



toad

Tomorrow's Ombersley
And Doverdale

Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan 2020-2030

Consultation statement

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Consultation Statement has been prepared to accompany the submission of the Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) to Wychavon District Council, the local planning authority, and to ensure that the relevant statutory requirements are met.¹ The Statement:

- Contains details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Plan;
- Explains how they were consulted;
- Summarises the main issues and concerns raised by those consulted; and
- Describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed Plan.

Format of the Consultation Statement

1.2 The Statement covers the following stages of Plan preparation, arranged in chronological order:

- The initial stages of work on the Plan, covering early discussions, designation of the Neighbourhood Area, initial community involvement and setting up the Steering Group and sub-groups (section 2).
- Collecting information through surveys of households and businesses (section 3).
- Seeking community views on potential land for allocation for housing (section 4).
- The draft Plan consultation under Regulation 14 (section 5).
- The issues and concerns raised in response to the Regulation 14 consultation, and how they were addressed (section 6).

Overview of consultation and publicity

1.3 Table 1 overleaf presents a chronological summary of the various forms of community engagement and consultation undertaken. These are then described in more detail in subsequent sections of the Statement.

1.4 The following principal means of publicity, engagement and consultation were used in preparing the NDP:

- Creation of a strong public identity for the project under the strapline Tomorrow's Ombersley and Doverdale (TOAD) with distinctive logo.
- Creation of a dedicated website at www.toad.works and Facebook page.
- Formation of a Steering Group comprising Parish Councillors and volunteer members of the public living in the parish, with sub-groups formed to address specific topics.
- Reporting of Steering Group minutes on the TOAD website
- Regular news updates at key stages in the process to the TOAD website and Facebook page, and from October 2019 to the All about Ombersley website.
- Monthly public reports presented to the Parish Council.
- Posting of material on the parish noticeboards and other locations.

¹ Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 15 (2)

- Use of display banners to publicise consultations at the Wedding Field (adjacent to the roundabout in the centre of Ombersley), Ombersley Memorial Hall, Sytchampton Village Hall and other locations.
- Gathering views and providing feedback and updates at an open public meeting, display stand at the church fete, and drop-in events.
- Articles in the Parish magazine and publicity of events via email.
- Surveying households and businesses on a wide range of relevant issues.
- Web-based surveys of preferences, open spaces, vistas and potential housing sites.
- Consultation on the draft NDP held in accordance with Regulation 14 of the 2012 Regulations, taking into account Planning Practice Guidance on public consultation during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

1.5 Documents referred to may be seen on the TOAD website. For Parish Council minutes, see www.odpc.co.uk.

Date	Activity
July-August 2017	Parish Council decision to proceed and informal meeting of Parish Councillors and local residents.
September 2017	Launch of the dedicated website www.toad.works and Facebook page.
October 2017	Circulation of a leaflet on the need for an NDP to households.
November 2017	Open public meeting at St. Andrew's church, Ombersley, to introduce the NDP process, answer questions, seek views, and gather contact details.
November 2017	Drop-in coffee mornings at Sytchampton and Ombersley village halls.
February 2018	Steering Group formed.
February-March 2018	Preferences survey (web-based)
April – May 2018	Open spaces survey (web-based).
June 2018	Display stand at Ombersley church/school fete.
August 2018	Business survey (postal) with replies from 54 businesses, a response rate of 30%.
August-September 2018	Vistas survey (web-based).
October 2018	Household survey (hand-delivered and collected) with replies from 622 households, a response rate of 63%.
February 2019	Drop-in coffee mornings at Sytchampton village hall and Ombersley Memorial Hall to provide feedback on household survey results and consult on sites for new housing.
May 2019	Preferred housing site survey (web-based).
May 2019	Drop-in event to seek further responses on housing sites.
5 October - 30 November 2020	Regulation 14 consultation on the draft NDP

Table 1: summary of pre-submission consultation and publicity

2. GETTING STARTED

2.1 The Parish Council undertook the following actions in commencing work on the NDP:

- Resolving to prepare a neighbourhood plan at its meeting on 18 July 2017.
- Establishing a Project Group, comprising Parish Councillors and interested residents. Meetings of this group were held in July and August 2017 to plan various aspects of work including establishing a website/social media presence, project identity and logo, project management, applying for grant funding, and building a database of contact details. A programme of publicity and engagement was planned from the outset as it was recognised that the NDP should be community-led.
- The Parish Council applied to Wychavon District Council for designation of the Neighbourhood Area was made on 25 August 2017. No consultation was required as the application followed the parish boundary and no such designation already existed. The application was approved by the District Council on 29 August 2017.

2.2 In terms of community engagement and involvement, the following actions were undertaken:

- An inaugural Public Meeting on 2 November 2017 in St. Andrew's Church, Ombersley. This launch event was publicised by means of a leaflet and flyers, which were distributed by hand to all households in the Neighbourhood Area; a display banner positioned at the Wedding Field; article in the Parish magazine; and email and personal contacts. The event was attended by 212 residents, who heard presentations from District and Parish Councillors followed by a question-and-answer session.



Inaugural public meeting, November 2017

- Further drop-in sessions were held on 25 November 2017 (at Sytchampton Village Hall, 42 attendees) and 6 January 2018 (at Ombersley Memorial Hall, 60 attendees). These were publicised as above and attended by Parish Councillors.
- The launch events were attended by a total of 314 residents, equivalent to 16% of the adult population.²
- At each event, those attending were asked to provide contact details. They were also asked what three things they most valued about living in the parish, and what they would like to see changed/developed. They were 143 completed response cards. Analysis of this information highlighted particular concerns around traffic and highways and a desire that future housing development should address local requirements, as well as a range of open space/environmental issues and a demand for additional amenities, services and facilities.³



Display at drop-in session, January 2018

- In February 2018, a Steering Group was formed comprising members of the Parish Council (including the Chairman) and the 25 volunteers who had come forward as a result of the launch events. The Group met regularly during 2018 to oversee the gathering of local information and the carrying out of NDP surveys (see section 3). Minutes can be found on the TOAD website.
- Several sub-groups were formed, dealing with communications, the formulation of a household questionnaire, economy, environment, social, and transport/highways. The environment, economy and social sub-groups were tasked with undertaking research and producing evidence base reports setting out their findings. This work was carried out in 2018 and reported in early 2019.

² Based on Census 2011, 2016 usual residents aged 16 and over.

³ See Report on preliminary survey data from TOAD public meetings in November 2017 and January 2018.

- The Steering Group provided an information stand at the popular Church/School fete on 23 June 2018. The stand was staffed by volunteers who answered questions from members of the public, and gathered comments and email addresses. As well as publicising the neighbourhood plan process and seeking volunteers to help, the comments that were received highlighted a number of local issues including with respect to infrastructure, highways and transport, and local shops.



TOAD display at the fete, June 2018

2.3 The issues and concerns raised in this initial stage of the plan-making process comprised in summary:

- Organisational and administrative issues around governance, project management and funding.
- How to publicise the NDP project to the local community and gain active support.
- How to make the best use of the volunteer time and expertise that was available.
- A range of substantive issues including traffic and highways, housing needs, open space and the environment, and services and facilities.
- The nature and level of detail of the evidence on these and other issues that was needed to support the NDP.

2.4 These issues and concerns were considered and addressed by:

- Successful application for Neighbourhood Area designation.
- Early engagement with the community through widespread publicity, a public meeting and drop-in sessions.
- The establishment of the Steering Group comprising elected parish councillors and other volunteers, and open to all in the community.
- Creating volunteer sub-groups with clear areas of responsibility, for communications; questionnaire design; and information gathering on social, economic and environmental issues. Whilst a further sub-group was initially established dealing with transport and highways, it was recognised at an early stage that many of the concerns being raised lay outside the scope of the NDP. As a result, a separate action group was established in mid-2018 to progress discussion with the County Council and other partners on these issues under the banner ROADS (Reducing Ombersley And Doverdale Speeding).
- Creating an email contact database.
- Seeking advice and support from Wychavon District Council and engaging professional consultancy support at an early stage.
- Ensuring substantive planning issues were further explored and addressed in subsequent plan-making stages including the household survey.

3. COLLECTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 During 2018, the sub-groups focussed on collecting information to support the NDP. This work included the design and carrying out of a number of surveys of both resident households and local businesses. They sought views on a range of planning matters with the aim of ensuring that the NDP would be based on proportionate and robust evidence.

Topic-based surveys

- 3.2 The following web-based surveys were undertaken:

- Preferences survey, February-March. This invited respondents to rank preferences on various aspects of parish life, and was informed by the issues identified in feedback at the initial launch events. The survey was open to visitors to the TOAD website and was publicised by email to the contacts database, in the Parish magazine and by poster. It was completed by 93 respondents. For further information and analysis, see the results report.⁴
- Open spaces survey, April-May. This involved the selection of preferences from an illustrated list of open spaces. Respondents could also nominate an open space not already specified. The survey was publicised as for the preferences survey. It was completed by 139 respondents. For further information and analysis, see the results report.⁵
- Vistas survey, August-September. This involved the selection of preferences from an illustrated list of vistas showing landscape views from across the Neighbourhood Area. Additional vistas could be suggested. The survey was publicised as for the preferences survey. It was completed by 52 respondents. For further information and analysis, see the results report.⁶

Household survey

- 3.3 A comprehensive household survey was undertaken in October 2018 to further inform the Steering Group's work on the NDP. In devising the survey questionnaire, account was taken of issues raised in the launch events and the web-based surveys. Regard was also had to the 2009 Parish Plan. Key themes for the survey were identified as: a vision for Ombersley and Doverdale; living in the Parish; new housing; protecting the environment; local green spaces; and business, community services and facilities.
- 3.4 The questionnaire asked 21 questions on these topics, with additional questions on postcode and household composition. The questions sought responses against a range of given multiple choices and/or in the form of free-write comments. A further section of the questionnaire on "Parish Matters" was included which dealt with a number of other issues outside the scope of the NDP, including traffic, transport and road maintenance.
- 3.5 A total of 983 questionnaire packs were hand-delivered to households within the Neighbourhood Area in early October. The pack comprised the questionnaire, a leaflet explaining the background to the Neighbourhood Development Plan, a covering letter, and a set of frequently asked questions.

⁴ Report on Web Survey Data, March 2018.

⁵ Report on Open Spaces Web Survey, June 2018.

⁶ Report on Vistas Web-based Survey, October 2018.

Each pack carried information as to who was responsible for delivery, a collection date, and two telephone numbers to contact in the event of any query.

- 3.6 Completed questionnaires were collected by hand up to the end of October. Completed questionnaires could also be dropped-off in a collection box at 'Checketts', a coffee shop/delicatessen centrally located in Ombersley village.
- 3.7 Overall, 622 questionnaires were collected or otherwise returned, a response rate of 63%. The completed forms were professionally analysed.⁷ The results were reported to the local community via the TOAD website and at drop-in events on 9 February at Sytchampton Village Hall and 16 February 2019 at Ombersley Memorial Hall. These events were publicised in the Parish magazine and by poster and display banner.



Household survey results on display at drop-in session, February 2019


Business survey

- 3.8 The business survey was undertaken to ensure this key section of the community was able to contribute to the NDP. The Economy sub-group identified local businesses by consulting Wychavon District Council and Companies House, and through local knowledge and contacts. A questionnaire was devised by the sub-group which asked questions about business size, premises, expansion plans, and obstacles to growth. This was posted to 198 local businesses. The questionnaire pack also included a covering letter and stamped return envelope. The survey process led to the initial list of businesses being refined and confirmed. Responses were received from 54 businesses across the

⁷ TOAD Household Survey 2018, Results Report and Comment Listings, December 2018.

Neighbourhood Area, a response rate of 30% of the final list of 183 businesses. For further information and analysis, see the Economy sub-group's evidence base report.⁸


- 3.9 Together, these surveys raised a wide range of issues and concerns across the social, economic and environmental dimensions of planning, together with many other matters which were not within the scope of the NDP. Relevant planning issues were considered by the Steering Group and the planning consultant, and addressed in the preparation of the NDP. The local evidence they provide is referred to in the supporting text to each of the NDP's policies as appropriate. Other matters are addressed as Community Actions in chapter 10 of the NDP.



The TOAD Household Survey is coming to you during October

Please make sure you complete it – your opinion counts and will help to influence the policies of our Neighbourhood Development Plan

Keep in touch:

- Register for email updates on the TOAD website – www.toad.works
-  Like our Facebook page 'TOAD Ombersley and Doverdale'
- The Parish Magazine
- Parish notice boards and in local businesses
- Phone Judy Goodman on (01905) 620682 or Sue Collier on (01905) 622262

Poster to publicise the household survey

⁸ Economy sub-group, Business in Ombersley and Doverdale, November 2018.

