H5 Design Policy for New Builds	8,28,124, 125, 126, 127, 130, 131, 150, 153	<p>This policy provides more detailed guidance for new builds to be applied in conjunction with policy H4. Again important consideration is given to the context in which development takes place understanding the plot sizes and existing street scene whilst ensuring that neighbouring amenity and building heights are considered. The policy seeks to maintain a strong sense of place, by encouraging applicants to consider local materials and detailing but does not stifle design or the introduction of contemporary design in accordance with paragraph 127.</p> <p>The policy requires building orientation to be considered to reduce energy consumption and the policy promotes and encourages energy efficiency measures and renewable energy features in accordance with paragraphs 150 and 153.</p>
Policy H6 Housing Design Policy - Extensions.	8,28,124, 125, 126, 127, 130, 131, 150	<p>This policy provides more detailed guidance for household extensions and sets clear criteria for assessing these in accordance with paragraph 125. This policy has been created by locals taking account of the areas defining characteristics and aspirations for high quality design in the future.</p> <p>The policy has been informed by paragraph 127. Again important consideration is given to the context in which development takes place, its relationship with the existing building and its impact on neighbouring properties and the street scene. It is important that sufficient amenity space is retained to for future users both in terms of garden and parking provision.</p> <p>The policy promotes and encourages energy efficiency measures and renewable energy features in accordance with paragraph 150.</p>
Policy H7 Local Green Space	99, 100, 101	<p>The NPPF allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. A comprehensive Green Space Background Paper has been prepared to support the submission of the Neighbourhood Plan and all green spaces were assessed using the NPPF criteria and the Local Green Space designation has only been used where the green space meets the following criteria:</p> <p>“</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;</i> b) <i>demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example</i>

		<p><i>because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and</i></p> <p><i>c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.”</i></p> <p>The policy for managing Local Green Space is consistent with Green Belt policy in its intention to maintain the openness of these spaces.</p>
Policy H8 Protecting the landscape	170, 189	<p>The policy has regard to the purpose of paragraph 170 to protect and enhance valued landscapes and paragraph 189 in seeking to prevent harm to the significance of the setting of heritage assets. It identifies at a local scale key landscape and heritage-related attributes that form an essential part of the character of the parish.</p> <p>The policy takes opportunities to ensure that biodiversity enhancements are made in accordance with paragraph 170. National policy states that it is important that the planning system contributes to and enhances the natural and local environment through recognising the intrinsic character of an area its existing ecosystems, and minimises any impact on these providing net gains in biodiversity.</p> <p>The wider landscape delivers multiple benefits for both people and wildlife, including opportunities for recreation, biodiversity enhancements and access to nature and contributes to the overall identity of the parish.</p>
Policy H9 Trees and Hedges	170,174,175	<p>The policy seeks to protect, restore and enhance trees and hedgerows where appropriate. The policy has regard to paragraph 170 in recognising that they are integral to the intrinsic character and beauty of the parish and have multiple benefits. They provide an important ecological networks and the policy will bring about net gains for biodiversity in support of the aim of paragraph 174 and 175 (d).</p>
Policy H10 – Protection of the best and most versatile agricultural land	170, 171 Footnote 53,	<p>The policy has had regard to paragraph 170 and 171 in that it seeks to direct inappropriate development away from the best quality agricultural land recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land.</p>
Policy H11 - Flood Prevention and Water	118, 148,149, 155, 157, 163,	<p>In accordance with paragraph 149 this policy takes a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, in particular the increased risk of flooding. The policy supports appropriate measures to ensure the</p>

Management	165	<p>future resilience of communities and infrastructure to the impact of fluvial and pluvial flooding. The policy supports paragraph 163 in that new development should “ensure that flood risk is not increased elsewhere”, and that new development should incorporate sustainable drainage systems. The policy has been informed by the requirements of the lead local flood authority and the drainage boards and is a direct response to the local issues.</p>
Policy H12 Community Facilities	83, 92	<p>This policy responds to paragraph 83 which states that neighbourhood plans should promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.</p> <p>It also aims to maintain the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs by guarding against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, as stipulated by paragraph 92.</p>
Policy H13 Footpaths Cycle Paths and Bridleways	91, 98,118	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with paragraph 98, as it supports and encourages the enhancement and improvement of existing footpaths and improving access to them. <i>“Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks...”</i></p> <p>The policy has regard to paragraph 97 in that it helps to promote healthy lifestyles and will encourage walking and cycling in the parish and also to paragraph 118 by improving public access to the countryside.</p>
Policy H14 Retention and Redevelopment of Existing Employment Sites	83,84	<p>This policy has been developed in accordance with paragraph 83 where sustainable growth of rural businesses is supported through the expansion of existing businesses. It also promotes the retention of existing businesses to maintain the vitality of this rural community.</p>

4. General conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan

4.1. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to ensure that it is in general conformity with the development plan for the area. The current development plan for the area is the adopted South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) 2016-2030.

4.2. The table overleaf (Table 3) sets out how each policy is in general conformity with the SWDP 2016-2030.

Table 3: How the Neighbourhood Plan policies conform to the Local Development Plan

NP Policy Number and Title	Relevant local plan policy	Comment on conformity
Policy H1 Site to the Rear of Harvard Avenue behind Badham's Garage	SWDP2	<p>SWDP 2F: requires that <i>“development proposals should be of an appropriate scale and type with regard to the size of the settlement.”</i> This allocated site is on land that is well contained by strong boundaries, housing to the south, and east and the railway to the north. It does not extend the development out into the wider open countryside instead it reflects the established pattern of development. It connects well to the railway station and local shops and facilities.</p> <p>SWDP 2H is also clear that <i>“The SWDP is supportive of development proposals that are promoted through neighbourhood planning mechanisms where these proposals do not compromise the delivery of the plan’s strategic policies and proposals.”</i> The SWDP allocated a site in Honeybourne which was built out prior to the adoption of the Plan. There were also two other large sites permitted on appeal which were completed prior to the adoption of the SWDP; allocating a site in the Neighbourhood that will come forward later in the Plan period Plan will help to address future local needs. It will bring forward appropriately sized dwellings to address the needs of the community. The site does not conflict with the strategic policies in the SWDP.</p> <p>Honeybourne is identified as a category 1 village in the settlement hierarchy where its role is predominantly aimed at meeting locally identified housing need.</p>
Policy H2 Housing Mix	SWDP2, SWDP14, SWDP15	The policy complies with policies SWDP 14 (Market Housing Mix) and SWDP 15 (Meeting Affordable Housing Needs) by specifying a mix of dwellings to meet local needs that are especially relevant to Honeybourne parish.
Policy H3 House types to meet the needs of our community	SWDP20, SWDP21	It conforms to SWDP20 (Housing to Meet the Needs of Older People) as it recognises that there is a need for bungalows and smaller homes that are adaptable to enable local residents to downsize and remain in the community as well as providing first homes for