4. ASSESSING POTENTIAL LAND FOR HOUSING

- 4.1 During this period, the Steering Group and Parish Council were assessing the implications of the early stages of a review of the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP). The adopted SWDP runs to 2030 and provides the strategic context for the NDP. The review will roll it forward to 2041. A Call for Sites was held in May – July 2018 and an Issues and Options consultation in November-December 2018.
- 4.2 Against this background, the Steering Group considered whether to align the NDP with the SWDP review, specifically by allocating land for housing to meet strategic requirements up to 2041. A Housing Site Assessment was undertaken of known available sites, including those which had featured in the SWDP review process to date. Five sites were assessed as suitable. A consultation exercise was undertaken in May 2019 to seek views on these options.
- 4.3 The consultation comprised a web-based survey which asked participants to rank their preferences. Comments could also be sent direct to the Parish Councillors who were on the Steering Group. A drop-in session was held on 24 May 2019 at Ombersley Memorial Hall, when the sites could be viewed on maps and the survey completed, and comments made in writing and verbally.
- 4.4 The consultation was publicised as follows:
- In the April and May 2019 editions of the Parish magazine.
 - On the TOAD and Parish Council websites.
 - Notification and reminder email sent to those on the TOAD contact database.
 - Posters throughout the Parish and a display banner at the Wedding Field during the survey period.
- 4.5 The survey was completed by 181 respondents or 9% of the adult population. A full listing of the comments sent to Parish Councillors and left in the comment box at the drop-in meeting can be seen on the TOAD website. For further information and analysis, see the results report.⁹
- 4.6 Following the consultation, discussions continued with site landowners and Wychavon District Council to try to identify a deliverable and agreeable site co-ordinating with the SWDP review. An SWDP Preferred Options consultation was held in November-December 2019, which included one of the identified sites. However, it became apparent from this work that there were ongoing issues around highway access and other constraints affecting the sites, which would only be resolved by the final site selection at Ombersley made by the SWDP review (if any). In view of this and the need to maintain the currency and relevance of the other information already collected, the Parish Council resolved in May 2020 to prepare the NDP without a new site allocation, being aligned with the adopted SWDP, i.e. with an end-date of 2030.

⁹ Report on Housing Site Survey, May 2019.

5. CONSULTING ON THE DRAFT PLAN

Consultation on screening opinion

- 5.1 In August 2020, the Parish Council asked Wychavon District Council for a screening opinion on whether or not the draft NDP required a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) or Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency were consulted on the draft screening opinion report. All three bodies concurred with the draft screening opinion that neither a full SEA or HRA would be required.

The Regulation 14 consultation

- 5.2 The draft NDP was approved for the purposes of public consultation at the Parish Council meeting on 15 September 2020.
- 5.3 Consultation on the draft NDP was carried out in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended, also taking account of the latest Planning Practice Guidance¹⁰ that had been issued in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Care was taken to ensure that those without internet access were engaged. The consultation ran for eight weeks from 5 October 2020 to 30 November 2020. This gave longer than the minimum six weeks required by the regulations, to allow for the restrictions associated with the pandemic.
- 5.4 The consultation was publicised as follows:
- Delivery of a leaflet to households and businesses throughout the Neighbourhood Area. This explained where the draft NDP could be viewed and how to make comments. It was delivered in a custom-designed envelope which carried the TOAD logo and a message highlighting that it was part of the NDP consultation.
 - Posters in the parish noticeboards and a display banner at the Wedding Field site.
 - Article in the October 2020 edition of the Parish magazine, with a reminder included in the November edition.
 - Postings on the TOAD and Parish Council websites and Facebook page.
 - Email to those on the TOAD contact database, and to statutory and other consultees (see Table 2).
 - Press release to local newspapers circulating in the parish.
- 5.5 The draft NDP included a pre-submission consultation and publicity notice, setting out the requisite details of the consultation. The draft NDP, a comments form and supporting documents were all posted on the TOAD website. Copies of the pre-submission consultation and publicity notice, leaflet, poster and Parish magazine article for October 2020 are at Appendix 1.
- 5.6 Printed copies of the draft NDP were available free of charge on request to a Parish Councillor whose contact details were publicised on the consultation notice.

¹⁰ Paragraph: 107 Reference ID: 41-107-20200925

- 5.7 A comments form was prepared to assist the making of responses. This could be downloaded and printed from the TOAD website or requested from the Parish Councillor. Comments could be made by email or post to the Parish Clerk or by hand to collection boxes at Ombersley Memorial Hall and Sytchampton Village Hall. Two Parish Councillors were available to answer telephone queries throughout the consultation period.
- 5.8 A comprehensive list of the consultation bodies specified in Schedule 1 of the 2012 Regulations was provided by Wychavon District Council, which was added to in respect of local bodies and organisations by the planning consultant and by the Working Group. The final list of consultees is at Table 2. Consultation was by email or letter, sent by the Parish Clerk at the start of the consultation period and explaining where the Plan could be viewed and how and by when to make comments.



Display banner used to publicise the consultation on the draft plan

Table 2: consultees on the draft NDP

Local planning authorities, County Council and adjoining parish councils	
Wychavon District Council	Wyre Forest District Council
Worcester City Council	Worcestershire County Council
Malvern Hills District Council	District and County Councillors
Parish Councils: North Claines; Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree and Salwarpe; Hampton Lovett and Westwood; Hartlebury; Elmley Lovett; Astley and Dunley; Shrawley; Holt; Grimley; and Hallow.	
Other consultation bodies	
Highways Agency	Home Builders Federation
Severn Trent Water	Worcestershire Partnership
Canal & River Trust	Worcestershire Wildlife Trust
Forestry Commission	Hereford & Worcester Chamber of Commerce
Natural England	DIAL South Worcestershire
Historic England	Skills Funding Agency
English Heritage	WCC Learning Difficulty/Vulnerable Adult Support Service
Place Partnership	WCC Older Peoples' Support Service
NHS	WCC Physical Disability Support Service
Planning Inspectorate	WCC Legal and Democratic Services
Western Power Distribution (Midlands)	WCC Voluntary and Community Sector Co-ordinator
Age UK Herefordshire & Worcestershire	WCC Youth Support
E-ON Customer Services	Worcestershire Federation of Women's Institutes
Hereford & Worcester Gardens Trust	Federation of Small Businesses
National Grid UK Gas Distribution	Equality and Human Rights Commission
Network Rail (Western Region)	Fields in Trust
Environment Agency (West) Sustainable Places	The Crown Estate
CPRE (Wychavon)	The Sports Partnership Hereford & Worcestershire
Community First	Herefordshire and Worcs Earth Heritage Trust
Ancient Monuments Society	Homes and Communities Agency
National Farmers Union	The Coal Authority
Worcester Diocese	Marine Management Organisation
NHS South Worcestershire CCG	Superfast Worcestershire
Sport England	
Local consultees	
Landowners of the proposed Local Green Spaces and of the site allocated in the SWDP for residential development (land at Woodhall Lane)	St. Andrews Church Ombersley Parochial Church Council (PCC)
Lloyds Educational Foundation	St. Marys Church Doverdale PCCI
Ombersley Memorial Hall Trustees and Committee	Ombersley Church House Trust
Woodland Trust	The Gemini Ombersley Court Charity
Ombersley Conservation Trust	Major Oliver Trust
Ombersley Medical Centre	Ombersley Endowed First School
Ombersley Family Dental Practice	Sytchampton Endowed Primary School
Ombersley Cricket Club	Ombersley Cricket Club
Ombersley and Doverdale Tennis Club	Local businesses including farms and caravan parks

6. RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION

Issues and concerns raised

- 6.1 Comments were received from 12 consultation bodies including Wychavon District Council and Worcestershire County Council. Comments were also received from 39 residents and from the agent for the developer of land at Woodhall Lane, Ombersley. The majority of comments were supportive. All the comments are shown in the Response Log at Appendix 2, where a response is provided to each comment and any necessary amendments to the draft NDP are set out.
- 6.2 The principal issues and concerns which were raised in the consultation may be summarised as follows:
- The size of market dwellings and the tenure of affordable housing sought under policy TOAD2.
 - Whether more land should be allocated for housing, over and above the existing sites already allocated through the South Worcestershire Development Plan (and to which some respondents sought to object).
 - Need to protect existing residential amenity in setting design guidelines for the SWDP allocation site at Woodhall Lane.
 - The need for a local retail facility and other local services at Ombersley.
 - The NDP's role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
 - Provision made for Local Green Space. Many comments were in support, including from the Ombersley Conservation Trust who own several of the proposed Local Green Spaces. The owner of the Lloyds Allotments objected to its proposed designation.
 - Provision for delivering low-crime and safe environments.
 - The scope of sustainability measures to be required in policy TOAD9 including resource conservation and efficiency, sustainable drainage and other provisions.
 - Ensuring that the conversion of historic farmsteads for employment uses is achieved in a sensitive manner.
 - Traffic and transport matters, notably traffic types, volume and speed; parking in Ombersley; public transport; and provision for walking and cycling, including addressing the severance posed by the A449 at locations such as Haye Lane.

Considering and addressing issues and concerns

- 6.3 All comments were passed to the planning consultant for review and to provide a recommended response, including amendments to the draft NDP. These recommendations were considered and accepted at a meeting of the Parish Council on 16 February 2021. Table 3 provides a summary of the principal amendments to the draft NDP in plan order. The table does not include updates and minor amendments. Full details of all amendments made as a result of the consultation may be found at Appendix 2.

Table 3: Summary of principal changes made to the draft NDP following consultation**Abbreviations**

WDC: Wychavon District Council

WCC: Worcestershire County Council

Policy changes include associated additions and amendments to their supporting text.

Consultee	Plan ref	Change made
Grimley Parish Council, WCC Sustainability	Vision and objectives	Add reference to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
West Mercia Police	Objectives for the built environment	Add reference to need to ensure low crime developments.
West Mercia Police	Policy TOAD1	Add reference to developer contributions.
WDC	Policy TOAD2	Amendments to the market housing mix and the affordable housing tenure split.
WCC Flooding and public comment	Policy TOAD3	Amendments to reference need to respect residential amenity. Add further reference to sustainable drainage.
Grimley Parish Council, West Mercia Police, WCC Sustainability, WCC Flooding,	Policy TOAD9	Revisions re air quality, water efficiency, sustainability measures, low crime and safe environments/Secured by Design, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable drainage.
Historic England	Policy TOAD13	Add reference to historic farmsteads.
WCC Flooding	Policy TOAD14	Add further reference to sustainable drainage.
WDC and public comments	Community Actions	Add further information on priorities as expressed in NDP surveys; amendments to Community Actions 5 (highways other matters), 6 (public transport provision), 7 (walking and cycling); add new Community Action on environmental improvements at Ombersley.

APPENDIX 1

Regulation 14 consultation material

Pre-submission consultation and publicity notice

Leaflet

Poster

Parish magazine article October 2020

Pre-submission consultation and publicity notice



Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan 2020-2030

Pre-submission consultation and publicity notice

A public consultation on the draft Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan held in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 will start at 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 5 October 2020 and end at 5.00 p.m. on Monday 30 November 2020.

Where you can inspect the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and supporting documents may be inspected on the Tomorrow's Ombersley and Doverdale (TOAD) website at <http://www.toad.works/>.

Printed copies of the Neighbourhood Development Plan can be obtained on request from Sue Collier at susan.collier1954@gmail.com or telephone 01905 622262.

How to make comments on the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan

Comments must be made in writing and include the name and address of the person making the comments. Please make comments as specific as possible, quoting the relevant policy or paragraph number(s). All comments will be publicly available.

A comments form is available and can be either downloaded and printed from the TOAD website, or requested from Sue Collier.

Send us your comments:

- by email to the Parish Clerk at clerk-odpc@hotmail.co.uk.
- by post to the Parish Clerk, 86 Grasshopper Avenue, St Peters, Worcester WR5 3TB.
- by hand to the comments collection boxes at Ombersley Memorial Hall and Sytchampton village hall.

If you have any questions, please telephone either Sue Collier on 01905 622262 or Judy Goodman on 01905 620682.

All comments must be received by 5.00 p.m. on Monday 30 November 2020. These will be considered by Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council and will help shape the final Neighbourhood Development Plan.



Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan - consultation

Dear Parishioner,

As you know, we are in the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan, to guide how the Parish will develop up to 2030. We have now reached the stage where we have a draft Plan – and we want to know what you think.

You can see the draft Plan on-line, at <http://www.toad.works/>. If you'd prefer to read a printed version, please contact Parish Councillor Sue Collier at susan.collier1954@gmail.com or telephone 01905 622262.

We've prepared a form for you to use for your comments which can be downloaded and printed from the TOAD website or requested from Sue Collier.

Please send us your comments in writing, including your name and address:

- by email to the Parish Clerk at clerk-odpc@hotmail.co.uk.
- by post to the Parish Clerk, 86 Grasshopper Avenue, St Peters, Worcester WR5 3TB.
- by hand to the comments collection boxes at Ombersley Memorial Hall and Sytchampton village hall.

If you've any questions, please telephone either Sue Collier on 01905 622262 or Judy Goodman on 01905 620682.

All comments must be received by 5.00 p.m. on Monday 30 November 2020 for them to be taken into account.

Thank you for your help,

Sue Collier and Judy Goodman, Neighbourhood Development Plan Co-ordinators,
Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council



Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Development Plan has now been published – and we want your views.

You can read the Plan and find out how to respond:

- At <http://www.toad.works/>, or
- By requesting a copy from Sue Collier at susan.collier1954@gmail.com or telephone 01905 622262.

**Let us have your comments by 5.00 p.m. on
Monday 30 November 2020**

We look forward to hearing from you
Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council

Parish magazine article October 2020



The initial draft for our Neighbourhood Development Plan has been written taking into account the evidence gathered by the steering group and from answers you have given us in surveys and meetings since our first meeting in St. Andrews church on the 2nd October 2017. Our plan is now going out to you for public consultation. You now have 8 weeks to make your comments which will be very seriously considered for the next stage.

Sadly, due to Covid – 19 restrictions we are unable to present the plan to you as we would have liked through a public meeting and a coffee and cake morning drop-in. However, we have been given a small amount of extra grant that will enable a number of volunteers to hand deliver to every household and business within the Parish a leaflet explaining how you can view the draft plan and send in any comments you have.

The draft plan can be viewed on our website www.toad.works where you will also find a prepared comment form available to download.

For anyone who is unable to access the plan by computer please contact Susan Collier, email susan.collier1954@gmail.com or telephone 01905 622262.

Your comments are very important to us

So please send them in writing on the prepared form, including your name and address

- By email to the Parish Clerk at clerk-odpc@hotmail.co.uk
- By post to the Parish Clerk at 86 Grasshopper Avenue, St. Peters, Worcester, WR5 3TB
- By hand to the comments collection boxes at Ombersley Memorial Hall and Sytchampton village hall.

If you have any queries please telephone either Susan Collier 01905 622262 or Judy Goodman 01905 620682.

All comments must be received by 5.00pm on Monday 30th November for them to be taken into account in the final draft Neighbourhood Development Plan which would then be submitted to Wychavon.

Appendix 2

Regulation 14 consultation Response Log

Part 1: Comments from consultation bodies

Part 2: Community comments

Abbreviations

LGS: Local Green Space

HNA: Housing Needs Assessment

NA: Neighbourhood Area

NPPF: National Planning Policy Framework

NDP: Neighbourhood Development Plan

SHMA: Strategic Housing Market Assessment

SWDP: South Worcestershire Development Plan

SPD: Supplementary Planning Document

WCC: Worcestershire County Council

WDC: Wychavon District Council

Part 1: Comments from consultation bodies

Consultee	NDP ref	Type C = Comment O = Object S = Support	Comment received	Response	Amendments to Ombersley and Doverdale draft NDP
WDC (officer comments)	NDP	C	Title and throughout document – reference is made to a Neighbourhood Development Plan but they are now simply known as Neighbourhood Plans, so suggest removal of ‘Development’ in all references.	Whilst the shorter term ‘neighbourhood plan’ is now used in the NPPF and in Planning Practice Guidance, the longer designation remains how the plan is described in law, and it is well-understood and familiar locally.	No change.
	Plan 2, para. 2.7	C	Suggest reference is made to Worcestershire Parkway in text and if possible plan amended to show new Worcestershire Parkway rail station.	This change is agreed.	Refer to Worcestershire Parkway railway station in para. 2.7 and at Plan 2.
	Paras. 3.8 and 3.9	C	Para 3.8 – suggest rewording to state that the SWDP Review is due to be submitted in early 2022 and adopted in early 2023, subject to adherence with the current timetable. Para 3.9 – requires an update as Wychavon District Council carried out a SEA and HRA Screening over August and September 2020, in conjunction with the three statutory environmental bodies, which concluded that neither a full SEA nor a HRA Appropriate Assessment were necessary in the production of the Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Plan.	These updates are agreed.	Update paras. 3.8 and 3.9 as indicated. Add Screening Opinion to the evidence base at Appendix A.
	Policy TOAD2	O	Recognition that the housing mix sought in TOAD2 is justified by local evidence but suggest rewording to state “approximately 50% are 1 or 2 bedrooms, approximately 40% are 3 bedrooms and approximately 10% are 4 and above bedrooms” in order for the policy to not be overly onerous. It should also be noted that the latest SHMA (September 2019) indicates a different market housing mix to that previously, with the greatest need for 3 bedroom dwellings, then equally 2 bedroom and 4 bedroom dwellings, and finally a negative need for 1 bed dwellings. As such, the proposed housing mix sought in TOAD2 may wish to be reconsidered, particularly as developers rarely include 1 bedroom dwellings as market homes as they are generally not easy to sell. Affordable housing mix indicates social rented affordable housing is preferred and as such should make up 60% of the affordable housing mix, however this is lower than the 80% social and/or affordable rented sought in the South Worcestershire Affordable Housing SPD (October 2016) as a starting point for negotiation. Also suggest replacement of ‘shared ownership’ with ‘intermediate housing products’ to enable flexibility in the tenure of	Noting the dwelling mix indicated at district-level in the latest SHMA, the recommendations of the local HNA (February 2019) are based on a parish-level analysis and for this reason are to be preferred. The HNA provides appropriate, proportionate and robust evidence to support the policy approach. It recommends that given the nature of the dwelling stock and demographic trends (and recognising that demand for 3-bed properties will remain significant), building more 1 or 2-bed dwellings will allow older households to downsize and younger households to stay in the area. The policy is	Revise the market housing mix in policy TOAD2 as indicated in the comment, and update the supporting text with reference to the SHMA 2019. Revise the affordable housing tenure split and para. 6.6 as per the South Worcestershire SPD, refer to ‘intermediate housing products’ instead of ‘shared ownership’, and refer to SWDP16. Add SHMA 2019 and the Affordable Housing SPD to the evidence base at Appendix A.

Consultee	NDP ref	Type C = Comment O = Object S = Support	Comment received	Response	Amendments to Ombersley and Doverdale draft NDP
			affordable home ownership products. There is also no mention of the application of TOAD2 for Rural Exception Sites (SWDP16); would the same principles apply?	<p>not prescriptive as to whether 1- or 2-bed properties are provided, and allows for further evidence on local need or viability to be considered. However, it is agreed that the policy should be amended as indicated in the comment to avoid being overly onerous.</p> <p>To ensure conformity, the affordable housing tenure split should be revised as per the South Worcestershire SPD's starting point for negotiations (80% social/affordable rent and 20% intermediate products). The SHMA 2019 advises this tenure split remains appropriate. It is also agreed that the phrase 'intermediate housing products' replace 'shared ownership', to enable flexibility, and that reference be added to policy SWDP16.</p>	
	Chapter 7	S/C	Chapter acknowledges both the National Character Area profile and the more local County Landscape Character Assessment. Reference is made to the three main Landscape Types that are present in the area of the plan – Principal Settled Farmlands, Principal Timbered Farmlands and Estate Farmlands. It doesn't, however, refer to the Riverside Meadows Landscape Type which flanks the River Severn and River Salwarpe. This might be an oversight as the red line of the Neighbourhood Area on Plan 1 extends to the river corridors? The document also outlines the importance of hedgerows and hedgerow trees to the local landscape character and that the planting of native hedgerows should be the preferred form of boundary treatment, which is supported. Welcome that <i>'Opportunities for new woodland planting which may arise through development should reflect the scale, shape and composition of the existing woodland character'</i> as, whilst woodland planting is generally regarded as a good thing, it needs to be appropriate for the local area. Valued landscape 'vistas' are also outlined and illustrated – 14 in total.	This support for NDP policies TOAD6, TOAD7 and TOAD8 is welcomed. Para. 7.2 refers to the three "main" landscape types in the NA, with no explicit reference to the River Meadows type which lies on its southern and western borders. This should be corrected.	Add new para. after para. 7.4 dealing with the Riverside Meadows landscape type.

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			Views such as these are important for legibility of the landscape; they provide an understanding of the place and how it relates to the wider landscape. Seven Local Green Spaces to be protected from development, unless there are very special circumstances, are also identified. It is considered that policies TOAD6, TOAD7 and TOAD8 are all sound from a landscape perspective and do not recommend any revisions.		
	Policy TOAD9, criterion 3	O	Criterion 3 goes above and beyond Building Regulations in relation to carbon neutrality and therefore cannot be supported.	The policy wording in question has passed Examination elsewhere as meeting the basic conditions. It makes clear that provision to Buildings Regulations will be acceptable whilst also including an aspirational element to encourage higher standards.	No change.
	Policy TOAD14	S	Policy TOAD14 – consider the criteria relating to landscape character and visual amenity (bullet point 2 of TOAD14) to be acceptable.	This support for TOAD14 criterion 2 is welcomed.	No change.
	Community Actions	S	Community Actions – it is noted that a number of community actions are set out at Para 10.5 and Table 2. Although not part of the Neighbourhood Plan, these are helpful to support bids and develop strategies to address issues raised by the community. These are generally supported by WDC and it is suggested that the text at Para 10.5 sets out a commitment to prioritise these, i.e. now/soon/later through further community planning work post adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan.	This support for the NDP's Community Actions is welcomed. Whilst it is not considered feasible to prioritise the Community Actions, which cover a wide range of activities, an indication of the community priorities expressed in NDP surveys could usefully be added to para. 10.5.	Amend para 10.5 to read: "The Community Actions shown reflect the priorities expressed in the NDP household and other surveys, particularly in respect of road safety, other traffic matters and the provision of local retail and service facilities."
Councillor Christopher Day, WDC Ombersley Ward and Executive Board Member for Housing, Health and Wellbeing	NDP	S	Thank you for all the hard work that you and the Parish Council have put into creating this document. I think this draft is commendably clear and easy to follow. It provides a well documented and accurate portrayal of where Ombersley is today. I fully support the draft plans and policies that you have proposed. In particular for housing mix I agree that Ombersley needs housing that will include bungalows for older residents and smaller affordable rented properties for those on lower incomes. I also agree that at 14% the village has more than enough static caravans and mobile homes. I support the emphasis on protection of open countryside and the many views from the village.	This support for the NDP and the specific policies mentioned is welcomed.	No change.
	CA7	S/C	I support the emphasis on protecting green spaces and improving pedestrian and cycling access. I would be pleased if the green spaces could be linked to form a green north-south corridor for wildlife as well as providing alternative pedestrian and cycle routes in the village as an alternative to the Main Rd.	This support for the NDP's policies on protecting green spaces and improving pedestrian and cycling access is welcomed. Policy TOAD6	Amend Community Action 7 to include: • reference to working with WCC to improve connectivity for

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			The A449 creates a significant barrier for walking and cycling to the east of the village. In particular the A449 and the narrow and dangerous A4133 make cycling to Droitwich a challenge. I suggest the Neighbourhood Plan outlines some preferred actions for improving this ranging from an underpass to connect to Haye Lane, Hadley and via Doverdale to National Cycle Route 45. In addition an underpass at Sinton would allow a safe connection to the cycle route to Worcester via Fernhill Heath and Claines.	promotes resilient and coherent ecological networks, helping to take advantage of any opportunities to link green spaces. Community Action 7 addresses walking and cycling and should also refer to working with partners, notably WCC as highway authority, to improve access including by cycle to Droitwich and Worcester. Reference should also be included to the challenges posed for walkers and cyclists by the A449 and the A4133, and to potential locations for improvement actions. The NDP cannot anticipate the optimum solution required at a particular location.	<p>pedestrians and cyclists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the challenges and severance posed by the A449 and A4133 in respect of walking and cycling potential locations for further investigation for improvement action (A449 crossings at Haye Lane and Sinton Lane).
	Policy TOAD8	C	I would like the plan to consider identifying and reserving a further large green space for recreation such as five a side football, skateboarding and basketball. Ideally this would be in the northern half of the village and close to the current and new developments, for example the field between Longheadland and Sandys Rd.	These suggestions should be considered by the Parish Council in the first instance. A proposal in the NDP for new recreational green space would need to be supported by evidence of need and be realistically capable of being implemented within the plan period.	No change.
	NDP	C	The Ombersley Estate owns a significant amount of farmland and I suggest we approach the estate to identify how some of this can be given over to create an Ombersley Wood on the outskirts of the village or an area for rewilding.		
Canal and River Trust	NDP	-	No comment to make.	Noted.	No change.
Environment Agency	NDP	C	We have no comments to make at this stage.	Noted.	No change.
Grimley Parish Council	Vision and objectives	S/O	<p>Grimley Parish Councillors warmly welcome the 'Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan 2020-2030 (v5)' and notes with genuine pleasure that the topics of sustainable housing design and renewable energy are included. Grimley Parish Councillors wish to make the following observations and suggestions about the Vision Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neighbourhood plans can play a very important role in promoting policies that address climate change mitigation and adaption - the most important of 	This support for the NDP's provisions on sustainable housing design and renewable energy is welcomed. It is agreed that the Vision should incorporate reference to climate change mitigation and adaptation, which	Amend para. 4.4, point 5 to read: "There will be an improved village infrastructure which gives safe and sustainable access to facilities for everyone, and where development addresses the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change."