		<p>youngsters to get on the property ladder.</p> <p>SWDP21 (Design) highlights the importance of how new development should complement the character of the area, in particular, by responding to surrounding buildings, and that it should not be overbearing. This policy has a local requirement for any flats/apartments to be provided in a maisonette form to give the impression of a more traditional two storey dwellings within these rural village streets. The policy conforms with SWDP21s requirement for dwellings to be adaptable for future needs.</p>
Policy H4 General Design Principles	SWDP6, SWDP13, SWDP21, SWDP24, SWDP25, SWDP27, SWDP29, SWDP30, Design SPD	<p>The design policy conforms with and enhances a number of SWDP policies as it takes on a holistic approach to design. The policy ensures that the applicant and decision maker take into account the historic environment (SWDP6 and SWDP24), consider locally appropriate density (SWDP13), and provides another layer of detail to the SWDP design policy (SWDP21) addressing locally specific characteristics, including the layout of the settlement, boundary treatments, parking, street furniture and landscaping.</p> <p>The policy supports SWDP27 (Renewable and Low Carbon Energy) in its desire to reduce carbon emissions. It supports SWDP29 Sustainable Drainage Systems and SWDP30 Water Resources, Efficiency and Treatment in raising the importance of integrating drainage systems into the design of new development and encouraging the use of features that contribute to the efficient use of water.</p>
Policy H5 Design Policy for New Builds	SWDP21, SWDP27, Design SPD	This policy provides another layer of detail to the SWDP design policy (SWDP21) addressing locally specific details about materials and design considerations for new builds including considering the height of neighbouring buildings.
Policy H6 Housing Design Policy - Extensions.	SWDP21 Design SPD	This policy provides another layer of detail to the SWDP design policy (SWDP21) addressing the locally specific requirements for extensions, including having regard for the existing and neighbouring amenity.
Policy H7 Local Green Space	SWDP38	This policy is intended to complement policy SWDP38 (Green Space). Locally important green spaces are identified in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy H8 Protecting the landscape	SWDP6, SWDP25	This policy refines policies SWDP6 (Historic Environment) and SWDP25 (Landscape Character) by specifying at a local scale the importance of maintaining and reinforcing key landscape and heritage attributes that form an essential part of the character of the parish.
Policy H9 Trees and Hedges	SWDP5, SWDP22, SWDP25, SWDP38	This policy refines policies SWDP22 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) and SWDP25 (Landscape Character) in providing detail about the importance of native trees and hedgerows to the landscape character of the parish and how they should be protected and enhanced within the parish to reinforce the local landscape character.
Policy H10 – Protection of the best and most versatile agricultural land	SWDP13	<p>The policy adds a locally specific requirement to ensure that the parish’s strong agricultural / horticultural heritage is retained where possible, with development directed toward poorer quality agricultural land, in general conformity with SWDP13.</p> <p>The parish has experienced an extremely high level of growth in housing development since 2011 and some sites that have previously been permitted have seen the loss of some of the better quality agricultural land adjacent to the village.</p>
Policy H11 - Flood Prevention and Water Management	SWDP29, SWDP30	<p>The policy adds locally specific requirements to SWDP29 (Sustainable Drainage Systems) for the use of sustainable drainage techniques to achieve betterment in surface water run-off rates on both greenfield and brownfield sites when compared with the pre-development situation and to also mitigate against any increased flood risk due to evidenced flooding issues in the parish.</p> <p>The policy also encourages the use of features which contribute to the efficient use of water and prevent rainwater from entering the sewage system in accordance with SWDP30 (Water Resources, Efficiency and Treatment) and advice from Severn Trent Water.</p>
Policy H12 Community Facilities	SWDP37	The policy refines SWDP 37 (Built Community Facilities) by identifying the specific facilities in Honeybourne parish to protect.

Policy H13 Footpaths Cycle Paths and Bridleways	SWDP4, SWDP25	This policy is intended to complement policy SWDP 4 (Moving Around South Worcestershire) and SWDP 25 (Landscape Character). It provides opportunities for getting around the parish on foot rather than relying on the motor car. It is important that the landscape character of the area is also taken into account.
Policy H14 Retention and Redevelopment of Existing Employment Sites	SWDP12	It is important that the parish retains existing employment sites where possible. This policy seeks to refine policy SWDP 12 (Employment in Rural Areas) by retaining and supporting appropriate local economic development at existing sites to ensure there are a range of jobs for local people and to attract inward investment.

5. Contribution to the achievement of sustainable development

5.1. A Neighbourhood plan must take into account the need to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. This involves working to address the three strands of sustainability; economic, social and environmental.

5.2. The NPPF states in paragraph 14 (NPPF 2012) now paragraphs 10 and 11 (NPPF 2018), that a presumption in favour of sustainable development is at the heart of the NPPF.

5.3. The objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan comprise a balance of social, environmental and economic goals.

5.4. The social goals are to maintain, protect and enhance the built and natural environment in the parish whilst delivering well designed homes that meet the needs of the parish. There is a keen desire to maintain and improve community facilities for a range of age groups and to continue to have access to green space and footpaths to enable residents to have good quality and active lifestyles.