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			<p>these being the Climate Change Act 2008 [as amended] and the Paris Agreement 2018 which requires a 50% reduction in fossil fuel consumption by 2030 and net zero (1) by 2050.</p> <p>- Whilst there is no explicit requirement for Neighbourhood Plans to address climate change mitigation and adaptation (ref the Acts and Agreements mentioned above), nonetheless this is a crucial opportunity to express the grave concerns that we all have about how the planning system is not sufficiently addressing climate change in our local area.2</p> <p>- Creation of a Neighbourhood Development plan provides a rare occasion to get a community talking about and (crucially) accepting the likely impacts of climate change. It is also a key opportunity to gather written consent for meaningful solutions to tackle global warming.</p> <p>- It will be hard to justify to our future generations why we (a general 'we') allow the adoption of 10-year neighbourhood plans which do not explicitly take into account an existential threat that needs to be solved within that same timeframe. We are facing an extinction event. We must act now. This is not hyperbole. This is fact.</p> <p>Important further reading: https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/policy/planning/renewables/neighbourhood-planning-in-a-climate-emergency-feb-2020.pdf https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/reports/20-actions-parish-and-town-councils-can-take-climate-and-nature-emergency</p> <p>Crucial amendments please: The Vision Statement could please mention and incorporate climate change and lead on to issues that are discussed in the context of and with reference to climate change, the Climate Change Act 2008 [as amended] and the Paris Agreement 2018.</p> <p>Nb. Grimley Parish Council can assist with this and would gratefully be involved. We are prepared to provide the time and resources required.</p> <p>(1) Net zero refers to achieving a balance between the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere. There are different routes to achieving net zero, which work in tandem: reducing existing emissions and actively removing greenhouse gases. A <i>gross</i>-zero target would mean reducing all emissions to zero. This is not realistic, so instead the <i>net</i>-zero target recognises that there will be some emissions but that these need to be fully offset, predominantly through natural carbon sinks such as oceans and forests.</p>	should also feature in the objectives.	Objectives for the built environment, add new bullet point: "To ensure that new development includes sustainability measures which take a positive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change.".
	Policy	S/O	This policy is again very warmly welcomed by Grimley Parish Cllrs. In addition	The sustainability measures	Amend policy TOAD9 and supporting

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	TOAD9		<p>to Bullet Point 3 of TOAD9, please consider the following more specific design requirements, which would reduce any 'wriggle room' by Developers and would hopefully result in housing design that can address climate change in a meaningful way.</p> <p>Include the following design requirements:</p> <p>- New development is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be air quality neutral, with encouragement for development which gives rise to zero emissions to air. • Incorporate on-site renewable energy. • Incorporate sustainable planting including multi-functional roof gardens and the use of photovoltaic roofs and ground source heat pumps. • Minimise water consumption through good design and rainwater harvesting systems and greywater recycling. Make installation of a water butt a standard recommended design. • Promote the adoption of the following water conservation measures: installation of fittings that will minimise water usage, such as low or dual flush WCs, spray taps and economical shower heads. <p>Within this Policy, please also consider citing the Climate Change Act 2008 [as amended] and the Paris Agreement 2018 which requires a 50% reduction in fossil fuel consumption by 2030 and net zero by 2050.</p> <p>Important further reading: https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/policy/planning/renewables/neighbourhood-planning-in-a-climate-emergency-feb-2020.pdf </p>	included in TOAD9 and the supporting text are to be revised in light of this and other comments.	text as appropriate re air quality, the generation of renewable energy, minimising water consumption, the use of water butts and water conservation measures.
Hallow Parish Council	Vision	S	Really good vision, well done.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
	Objectives	S	Objectives well framed and relevant to the NDP area, and this part of south Worcestershire. Figure 5 page 18, very helpful.		
	Policy TOAD1	S	Emphasis on sustainable development really welcome.		
	Policy TOAD2	S	Housing mix recognizes both starter homes and downsizing – they are both very real challenges to Worcestershire rural policies.		
	Policy TOAD6	S	Fully support landscape and biodiversity policy. We have lost too much already. Well done!		
	NDP	C	A well written and comprehensive plan, rooted in strong local consultation.		
Highways England	NDP	C	Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan which covers the period 2020 to 2030. The document provides a vision for the future of the area and sets out key objectives and planning policies which will be used to	Comment noted.	No change.

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			help determine planning applications. In relation to the Ombersley and Doverdale Neighbourhood Development Plan, our principal interest is in safeguarding the operation of the M5. We understand that a Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with relevant national and borough-wide planning policies. Accordingly, the Neighbourhood Plan for Ombersley and Doverdale is required to be in conformity with the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) and this is acknowledged within the document. From review of the draft Neighbourhood Plan we note that there are two housing site allocations in the plan area which, from review of the site boundary plans and SWDP document, appear to be able to accommodate no more than approximately 60 dwellings. Considering the limited level of growth proposed across the Neighbourhood Plan area and its distance from the nearest SRN junctions (M5 J5 and J6) we do not expect there to be any material impact on the operation of the SRN. At this stage we have no further comment to make, however we would welcome the opportunity to comment further as the Neighbourhood Plan develops.		
Historic England	NDP	S	Thank you for the invitation to comment on the above Neighbourhood Plan. Historic England is supportive of both the content of the document and the vision and objectives set out in it. We commend the general emphasis placed upon the maintenance of local distinctiveness and the conservation of landscape character, building upon the findings of the Worcestershire Landscape Character Assessment, including policies for the protection of green space, biodiversity and important views and vistas. We also fully support policies for the conservation of local distinctiveness and the protection of the built environment including affording special recognition to conservation areas in the Parish. The Ombersley and Doverdale Design Guidelines are admirable in their detail providing an invaluable context for the Plan that will be of great assistance in ensuring future development respects and reinforces local distinctiveness, as evidenced by its required application in providing design criteria for current housing allocations. Beyond those observations we have no further substantive comments to make on what Historic England considers is a good example of community led planning. I hope you find this advice helpful.	This support for the NDP is welcome.	No change.
	Policy TOAD13	S/O	We do have a suggestion in relation to Policy TOAD13: Farm Diversification. Whilst we support, as the Policy suggests, the conversion to beneficial uses, including employment uses, of redundant historic buildings we are concerned to ensure that this is done in a sensitive manner. Therefore we suggest that you consider the inclusion of the following Policy wording in TOAD 13 viz:	This suggestion is agreed.	Add the suggested wording to the end of policy TOAD13 and include suitable supporting text in para. 9.11. Include reference to the Worcestershire Farmsteads

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			<p><i>“Redevelopment, alteration or extension of historic farmsteads and agricultural buildings within the Parish should be sensitive to their distinctive character, materials and form. Due reference should be made and full consideration be given to the Worcestershire Farmsteads Characterisation Project”.</i></p> <p>https://public.worcestershire.gov.uk/sites/archaeology/Reports/SWR22523.pdf</p> <p>Further information about this can be obtained if necessary from the Worcestershire County Council Archives and Archaeology Service.</p>		Characterisation project at Appendix A.
Lloyds Educational Foundation	Policy TOAD8, LGS2	O	<p>Further to the letter from The Lloyds Educational Foundation dated 8 September 2020 in response to the O & D NDP 2020-2030, the Trustees met last night when the matter was discussed further. The outcome of this meeting confirmed their wish that the letter, a further copy is attached, stands as the formal response to the consultation that is now live and they would wish this to be formally submitted as representing their position with regards to the Lloyds Allotment site. Specifically this is in response to the Policy Section 7 Natural Environment - Local Green Spaces, Page 36 Ref: LGS2 Lloyds Allotments. Notably in the letter, “Lloyds would be apprehensive about the future control of the allotment site, should it be determined as a local green space, and the day to day management and public liability of what is in effect private land”. They wish to retain flexibility in this respect going forward.</p> <p>[Copy of letter referred to, which confirms the proposal is not supported, is available on request to Parish Clerk].</p>	Local Green Space designation confers protection under the Planning Acts only. Planning Practice Guidance states that “designating a green area as Local Green Space would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners.” It has no bearing on day-to-day management or public liability, which remain the responsibility of landowners. In respect of “flexibility”, it is not clear from the objection what is envisaged here in terms of future intentions. However, in Green Belt areas the provision of appropriate facilities for allotments is permitted as long as openness is preserved and they do not conflict with the purposes of including the land in question (NPPF para. 145). In any event, the objection does not query the planning basis for designation, as this is set out at Appendix B to the NDP.	No change.
Avison Young	NDP	-	An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Grid’s electricity	Noted.	No change.

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for National Grid			and gas transmission assets which include high voltage electricity assets and high-pressure gas pipelines. National Grid has identified that it has no record of such assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area.		
Natural England	NDP	-	Natural England does not have any specific comments on this draft neighbourhood plan.	Noted.	No change.
Savills for Ombersley Conservation Trust	NDP	S	[Summary of comment] The Trust supports the aspirations of the ODNDP to shape the future of development in the parish, and to safeguard community facilities and the area's distinct character.	Noted.	No change.
	Policy TOAD8	S	Several of the draft ODNDP Local Green Space allocations within Policy TOAD8 are owned by OCT. Considering their community significance, and indeed OCT's priorities, OCT recognises their community value and welcomes their allocation as Local Green Space.	This support for the proposed designation of the areas of land concerned as LGS is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy TOAD1	O	Ombersley is a sustainable Category 1 settlement with a variety of services, facilities and public transport provisions. It is highly capable of accommodating development, which would help to support and retain the level of services within the village. The pre-submission consultation draft of ODNDP makes no new housing allocations (given Policy TOAD3 Land north of Woodhall Lane, Ombersley, was an allocation within the South Worcestershire Development Plan adopted in 2016). Consideration should be made to allocating suitable land for housing to support the services and vitality of the community.	The adopted SWDP makes allocations of land for housing at Ombersley to address requirements up to 2030 (this is also the end of the NDP period). The current review of the SWDP is considering the issue of allocating further land at Ombersley consistent with its Category 1 status to address requirements up to 2041.	No change.
	Policy TOAD2	O	The stringent requirement for housing mix is not considered appropriate given other up to date housing need evidence and design requirements. The Wychavon Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2019 indicates the likely change in demand for dwelling types and sizes and how this translates to an overall percentage change in dwelling requirement. Analysis indicates that the majority of need will be for 3- bedroom (42.6%) and 2-bedroom (26.8%) followed by 4 or more-bedroom (19.4%) and 1-bedroom dwellings (11.2%). This evidence, published in September 2019, is more up to date than the Ombersley and Doverdale Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) of February 2019 which seems to form the sole evidence base to Policy TOAD2. There is clear discrepancy with the Policy which gives specific percentages geared towards a smaller unit mix. It should be recognised that this is a snapshot of need based on one methodology. The blanket approach required by Policy TOAD2 is	See response to comments on policy TOAD2 by WDC. As set out in the NDP supporting text, the policy on market housing mix is based on evidence from SWDP supplementary guidance and the NDP household survey as well as the local HNA. The HNA sets out a parish-based analysis, unlike the SHMA's district-level approach. It provides appropriate, proportionate and robust evidence to support the policy approach. The	No change.

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			counterproductive and unlikely to result in the right type of housing in the right locations. As such, it is recommended consideration is afforded to the Wychavon Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2019 as well, and that a percentage range of bed types is included allowing flexibility subject to site specifics and market demand. The delivery of one- and two- bedroomed units are typically flatted dwellings, of which there are some examples in the north of the village already. The policy, as drafted, does not allow for a balance of considerations such as appropriate design, village character, and the conservation area which could all be impacted by development of the nature that could arise. Such a stringent requirement is could inadvertently necessitate a development out of character with the grain of the existing area.	policy allows for further evidence on local need or viability to be considered. In respect of design, the NDP stands to read as a whole, alongside other development plan policies. Policies TOAD9 and TOAD10 will help address the issues identified and ensure that development can both address housing requirements and respect its context.	
Place Partnership for West Mercia Police	Objectives for the built environment	S/O	<p>[Summary of comment]</p> <p>WMP support the existing built environment objectives for the Parish of Ombersley and Doverdale. However, they do not currently reference the need to ensure low crime developments that benefit from the infrastructure required. Therefore, WMP suggest that the following be included within this set of objectives, in accordance with NPPF and South Worcestershire Council policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that proposed schemes design-out crime through applying Secured by Design (SBD) principles and standards. To require new developments to be supported by the infrastructure and services they need such as education, health and emergency services. 	These additional built environment objectives are agreed.	Include the suggested additional built environment objectives.
	Policy TOAD1	O	<p>WMP are committed to continuing to work in partnership with the Parish Council on crime and anti-social behaviour issues. Neighbourhood policing is an important priority and one to which WMP would like to see referenced in Policy TOAD1. In view of this, please could the following amendment be made:</p> <p>'...To retain and enhance social and community infrastructure such as education, health and the emergency services. Where necessary, proposals should provide contributions to enable these services to continue supporting quality of life in the Parish...'</p> <p>Using developer contributions for police infrastructure has been confirmed as compliant with the statutory tests of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 122.</p>	This addition to policy TOAD1 is agreed, with some adjustment to the proposed wording.	Amend policy TOAD1 criterion 1 to read: "retaining and enhancing social and community infrastructure including education, health and the emergency services, and promoting and enabling new provision to meet a range of needs and support quality of life. Where necessary, proposals should provide contributions to enable these services to continue supporting quality of life.".
	Policy TOAD9	O	The policy surprisingly makes no reference to ensuring that proposed schemes deliver low crime and safe environments. WMP therefore recommend that the following criterion is added to Policy TOAD9, in accordance with NPPF, National Design Guide and South Worcestershire	It is agreed that reference to delivering low crime and safe environments should be included in policy TOAD9 although the	Add new criterion to policy TOAD9, to read: "delivering a low crime and safe environment through the application of the principles and

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			Council policies: Ensuring they deliver low crime and safe environments through the application of the principles and standards of Secured by Design. This should be explained in a Design and Access Statement or similar document. Advice on this subject can be sought from West Mercia Police's Design Out Crime Officer.	references to a Design and Access Statement and sources of advice are better set out in the supporting text (see response below).	standards of Secured by Design; and". Delete "safe" from criterion 4 to avoid repetition.
	Ombersley and Doverdale Design Guidelines, p.27	C	For the Design Guidelines document to accurately reflect the amendments made to Policy TOAD9 above, the following section should be included within Design Considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants should demonstrate within the Design and Access statement as to how they have incorporated SBD principles and standards to create a low crime and safe environment for the future residents who will occupy this space/scheme. • The Official Police Security Initiative have produced Design Guides for both commercial and residential developments on how SBD should be implemented within the design scheme. Access to these documents can be found by using this link: https://www.securedbydesign.com/guidance/design-guides. • Applicants can also gain free and impartial advice from West Mercia Police's dedicated Design Out Crime Officer. • It should be noted that SBD does not negate the need for emergency services infrastructure. Suitable direct access should also be included for the emergency services within the design of the scheme. 	To expand on the policy reference to Secured by Design, further information should be added to policy TOAD9's supporting text to encompass the issues raised here.	Add new paragraph to policy TOAD9 supporting text to set out sources of information on Secured by Design and the use of a Design and Access Statement to explain the design approach.
WCC Education	Policy TOAD4	S	Worcestershire Children First make the following comments, we support the inclusion of Ombersley Endowed First School and Sytchampton Endowed Primary in the local plan as key community facilities under Policy TOAD4 and support the view that these schools are a key asset that contribute to the quality of life for residents in this parish. We will continue to work with Local District planners to ensure local education facilities continue to be well suited to serve the local community in response to development expected within the area.	Comment noted.	No change.
WCC Sustainability	NDP	O	Climate change mitigation and adaptation are central to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The UK Climate Change Act 2008 sets legally binding targets for the UK to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2050. New developments will be around for a considerable number of years, it is important that they remain fit for purpose over their lifetime as the climate changes. The NP does not make any reference to climate change – we would encourage that this is reviewed and included; however, the Design Guide does make some reference to climate change, which is supported. In terms of	This change is agreed. Reference to climate change mitigation and adaptation should be added to the NDP's built environment objectives (see response to comments by Grimley Parish Council). A number of aspects of policy TOAD9 support local resilience to climate change,	Amend the built environment objectives and policy TOAD9/the supporting text to incorporate reference to climate change mitigation and adaptation features.

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			building design, adaptation features (such as wider gutters/outdoor shading/green roofs etc.) could be considered for inclusion within the Design Guide.	particularly in terms of building sustainability. The explanation for these measures should encompass reference to the climate change context and to the specific adaptation measures identified.	
	Policy TOAD9 criterion 3	S/O	Supportive of this criterion. The plan could perhaps be more specific in its objectives on energy and request that energy efficiency of new homes goes beyond the standards required in building regulations which would be in line with the National Planning Policy Framework. Improving the energy efficiency standards of new homes will help to support achievement of national net zero carbon targets and reduce the risk of fuel poverty for new residents. It would be encouraging to see recognition of the issue of fuel poverty within the Neighbourhood Plan. The latest figures show that 10% of households in Worcestershire are considered to be fuel poor, meaning they have high energy costs but a low household income.	This support for policy TOAD9 criterion 3 is welcomed. Policy TOAD9 already encourages new homes to achieve the highest standards of energy conservation, being ideally carbon neutral whilst as a minimum complying with Building Regulations. This will help address fuel poverty.	No change.
	Policy TOAD9	O	There is no reference to supporting the inclusion of electric vehicle chargepoints in new developments in the Neighbourhood Plan. The Road to Zero strategy produced by the UK Government outlined the intention to consult on proposals for all new UK homes to have an electric vehicle charge point where appropriate. This consultation concluded October 2019 – currently awaiting response from Government.	The sustainability measures included in TOAD9 and the supporting text are to be revised in light of this and other comments.	Amend policy TOAD9 and supporting text as appropriate to encourage water efficiency and to include reference to the provision of electric vehicle charging points, water butts and compost bins.
		O	Policy makes reference to water conservation measures, however the Neighbourhood Plan could consider improvements to water efficiency in new homes and non-residential developments over and above building regulations, including the provision of water butts (residential). The Design Guide, however, does make reference to whether rainwater harvesting has been considered.	There are no known opportunities for further allotment/growing space, although the 3.2 ha. Lloyds Allotments on the edge of Ombersley are proposed to be designated as Local Green Space.	
		O	Policy makes reference to the provision for the recycling of waste, which is encouraged. Apart from this, the NP makes little reference to waste, although sustainable waste management is a consideration in the Design Guide. The Neighbourhood Plan could consider options for onsite composting for new homes, including provision of compost bins for all new homes. The plan could consider inclusion of provision of further allotment and growing space in suitable locations.		
	NDP	O	The Neighbourhood Plan could closer align with the objectives of SWDP 27 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy, with regards to new developments. The plan makes reference to large standalone renewables (e.g. solar PV farms) but	It is agreed that SWDP 27 should be referenced within the supporting text to policy TOAD9.	Include reference to SWDP 27 in the supporting text to policy TOAD9, to demonstrate alignment without

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			not direct reference to SWDP 27 policy around renewable energy for new residential/commercial developments		unnecessarily duplicating policies.
	Design Guide	S	Supportive of what is included regarding the use of energy efficient technologies.	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy TOAD14	S	Supportive of the requirements that have been included in this policy.		
WCC Flooding	TOAD3, TOAD14	O	Sustainable Drainage systems (SuDS) are mentioned briefly in the plan. The LLFA would recommend that more detailed information be added to the current policies that mention SuDS to strengthen them. Making reference to the use of the Worcestershire SuDS Guide - http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/10361/Worcestershire_suds_design_and_evaluation_guide.pdf . These policies should also add in about the long term maintenance of SuDS. To ensure that the drainage systems keep functioning as they should regular maintenance is required. The policy should require a maintenance plan to be submitted for all developments to ensure that a plan and a suitable relevant body is in place to continue maintenance of SuDS for the lifetime of the development. The plan should also consider mentioning retrofitting SuDS when re-using, converting or adapting existing buildings and other brownfield sites. A brownfield development can still make extensive use of SuDS and make a big impact on the flood risk of the local area.	The principle of this comment is agreed, although it is more appropriately addressed through additions to policy TOAD9. This policy applies to all development, rather than only the site or type of development which is the subject of policies TOAD3 and TOAD14.	<p>Add new criterion to policy TOAD9, to read: "Providing sustainable drainage designed in accord with the Worcestershire Sustainable Drainage Design and Evaluation Guide and including provision for long-term maintenance in the form of a submitted Management Plan which applies for the lifetime of the development and for its implementation by a suitable relevant body".</p> <p>Reference the SuDS Design and Evaluation Guide in the supporting text to policy TOAD9 and the application to both greenfield and brownfield schemes, and add to the evidence base at Appendix A.</p> <p>Add cross-references to the supporting text of policies TOAD3 and TOAD14.</p>
WCC Minerals and Waste	Policy TOAD9	S	The Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Team support the inclusion of "provision for the recycling of waste" in Policy TOAD9: Design.	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Para. 3.1		Paragraph 3.1 should identify Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy and Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan as part of the adopted development Plan. The Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan is currently subject to public examination and will replace the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan when adopted. We note that the plan area includes areas that are proposed as Mineral Safeguarding Area and Mineral Consultation Areas in	Guidance from WDC on strategic policies for the purposes of neighbourhood planning deals only with policies in the SWDP. NDPs cannot include policies on mineral and waste matters. However,	Add reference to the Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy and Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan to para. 3.1 and Figure 4.

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			policy MLP 31 of the Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan Publication version (see webmap https://gis.worcestershire.gov.uk/Website/MineralsLocalPlan/?l=1) this should be taken into account to ensure that the NDP in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area.	NPPF para. 20 in setting out the scope of strategic policies includes reference to waste management and the provision of minerals, and both the Waste Core Strategy and the Minerals Local Plan are part of the development plan. It is appropriate therefore to include reference to these documents in para. 3.1 and Figure 4.	

Part 2: Community and other comments

Consultee	NDP ref	Type C = Comment O = Object S = Support	Comment received	Response	Amendments to Ombersley and Doverdale draft NDP
RCA Regeneration for Spitfire Homes	Policy TOAD3	C/O	<p>[Summary of comment]</p> <p>Spitfire are in the process of preparing a planning application relating to the site north of Woodhall Lane which is the subject of Policy TOAD3. It is proposed that 45 new homes are to be built on the site which benefits from a residential allocation (Ref: SWDP59/26) within the adopted South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) (2016). By providing 45 dwellings at this site, the pressure on Ombersley to accommodate further development should be reduced. This is because the number of dwellings delivered in the current plan period will be higher than first expected, based off the indicative figures provided at Policy SWDP59. This means that further sites may not need to come forward for development, with a greater number of dwellings being provided by this allocated site. To this end, we encourage the Parish to incorporate a requirement within the NDP to encourage the most effective use of land, bringing the document in line with adopted local and national policy.</p> <p>We are hopeful that the Parish and local residents will agree that the layout proposed would achieve a high-quality, sustainable development. TOAD3(2) states that the development should be in accordance with the Ombersley and Doverdale Guidelines, positively addressing the character of the area in terms of layout, density, site frontages, the use of materials and detailing. The explanatory text explores this in more detail, discussing the nature of the site being towards the edge of the village, and accordingly, the development should contain differing densities throughout the site. At the southern edge of the proposed site - where the development would front Woodhall Lane - the proposed density is higher. This reflects the higher densities in the housing located to the south. Further north, densities are lower, reflecting the sparse pattern of development outside of the site in this peripheral part of the village, providing individual character areas within the development. Research conducted by Spitfire indicates that in the area to the south of the site, there is a mixture of densities, with three areas measuring 39 dwellings per hectare (dph), 38 dph and 54 dph respectively. The proposed development of 45 dwellings on the 2.02ha site would equate to 35dph – when accounting for open space – and would therefore be appropriate for the location. It will also make the most efficient use of land, as required by Policy SWDP 13 and</p>	<p>This representation mainly describes how the emerging scheme for the Woodhall Lane site seeks to respond positively to policy TOAD3 and the Ombersley and Doverdale Design Guidelines. The fact that regard is being had to the draft NDP and the Guidelines in this way is in principle to be welcomed. It will be for the decision-maker when determining the application to assess the degree of compliance, bearing in mind the weight that can be attached to the NDP at that point.</p> <p>The only change to the NDP suggested in the comment is that a requirement should be included to encourage the most effective use of land. However, as the comment indicates such a requirement is already set out in national policy (NPPF chapter 11) and in the SWDP (SWDP 13). It does not need to be repeated in the NDP.</p>	No change.