5.5. The environmental goals are to protect and enhance the natural and built environment and ensure that it can be enjoyed by future generations. It is important that environmental features including green and open spaces, hedgerows and trees and traditional landscape features are retained. Green space provide multifunctional benefits including habitats for wildlife, recreation for residents and help to manage the impacts of climate change for example reducing flooding. The plan also wishes to reduce the community's reliance on the motor car and improve connectivity in the parish.

5.6. The economic goals are intertwined within the social and environmental benefits by ensuring that new development is well designed and that the heritage assets of the parish are well respected and maintained will assist in ensuring that Honeybourne continues to be an attractive place to live and work. Supporting and improving existing community facilities, improving connectivity and providing a high quality environment in which to live, work and visit will also bring economic gains.

5.7. Table 4 overleaf sets out an assessment of each policy of the plan and how it impacts on each of the three strands of sustainability; economic, social and environmental.

Table 4. How the Neighbourhood Plan policies contribute to sustainable development

++ Very positive impact + positive impact 0 neutral impact - negative impact - - very negative impact

Policy Number and Title	Economic	Social	Environmental	Comment
Policy H1 Site to the Rear of Harvard Avenue behind Badham's Garage	+	++	++	This policy has a very positive social impact by providing new homes to meet the needs of the community. Further economic and social benefits include additional support for existing community facilities to assist in making them viable, and a new footpath connection that will help to make the development easily accessible on foot/ cycle and be of benefit to other residents in the parish wishing to gain access to the shop and train station. Environmental gains will include the provision of an attenuation pond that will alleviate flood risk in the area and biodiversity enhancements will be achieved with native planting and landscaping.
Policy H2 Housing Mix	0	++	0	This policy has a social benefit by encouraging homes to meet the needs of current and future residents of Honeybourne. Providing the right mix of homes will help to support community facilities for example it is important to provide smaller homes for younger people to stay in the parish and for older residents to downsize as this will help to create a strong, vibrant and healthy community.
Policy H3 House types to meet the needs of our community	0	++	0	This policy has a social benefit by encouraging the right type of homes to meet the needs of current and future residents of Honeybourne. Providing the right type of homes that meet the needs of residents and that where possible are adaptable means that locals can stay in the parish and be part of a well-established community.
Policy H4 General Design Principles	+	++	++	This policy has multiple social, environmental and economic benefits. It aims to deliver a high quality built environment that respects its surroundings. It ensures that the new design of new buildings reflects the distinctive character of the built forms and settlement pattern in the parish. The policy encourages native planting, supports the prudent use of natural

				resources and includes measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change for example in dealing with sustainable drainage and encouraging renewable energy generation.
Policy H5 Design Policy for New Builds	0	+	+	This policy ensures that new dwellings respect neighbouring properties and use where appropriate local detailing. The policy supports the prudent use of natural resources and measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change for example in encouraging renewable energy generation.
Policy H6 Housing Design Policy - Extensions.	0	+	+	This policy ensures that extensions take full account of the existing building and its neighbours in the design and materials used. Ensuring that amenity is maintained and that any development respects neighbouring properties. It encourages the prudent use of natural resources.
Policy H7 Local Green Space	0	+	++	This policy has positive social and environmental benefits in preventing the harmful and inappropriate development of valued open spaces within the parish. This will ensure the distinctive character of Honeybourne is maintained for the benefit of the local community.
Policy H8 Protecting the landscape	0	+	++	This policy has positive social and environmental benefits in ensuring that full account is taken of the landscape character of the parish in future development. This will ensure the distinctive rural character of Honeybourne is maintained for the benefit of the local community and make it an attractive and desirable place to live and work.
Policy H9 Trees and Hedges	+	+	++	This policy has strong environmental benefits which will in turn bring about social and economic benefits by ensuring that the parish is an attractive place to live and work. Enhancing and retaining trees and hedgerows will improve biodiversity and help to mitigate some of the impacts of climate change including providing shade and water absorption at times of heavy rainfall.
Policy H10 – Protection of	+	+	+	Ensuring that development is located in the right place and that the best and most versatile agricultural land is retained for agricultural use is important