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			<p>chapter 11 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which discusses achieving appropriate development densities and making an efficient use of land.</p> <p>Spitfire have also gone to great lengths to understand the architectural heritage of Ombersley and will look to propose a traditional and recognisable form of development, but one which also benefits from some modern features, such as within windows, doors and entrance canopies. The dwellings are predominantly presented in red brick, a common material in the village, with dentilled brickwork at eaves level and coursed brickwork at ground level. These features would combine to achieve an attractive development which meets the aims of the draft NDP.</p> <p>It is noted within the NDP that the quantum of development is a matter for the SWDP, a statement we agree with. Though it will no doubt have been noted by the Parish and nearby residents that 45 dwellings is greater than the indicative figure of 25 provided at Policy SWDP 59. This is justified since the site can comfortably accommodate this number of new homes, whilst also meeting the other policy requirements as set out in the SWDP, such as SWDP 5: Green Infrastructure. The large area of green infrastructure/open space at the site frontage will provide an attractive, landscaped gateway into the development. Not only will this help to mitigate the impact of noise arising from the A449, but it will also accommodate a great amount of new planting, softening the visual impact of the development and providing new habitats. The open space will also accommodate SuDS and a pedestrian link through to the Public Right of Way at Holly Lane. This will deliver upon the requirements of Policy TOAD3 and will improve the permeability of this part of the village.</p>		
Resident 1	NDP	S	As a resident of this parish with family connections dating to the 1930's I write to endorse my support for the Ombersley and Doverdale Development Plan put forward by the Committee. This year more than ever has highlighted how fortunate we are to live in this village with such a quality of life. We cannot stop further development and as a resident I applaud the dedication, information collecting, time and energy this Committee has put together which will create a lasting legacy for Ombersley. The results of this planning can already be seen with projects already underway. Such examples cutting the hedge and preparing the Memorial Gates for the field and the painting of the telephone box.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 2	NDP	C	I think that the Ombersley and Doverdale NDP has fulfilled the criteria to	This support for the NDP is	No change.

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			protect the integrity of the village and its adjoining hamlets. Taking into account sustainable development, housing mix and design, the natural environment and the economy. It is unfortunate that unlike the 2012 NDP which identified the future development sites, that after so much effort to consult the parishioners and then Wychavon no decision could be made to identify future development sites if extra allocation for housing in Ombersley and Doverdale is included in the new SWDP.	welcomed. Whilst sites have been investigated for allocation which would contribute to overall housing requirements in South Worcestershire up to 2041, no developable candidates have been found. The NDP covers the period up to 2030, coterminous with the present NDP.	
Resident 3	NDP	S	I just felt I wanted to say how grateful we are to you and everyone involved with TOAD for all the work that you have done in creating the Ombersley Neighbourhood Plan. I think we are extremely lucky to have such committed and motivated people who care about the future of Ombersley. I have looked through the plan and have no particular comment to make other than noting that each area for consideration has been clearly thought out and most importantly, has involved the community at every step along the way. In my capacity as secretary at Ombersley Tennis Club, I would say that we as a club are very keen to help within the community, so please do not hesitate to contact me if we can help with anything in the future.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Residents 4 and 5	NDP	S	Excellent plan, clearly presented. If approved and adhered to, the plan will ensure that Ombersley and associated hamlets are enhanced and preserved for the future.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 6	NDP	S	Having been part of the Working Group to produce this plan, I can only endorse it, and feel very privileged to have been part of such a comprehensive document, knowing it reflects the input from many people living here. While acknowledging we must embrace change and development the plan will preserve the essence of the village and everything that the people who live here hold dear to them. I have lived here since 1976.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 7	Para. 2.7	C	Droitwich railway station is accessible only by car.	Noted.	No change.
	Para. 2.11	C	The population is older suggesting a need for established family homes and property for retiring people, rather than singles or young people who would find the environment restrictive.	This demographic trend is recognised and taken into account in the local HNA.	No change.
	Policy TOAD2	O/S	I disagree that 50% should be 1-2 bed properties as I believe the village environment suits families and older people. I would suggest 60% 2-3 beds, 20% 1-beds to include rented/shared properties. I agree that bungalows should be a feature of these properties.	See response to comments on policy TOAD2 by WDC.	No change.
	Policy TOAD9	C	All properties should have private garden space especially as proved by the COVID19 pandemic, as they are essential to mental health and wellbeing. It is	The Design Guidelines, referenced in policy TOAD9, appropriately	No change.

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			also important that all properties are not overlooked.	address this issue under the heading of <i>Green space, gardens, allotments and public realm</i> (p. 30).	
	NDP	C	Building on the new Kingscroft site cannot be classed as vernacular, as this style is seen country/nationwide. The properties at the front conceal a high number of low quality dwellings. The treatment of land north of Woodhall Lane will be similar. I was not aware that <u>no</u> sites had yet been put forward. What does that mean? Do the previously suggested sites remain possible?	The policies of the NDP notably TOAD3 and TOAD9 and the Design Guidelines will help to deliver locally distinctive development. Whilst sites have been investigated for allocation which would contribute to overall housing requirements in South Worcestershire up to 2041, no developable candidates have been found.	No change.
Resident 8	NDP	C	I have lived on Awford Lane for 35 years. I am in receipt of your circular regarding your development plan for Ombersley and Doverdale. Looking on the website, I cannot see a plan, just waffle. Can you explain to me just what you are planning to alter? As I see it, it is fine as it is. If anything needs to be done, it is the policing of the A449. All the speeding vehicles need to be taken off it and noisy vehicles, which are mainly motorcycles and <i>go faster cars</i> driven by perpetual children. Nothing will be done, I'm certain. Oh, It's just occurred to me, that Doverdale Lane desperately needs to be upgraded. It would be a good alternative route to Droitwich if it had adequate and upgraded passing places and the banning of large commercial vehicles. It can be a nightmare to meet one coming the opposite direction.	The NDP contains planning policies to help ensure that by 2031 its special character and local distinctiveness will indeed be retained and where possible enhanced. The highway and traffic issues raised are outside the scope of the NDP, being matters for WCC as highway authority, West Mercia Police, the District Council and other partners. However, the Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan, many of which deal with highways, traffic and transport matters.	No change.
Resident 9	NDP	S	I have read the draft report and wanted to offer my congratulations on the great job you have done to understand and evaluate the local opinions that have been incorporated into this consultation document. I can't see anything I want to add.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 10	NDP	S	Thanks to all for the hard work that has gone into the development plan, it is a comprehensive document.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy	O	New build properties can and should be carbon zero, not just "ideally carbon	The wording in criterion 3 of policy	No change.

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	TOAD9		neutral”, and ideally some mention should be made of target energy use levels or similar to improve the building fabric beyond building regulations which are currently not particularly stringent on energy efficiency, and certainly don’t go far enough in terms of the UK reaching carbon zero. Just “ideally carbon neutral” could potentially allow for building not being very energy efficient but with electric based heating systems (on the basis that the grid is gradually becoming “green”) which will then cost more to run, not very good for any housing and especially not affordable housing. It should also be noted that it costs a lot more to make existing properties carbon zero than new build ones, so not making new builds carbon zero now will cost more overall in the longer term. And it would be good to see cycling/development of cycle routes more strongly supported.	TOAD9 reflects the limited scope under Government policy for the NDP to seek energy efficiency standards above those in Building Regulations. See also response to comments by WDC on policy TOAD9 criterion 3.	
Resident 11	NDP	C	After having briefly read through the plan online, I am quite comfortable with most of the proposals, but am disappointed to see that there appears to be no mention of the potentially fatal issue of crossing the A449 at the Haye Lane junction. This is used daily by most of the residents in Haye Lane to reach the village stores, doctors, dentists, pubs, allotments, etc. It is also used regularly by villagers wishing to walk or cycle by means of Haye Lane. This junction has no path over the A449 which means it gets muddy and overgrown at certain times of year, but most critically it is 200 yards or so after the speed limit increases to 70mph which at certain times of the day makes it virtually impossible to cross the road safely. (nb this dual carriageway has a 50mph limit from Ombersley through to Kidderminster). I am reasonably able, myself but I know that some of the more elderly and infirm residents of Haye Lane take great risks everyday trying to cross this road. I was wondering whether this has been considered in formulating the development plan particularly with the increasing number of residents planned for the village.	Highway issues generally are outside the scope of the NDP and this includes securing improvements to the Haye Lane/A449 junction for walkers and cyclists, which would be the remit of WCC as highway authority. However, the Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan, many of which deal with highways, traffic and transport matters. The issue raised and the role of WCC should be reflected in an amended Community Action CA7 on walking and cycling.	Community Action 7, add reference to Worcestershire Council and reference the Haye Lane/A449 crossing as a candidate location for improving connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.
Resident 12	NDP	O	My comments on the proposed sites in Ombersley. 1.The proposed sites are at the North end of the village. The Racks 30 properties probably 2 cars per household. Woodhall Lane sites 28 properties 2 cars per household? 30 to 40 years ago the main road was clogged with traffic therefore the A449 was done to ease the traffic on the main road, if all these developments are going to take place it will be as it was in the 70s. We are a small village I wonder where the people are coming from? I live on the main road and my property is set back from the road but the increase of lorries that are coming	The two sites referred to in these objections are SWDP allocations and as such the principle of development has been established. The traffic generated by their development and impacts on the local road network has been or will be considered at the planning permission stage. The highway and	No change.

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			through literally vibrate my house. Also cars are double parked on various places on the main road which makes it difficult for buses to pass.	traffic issues raised are outside the scope of the NDP, being matters for WCC as highway authority, West Mercia Police, the District Council and other partners.	
	NDP	O	I strongly object to these new Developments in our village. The traffic is already busier than ever, and are we ever going to get an appointment at the surgery with all the extra people this involves. I have lived in this village for 40 years and it was a true village then. I am sorry that all these green spaces are disappearing. Every space seems there is building going on. I think the council need to look at the increased traffic that is accumulating on the main road and the speeds at which the lorries coming through as I have said in my previous emails my house literally vibrates when these vehicles come through. I don't want to leave the village but as things are I am seriously thinking about a move.	However, the Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan, many of which deal with highways, traffic and transport matters including weight and parking restrictions.	
Resident 13	Para. 2.13	C	14% households [in caravans or other mobile or temporary structure] is a high proportion in the Parish and must be controlled going forward.	Noted. See NDP para. 9.10 in respect of tourism and leisure-related proposals.	No change.
	Para. 3.5, 4.5, 6.11, policies TOAD1, TOAD2, TOAD3.	O	Objecting to proposed development Woodhall Lane. As proposed, this project has no regard for NDP and not compatible with any of the policies listed.	The Woodhall Lane site is an allocation in the SWDP and the principle of development has therefore been established. NDP policy TOAD3 sets out detailed criteria to guide its development.	No change.
	Policy TOAD5	C	The recent changes at Checketts illustrate the need for strong planning guidelines.	Policy TOAD5 seeks to guide development providing new or expanded retail and other services. However, many changes to local services reflect commercial decisions and are not subject to planning control.	No change.
	NDP	C	Comprehensive; well laid out; plain English and readable; given the necessary "teeth" it will safeguard the special characteristics of the Parish going forward.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 14	NDP	S	I think the Consultation draft is excellent and you are to be commended for the tremendous amount of work that you have put in to its formulation.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
	Paras. 7.5 and 7.6	S	Taking paragraphs 7.5 & 7.6 on page 30, I heartily agree that as few hedges and trees as possible i.e. the bare minimum, should be cut down or lowered in height. I hope that in all future developments it will be a condition that the developers are made to plant new trees and hedges rather than use just		

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			fences or if impracticable, to ensure that both are positioned side by side.		
	CA4	C	I have read that the government are considering banning the parking of vehicles half on the road and half on the pavement but I would commend a clause being placed in any development contract that those living in these new houses must park them on their own land rather than on the highway. We have several cars parked along Main Road, Ombersley now that cause daily bottlenecks with two way traffic, especially now more and more heavy trucks are crossing the river at Holt and then driving through the village in the direction of Kidderminster. Very soon when the Racks field development is completed and sold, there will be possibly another 60 plus cars entering and leaving here most days and the occupants should not be allowed to park on Main Road rather than on their own property. I see that note CA4 on page 57 refers to this but it must become a priority, especially as we shall be having the Woodhall Lane development following on, thus the traffic through the village both ways will increase significantly. A good illustration of this point is that one car that is parked almost all the time opposite the Cross Keys is parked there because the house in which the driver lives has three cars on its drive already and no room for a fourth! Also the lady that lives in the Gallies flat has her car parked almost opposite all the time (These two have obviously never read or remembered the Highway Code!) when really it should be parked round the back and off the road. I know I may sound like a grumpy old man but I hope it does not take a bad accident to concentrate the minds of the Highways Agency to these difficulties. This does not detract from my original praise and it is a superb document.	The issue of on-road parking at Ombersley, like other highway and traffic matters raised in the consultation, are outside the scope of the NDP. It is a matter for WCC as highway authority, the District Council and other partners. The Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan. Community Action 4 refers to on-road parking at Ombersley.	No change.
	Policy TOAD9	C	It is interesting to note that now many of the larger houses are almost complete in the Racks Development and even though the adjacent local residents had studied the plans before building commenced, several of us have commented that we did not appreciate how tall the larger houses would be and the consequent loss of light to the existing houses, especially on the north side.	Comment noted.	No change.
Resident 15	Policy TOAD3, para. 6.10	C	I am concerned about traffic in the village and would like to see a reduction in the speed limit to 20 mph until after the slip road.	The issue of traffic speeds in Ombersley is outside the scope of the NDP. It is a matter for WCC as highway authority, the District Council, West Mercia Police and other partners. The Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community	No change.

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				Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan. Community Action 1 refers to the enforcement and lowering of speed limits.	
	Policy TOAD3, para. 6.11	S	A footpath will help make the houses on Holly Lane part of the village. Less houses should back onto Holly Lane than Woodhall.	This support for the NDP and the specific policies referred to is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy TOAD8, para. 7.13	S	I want to see the proposed Local Green Spaces protected from future development.		
	Policy TOAD9, para. 8.3	S	I agree with the need to keep night lighting/security lights to a minimum and ensuring enough parking.		
	NDP	S	I am in support of the plan especially retaining the green spaces, minimising cars parking on the main road and ensuring that any future new developments are sympathetic to the character of the village; in their scope, design and density and care for wildlife.		
Resident 16	Para. 3.10	C	For the period up to 2030, ... requirement is for a single dwelling. I do not understand this statement and would like clarity.	Housing requirements in the Neighbourhood Area up to 2030 have been met by the policies and proposals of the SWDP and recent planning permissions.	No change.
	Para. 4.5	C	'...mix of housing in line with community needs'. Who ascertains the needs, is there a 'list' somewhere of people who need? How can people put their needs forward?	Community needs are ascertained through information collected for the SWDP, the NDP and local housing needs surveys. Such a survey was undertaken by WDC for the Neighbourhood Area in 2017.	No change.
	Page 21,6	S	[no comment]	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Para. 6.2 to 6.6	S/C	'...smaller properties may encourage residents to downsize'. 49% of established housing stock are detached properties. Will one site - Woodhall Lane, be desirable or its area be big enough for projected needs?	Housing requirements in the Neighbourhood Area up to 2030 have been met by the policies and proposals of the SWDP and recent planning permissions.	
	Paras. 6.7 and 6.10	S	[no comment]	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Para. 6.14	S	[no comment]	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Paras. 8.1	C	SWDP21 Design..... '...to be of high design quality. I take 'high' to be	There is no need for high quality	No change.

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	and 8.4		expensive. Is this tempered by Point 9 – Sustainability and eco design?	design to necessarily be more expensive.	
	Paras. 9.2, 9.3, 9.5, 9.6	S	[no comment]	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy TOAD14, criteria 1	S	[no comment]	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy TOAD14, criteria 3 and para. 9.14, bullet 2	O/C	Anyone living in Ombersley is privileged and I include myself in that number. However, COVID19 has sharply highlighted the damage done to the planet from overconsumption and disregard for the environment, highlighting the urgent need for new thinking. People buy a home not a view. When and how will the impact of C19 be taken into account?	The criteria highlighted in policy TOAD14 seek to establish a reasonable balance between enabling renewable energy projects with impacts on the landscape and residential amenity.	No change.
	Para. 9.16	O/C	I find it sad that in such an open area as NDP that not one single area can be found for Wind initiatives that would contribute to the national climate change targets. C19 has laid bare the impact of human activity on our planet.	Noted.	No change.
	NDP	C	Humanity itself is at risk if we keep on doing what we have always done. The healing that the planet did during the first lockdown was proof positive that it is human actions or indeed human inaction (desire for the status quo) that has brought us to this point. C19 demands that we look at new alternatives.	The NDP contains local policies to guide development and protect and enhance the environment including landscape and biodiversity, complementing policies in the SWDP and NPPF.	No change.
Residents 17 and 18	Para. 2.19	C	Economy, land west of A449. Supporting agriculture is an important and major industry within the parishes and therefore no new buildings, other than agricultural, should be permitted on grade 1 and grade 2 land.	Noted. Development in the open countryside is strictly controlled by national planning policy and SWDP policies.	No change.
	Policy TOAD7	O	There does not appear to be a vista from the north of the area. There is a very good view from Comhampton looking towards Ombersley, the church spire can just be seen, and the north end of the Cotswolds and Bredon Hill can be seen in the distance. Would have sent you a photo but do not have a camera that would provide a suitable enough detail!	Policy TOAD7 lists 14 landscape vistas which have been identified through the NDP process, including the household and vistas surveys. As such, they provide a comprehensive representation of landscape vistas in the Neighbourhood Area and it is not clear what further value would be added by including the view referred to.	No change.
	NDP	S	Mobile homes, supporting comment, in view of the large proportion of mobile	Noted. See NDP para. 9.10 in	No change.

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			homes within the area some restrictions need to be imposed before the district becomes a shanty town!	respect of tourism and leisure-related proposals.	
Residents 19 and 20	NDP	S	We support the intention to proceed with the NDP, whilst recognising that the landscape of national planning policy is in a state of flux. It remains a useful statement of local priorities and values. We support the thrust of the NDP and of the several policies spelled out in it.	Comment noted. This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
	Policy TOAD1	C	In the context of Ombersley and Doverdale, the key to “sustainable development” (ie development not simply for today but with an eye to the future) lies in permitting advances but conserving the village identity and cohesion. Those characteristics are the reason the village is a popular place to live and to visit.	The need to retain the character of the villages and hamlets in Ombersley and Doverdale is emphasised in the NDP objectives. Policies TOAD3, TOAD9 and the Design Guidelines will help to deliver locally distinctive development.	No change.
	????	C/O	<p>Although there is reference to traffic considerations in section 10.5 (Community Actions), it seems to us that the impact of traffic is a pressing concern for the village of Ombersley. This consideration is inevitably in tension with the need to permit development. There are some hard choices to be made. It would be best if the importance of managing traffic impact were specifically adverted to at several other stages of the NDP. In particular we suggest the following.</p> <p>(i) It would make sense for it to appear as one of the Objectives at section 4.5.</p> <p>(ii) The proposed development north of Woodhall Lane (TOAD 3 and section 6.10) will present a challenge for access to (and, importantly, across) the A449. Simply feeding a lot more cars onto the ‘slip road’ section of the A4133 to join existing queues will not work without re-jigging the junction. It would be a very bad idea for cars heading south towards Worcester and the M5, of which there may be many at peak times, to be induced to add to the congestion at the roundabout and at the very tricky (and generally misunderstood) junction at the top of School Bank.</p> <p>(iii) It would be worth stating that new homes, activities or businesses in the village itself must have adequate parking provided as part of the development.</p> <p>(iv) Section 10.5 and CAs 1 & 5 should recognise, explicitly if possible, that some traffic management measures, such as yellow lines and speed bumps, are contra-indicated for a historic village centre. The former are unsightly. The latter are noisy.</p>	Highway issues generally are outside the scope of the NDP falling to WCC as highway authority, the District Council, West Mercia Police and other partners. However, the Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan, many of which deal with highways, traffic management and transport matters. Vehicular access to the land at Woodhall Lane allocated for development in the SWDP will be assessed in determining any planning application. Parking requirements for new development are dealt with in SWDP 4 and WCC’s Streetscape Design Guide. The need to ensure that traffic management is appropriate to historic village centres such as Ombersley should be added to Community Action 5.	Add reference to traffic management measures being appropriate to historic village centres to Community Action 5. Otherwise no change.

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	Policy TOAD8	S	We support the several local green spaces. The wedding field (LGS 4) is particularly valuable, for the reasons given. It might be worth adding at Appendix B.1 in relation to LGS 3 (Memorial Hall) that the land is held by the trustees under a legal obligation to preserve it in perpetuity for recreation, education and social intercourse. The building of more houses with much smaller gardens is likely to increase the demand for allotments. The cricket field and club are of great value.	This support for policy TOAD8 is welcomed. It is agreed that additional text re LGS3 could usefully be added to the table in Appendix B.	Amend Appendix B.1 by adding text as suggested in respect of LGS3.
	Policy TOAD2	C/O	As to TOAD 2 and section 6, we recognise that others have specialist knowledge which we lack, but would mention the following. (i) There might be value in stipulating that rented affordable homes, when provided, should be owned and managed by a village-based organisation, such as a Housing Association, rather than by one based outside (eg Wychavon DC). Such an organisation could consider the particular needs of long-standing village residents, and their contributions to local life. (ii) Whilst there is clearly demand for smaller 1 or 2 bedroom houses, the village also needs families.	There are existing arrangements between WDC and several partner registered providers for the provision of affordable housing. The Rural Lettings Policy operated by WDC ensures that applicants with a local connection to the parish and adjoining parishes will receive preference when an affordable home is being let or sold there. For housing mix, see response to comments by WDC on policy TOAD2.	No change.
	Policy TOAD5	S	We support TOAD 5 and section 6.14. The village stands in great need of a general store, such as Evertons once provided at the back of the main shop.	This support is welcomed.	No change.
Residents 21 and 22	NDP, Vision	S	I would like to start by saying I applaud the amount of work carried out to create the plan and admire the vision. I hope the objectives get realised.	This support for the NDP and its Vision is welcomed.	No change.
	Chapter 6	C	Is Ombersley the best kept secret? Most people I speak to outside Worcestershire have never heard of it and yet it goes back to 706A.D. How are we, therefore going to encourage new investment in terms of business and retail? That said, where would we put them? When we moved to the village 15 years ago there was a bakery, post office, newsagent and art gallery on the main road. They are all residential now. We only really have one shop in the village. I feel there should be "affordable" retail within walking distance for those that cannot drive. Checketts went out of business because they were too expensive. With more housing development comes more people and more cars. I don't believe Ombersley, at present, satisfies the needs of a growing population with lack of retail, lack of investment and lack of car parking.	The Parish Council will continue to support convenience local shopping, Post Office and cashpoint facilities at Ombersley under Community Action 9. Although many changes to local services reflect commercial decisions and are not subject to planning control, policy TOAD5 will provide suitable guidance when planning permission is needed. For parking at Ombersley, see Community Action 4.	No change.
	Policy	C	Are we trying to put Ombersley on the map by contacting the Chamber of	Policy TOAD11 provides a positive,	No change.

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	TOAD11		Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, Industry/Trade Associations, Memberwise, etc? Before we can encourage businesses to come we need somewhere to put them. Do we have an area designated for, say, a business park?	criteria-based approach to new small-scale business developments. As explained in para. 9.4, given the individualistic nature of the market for business premises such a policy-led approach is more appropriate than a site allocation, whose developability would be uncertain.	
	Policy TOAD12		I am of the opinion that the village COULD have a lot to offer visitors due to its beautiful location, surrounding area and history but we are not there yet. Apart from the WW1 leaflet and AAO website there is nothing to show visitors the potential. I think they only come to the pubs but I could be wrong. Maybe we should consider turning the telephone box or weighbridge into a visitors information centre? Before we invite visitors to the village we need to “tidy up”. Hedgerows and paths need to be cut and free of litter, particularly down by the cricket ground. The arrival into the village off the A449 is uninspiring and the roundabout and weighbridge need attention. Should we move the benches from the weighbridge to the new village green and put a small shop there? I don’t see many people sitting at the weighbridge due to the busy road and the fact that there is a smelly bin between the benches. I appreciate these things don’t come cheap and there is a limit to what can be achieved. When you look at Broadway, Worcestershire we have a long way to go to attract visitors. On the subject of leisure, the AAO website consists mainly of activities for the older generation. Activities at the Memorial Hall are again mainly for the elderly and the church congregation and their activities are for the elderly. Apart from the play area and guides/brownies, children will need to be driven out of the village for leisure activities.	These initiatives and suggestions are outside the scope of the NDP but could be considered within an additional Community Action on tourism and leisure, to complement policy TOAD12.	Add new Community Action (topic area: environmental improvements at Ombersley) to Table 2 to read: “Ombersley and Doverdale Parish Council will support measures and initiatives to improve the public realm in Ombersley and environs, including at arrival points into the village and around the roundabout and weighbridge site.”.
Residents 23 and 24	Vision	S/C	I believe that Paragraphs 4.1 & 4.2 are the most critical components of the Vision Statement and between them express the village wide desire that the village should not lose its ethos – some would say its soul - in a tide of over or over intense development. During the conversation we both referred to a nearby village that we thought fitted that description. Lynne and I both think that Kings Court has set us on that slippery slope and believe that if a similar development is permitted at Woodhall that the game will be up and that goals 4.1/4.2 will have to be rewritten to something less ambitious. Additionally, we are all aware of the accumulating pressures on traffic flow both within the village and on to the A449 which could “bin” the aspirations within the Neighbourhood Plan for free flowing traffic. To be clear Lynne and I are wholly	The policies of the NDP notably TOAD9 and the Design Guidelines will help to deliver locally distinctive development. Traffic issues generally are outside the scope of the NDP. However, the Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan, many of which deal with highways, traffic	No change.