the best and most versatile agricultural land				for both economic and social reasons, it will assist in maintaining an affordable food supply in the future. Agricultural land will also have environmental benefits as a habitat for wildlife and for natural drainage at times of heavy rainfall, as well as ensuring that the areas agricultural heritage is retained.
Policy H11 - Flood Prevention and Water Management	+	+	++	This policy has strong environmental benefits through using sustainable drainage techniques that can also be important habitats and areas of open space for the community to enjoy. The policy aims to reduce the likelihood of flooding which can be distressing and can cause physical damage to local property as well as being financially damaging. Encouraging the more efficient water use will have the economic benefit of reduced water rates and also bring about environmental benefits.
Policy H12 Community Facilities	++	++	0	This policy has positive social and economic benefits in protecting important community facilities from unnecessary loss, and by enabling their improvement to ensure they remain viable as community assets for the long term. Maintaining a range of high quality community facilities will also attract residents and investment from adjoining rural parishes.
Policy H13 Footpaths Cycle Paths and Bridleways	0	+	+	This policy has positive social and environmental benefits enabling residents and visitors to access areas on foot reducing the reliance on motor vehicles thereby reducing pollution and assisting in maintaining healthy lifestyles.
Policy H14 Retention and Redevelopment of Existing Employment Sites	++	+	0	This policy has positive economic and social benefits in protecting local sources of employment from unnecessary loss and enabling the improvement of their premises to ensure they remain viable for the long term.

++ Very positive impact + positive impact 0 neutral impact - negative impact - - very negative impact

6. Compatibility with EU obligations and legislation

6.1. The Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights and complies with the Human Rights Act. Considerable emphasis has been placed throughout the consultation process to ensure that no sections of the community have been isolated or excluded. Every household in the parish has received information about the Neighbourhood Plan and have had the opportunity to attend meetings, contribute to, or comment on the process.

6.2. The Equality and Human Rights Commission were also consulted on the Draft Plan and despite not being able to provide a detailed response provided Technical Guidance which has been reviewed. It is considered that the content of the Plan, the consultation process and evidence gathering has been undertaken in accordance with the obligations for Parish Councils under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) in the Equality Act 2010.

6.3. A screening opinion consultation was undertaken by Wychavon District Council from 18 March 2019 until 24 April 2019 to identify whether the Plan required a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and/ or Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The screening exercise involved consultation with the statutory environmental bodies: Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency.

6.4. On the requirement for an HRA Appropriate Assessment (AA), all three statutory consultees agreed with Wychavon District Council's conclusion that a HRA AA is not necessary. The Environment Agency state *"the Neighbourhood Plan is considered unlikely to have significant effects on any European designated sites"* and Natural England state *"We agree with the conclusion of the screening report of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated site:*

- *Bredon Hill Special Area of Conservation (SAC) - located approximately 14km away."*

The Neighbourhood Plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

6.5. On the requirement for a full SEA, the Environment Agency and Natural England both concluded that the draft Honeybourne Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects, however Historic England *"concurred with [Wychavon's] view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment may be required, albeit it appears that no designated heritage assets are affected by the housing site allocation proposed"*.

6.6. Further clarification was sought from Historic England on this matter and they have stated that they *"can comment on designated heritage assets and any likely impacts upon them but clearly the historic environment goes much wider than that and includes many locally recorded undesignated assets that also require consideration. Therefore, I'm suggesting that you consult your own in-house historic environment advisers and the local HER to satisfy yourselves as to whether there are likely significant effects on locally important aspects of the historic environment"*.

6.7. Based on the advice of Historic England, further detail was sought from Wychavon District Council's in-house historic environment advisers on the likely significant effects on locally important

aspects of the historic environment as a result of the proposed site allocation. It has been determined that the allocated site has archaeological potential which should be assessed prior to development, but any such archaeology is unlikely to prevent development, and on that basis a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not necessary at this stage, rather archaeological works on the site prior to the granting or commencement of any such planning permission would be relevant and mention should be made of such works in the Neighbourhood Plan policy.

6.8. Therefore on the basis of the above, Wychavon District Council were able to confirm that neither a full SEA nor a HRA AA is deemed necessary in the preparation of the Honeybourne Neighbourhood Plan. A requirement has been added to policy H1 for an archaeological assessment.