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			supportive of 4.1 and 4.2. but we feel that for those goals to be tenable there needs to be a shift in Planning thinking to allow more infill development away from the centre of the village. We think it would be entirely viable for small scale developments to come about in places like Northampton and Uphampton without spoiling the locale or interfering with prized vistas. We understand that this requires some softening of current Planning hard lines and some dilution of the importance of the concept of Category 1 village and that it will not be an easy sell. We also question the idea of “sustainability” as it stands. We would contest the idea that the occupants of Ombersley reside in a wholly sustainable environment – do we not all have to travel to buy food and other goods? The Church Houses Trust has an 0.75 acre field on which stands one basic bungalow 1000 metres down Hay lane which could easily house two semi-detached affordable homes but such an addition is, currently, ultra-vires on sustainability grounds. For me (in my personal capacity) its exclusion is not sensible. I believe my fellow Trustees share that view. We do understand the dangers of “the wild west” although the government may trigger it anyway but believe that there is, feasibly a more creative approach available which will avoid spoiling the heart of the village.	and transport matters. The NDP is obliged to respect the SWDP ‘settlement hierarchy’, although infill developments are permitted under SWDP policy within the development boundaries it defines for Oldfield, Sytchampton and Uphampton, as well as at Ombersley (Northampton is in open countryside). The site at Haye Lane referred to is in open countryside. Its distance from village services is compounded by the severance effect of the A449. Future residents would be highly dependent on a need to travel by the private car, with limited opportunities for other more sustainable transport modes and a difficulty in providing safe and suitable access to the site for all users, contrary to national policy.	
	Policy TOAD3	O	Turning now to the Woodhall development. Our comments here should be read in conjunction with the separate Spitfire response. We do not follow the expressed logic within the Neighbourhood Plan that the density of the development should automatically fade to the North alone. There are only limited rural vistas to the north with the houses in Holly Lane and traffic on the A449 in the foreground. To the West lies the rather more attractive (we would naturally argue) Uttbridge House and beyond that the open countryside with valued vistas (identified in the Plan) leading up to Uphampton. As written, the site proposal encourages a developer to plan to develop close to our home and Spitfire have done just that. We would be pleased if you would reconsider your proposal.	Policy TOAD3 provides site-specific design guidance in respect of the land at Woodhall Lane. The principle of reducing densities to the north is sound and the policy does not encourage development close to existing properties. However, the site should not be developed in a way which is detrimental to existing residential amenity. An amendment is made to the policy and supporting text to reflect this.	Amend policy TOAD3 criterion 2 to read: “...positively addressing the character of the area including in terms of layout, density, the treatment of site frontages and respect for the amenity of adjoining dwellings, and the use of materials and architectural detailing; and”. Add to para. 6.11 bullet 1: “Their amenity should be respected, including by providing suitable distances between existing and new dwellings, maintaining privacy and avoiding overlooking, particularly where sensitive rear and side property boundaries are concerned.”.

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Resident 25	NDP	S	The Draft Plan captures the views of the community through the household survey and has a balanced approach to the conflicting aims of planning.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
	Vision and objectives	S	[no comment]		
	Housing facilities and services	S	[no comment]		
	Community facilities	S	[no comment]		
Resident 26	Chapter 2	C	Page 8 Map should now include Worcestershire Parkway station (opened December 2019) 2.7 Worcestershire Parkway 8.4 miles, Kidderminster 8.7 miles 2.9 There is no longer a deli. There is a petrol filling station in the village as well as on the A449. Both also serve diesel. 2.16 states Ombersley Court is grade I listed, yet 2.17 reads "Ombersley Court is a grade II" I suggest this is re-written to read "The park and garden at Ombersley Court is grade II listed, as is ...".	Chapter 2 to be revised to include reference to the new Worcester Parkway and update local shopping facilities. The NDP's references to Grade listings at Ombersley Court and its associated park and garden are correct – there are separate listings for the building and the parkland.	Amend Chapter 2 as indicated.
	Policy TOAD3, para. 6.15	O	Provision for Local retail shopping has diminished in the past 12 months – the deli has gone and the butcher is a shadow of its former self. The housing site to the north of Woodhall Lane should include provision for a village store, with integral accommodation. This could be a valuable asset located close to the centre of the village population. Ownership could be communal if there is sufficient interest. If sited close to Woodhall Lane next to the proposed footpath, this will be within walking distance for most of the village residents. Provision for parking should be via the main road into the site from the slip road A4133/A449. Careful design is essential to avoid additional parking on Woodhall Lane.	Many changes to local services reflect commercial decisions and are not subject to planning control. Policy TOAD5 is a criteria-based policy which seeks to guide development providing new or expanded retail and other services. This will enable new development of the kind referred to here. There is insufficient evidence particularly on viability to support a specific site allocation.	No change.
	Table 1		Are the photo descriptions correct? LV1 appears to be taken from the water tower.	The photo descriptions are correct.	No change.
Resident 27	Vision and objectives	S	Seem sensible and appropriate.	This support is welcomed.	No change.
	Policies TOAD1-14	S	Should provide guidance when considering planning applications if adopted.		
	Policy TOAD2	S/C	While I support the policy as written I would like some reference to be made to residential developments of fewer than 5 dwellings. Such developments	The lower limit of five dwellings included in the policy reflects	No change.

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			would provide an excellent way of providing the small dwellings required.	SWDP 14. This is considered appropriate, both so that the NDP is in line with the SWDP and to avoid being over-prescriptive.	
	NDP	S	I support the general thrust of the Plan. It sets out principles and policies which should help inform considerations of planning applications in future. It probably goes as far as possible within the relatively limited remit of such plans in identifying community priorities.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 28	NDP	C	Supportive of plan in general but suggest 1 bed dwellings be kept to a minimum, <u>essential</u> to retain open spaces, e.g. Memorial Field, cricket pitch, allotments etc, more emphasis should be placed on the need to prevent further caravan parks or expansion thereof. Growth of small businesses and/or replacement of those lost e.g. bakers, post office to be strongly encouraged.	On dwelling size, see response to comments on policy TOAD2 by WDC. Policies TOAD5 and TOAD8 provide clear guidance on Local Green Space and local retail and other facilities.	No change.
Residents 29 and 30	NDP	S	We've pored through the TOAD plan and think it's superb – a real testimony to community action.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
Resident 31	NDP	C	Ombersley is renowned for its charm and listed architectural buildings. The new houses are needed but the quantity and lack of imagination is transforming the village into a dormitory town with few facilities other than restaurants.	The policies of the NDP notably TOAD3, TOAD9 and the Design Guidelines will help to deliver locally distinctive development.	No change.
Residents 32 and 33		S	Firstly may I congratulate you on such a well constructed document. Thank you for asking me to submit my comments. I think the rest of the document excellent and congratulate you on your hard work.	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.
		S	Housing: we are glad that the housing plan that was to be located behind Sandys Road, next to Longheadland has been scrapped.	Comment noted.	No change.
	Policy TOAD8, LGS3	S	Land use: we also look forward to the development of a village green on The Memorial Hall Field.	Comment noted.	No change.
			Footpaths and access: If one tries to go to the end of Racks Lane and cross to the footpath the other side of the A449 it is very dangerous because the traffic is going towards Kidderminster at speed, and because of the curve in the road northwards, traffic can only be spotted when it is nearly upon one. Even if the traffic was slowed by speed signs it would not be enough, so perhaps the best solution would be a footbridge over the road. Other problems encountered by ramblers are broken stiles, no signage, blocked footpaths by tape or electric fencing, There are also bullocks in fields where there are footpaths e.g just left (east) of the underpass where the slip road goes to the A449 towards Worcester. Owners of land that a footpath crosses	Highway issues generally are outside the scope of the NDP and this includes securing improvements to the A449 crossing at Racks Lane, which would be the remit of WCC as highway authority. However, the Parish Council has a role as a local consultee and this is reflected in the Community Actions set out in chapter 10 of the plan,	Community Action 7, add reference to WCC and reference the Racks Lane crossing of the A449 as a candidate location for improving connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

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			also need to be made aware of their rights and obligations. A woman in Uphampton who only has a small piece of land let the dog attack me, and then verbally abused me when I tried to defend myself.	many of which deal with highways, traffic and transport matters. The issue raised and the role of WCC should be reflected in an amended Community Action CA7 on walking and cycling. In respect of the proposed footbridge, the NDP cannot anticipate the optimum solution required at a particular location. CA7 already covers working with landowners to promote the maintenance of public rights of way.	
			Traffic access: When exiting the A449 from Kidderminster it is very difficult at times to turn right to come into the village. It is also very difficult to turn right in the morning coming down Main Road to go towards Holt Heath.	As above, the Community Actions identify a range of transport-related matters to be pursued by the Parish Councils working alongside other partners notably WCC as highway authority.	No change.
	Community Action 6	C	Integrated public transport: The 303 bus to Kidderminster used to call at the railway station in Kidderminster, but since the station car park has been enlarged, and one would have thought provided more space, this no longer happens. This is a great inconvenience as well as a nonsense since people are encouraged to use public transport.	Reference to rail/bus integration at Kidderminster to be added to CA6.	Add reference to better integration of bus/rail services at Kidderminster to Community Action 6.
Resident 34	Policy TOAD11	O	Everything revolves around the village and hamlets with a settlement boundary. In TOAD11, for example, "wherever possible use should be made of sites...Ombersley, Oldfield, Sytchampton and Uphampton". What about Chatley, Hawford, and Hadley in my area? Why do we not get similar treatment? Why are our quite compact hamlets treated as 'open countryside' with all the corresponding hurdles as far as planning is concerned? There are other hamlets too. I just mention my local ones. What is so special about those three all just to the north of the village in a huge parish?	The NDP is here reflecting the existing SWDP settlement hierarchy, as it is obliged to do. Aside from Ombersley and the other settlements listed which have development boundaries, all of the Neighbourhood Area including hamlets such as Chatley, Hawford and Hadley is within open countryside for planning purposes.	No change.
Residents 35 and 36	NDP	S	Fully supporting the Plan. Having read through the plan we would like to thank the authors and their team for putting together such a comprehensive and informative document. The plan clarifies areas of ownership, places of interest and nature beauty. It offers a clear vision for the future to enable the	This support for the NDP is welcomed.	No change.

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			village to continue to thrive and grow in a controlled and organised manner.		
Resident 37	Para. 6.11	S	Property mix is key – dwellings facing Holly Lane to be low density – but NOT 3 storeys as on the front of The Racks. Boundaries to ensure privacy of Holly Lane residents. With additional use of Holly Lane public right of way, funding provided to ensure privacy of bordering properties. Site to incorporate real green space/outdoor community use – unlike The Racks.	This support for the approach taken in policy TOAD3 is welcome.	No change.
	Policy TOAD3	S	We support this development as a positive move for the village. However, developers desire for financial gain often means that ‘short cuts’ are taken and exiting residents suffer the consequences. Let’s ensure this does not happen – and the current goodwill is maintained.		
	Policy TOAD3	c	Further to my initial comments I have now been approached by, and have spoken to, Spitfire Developments (re their offer of 1 to 1 consultations with residents bordering the proposed Woodhall Lane development). I have confirmed my support for the development in principle, as being of benefit to the village of Ombersley, specifically to meet community needs, but also mentioned the points previously raised in looking to ensure that the project was approached in a balanced manner with due consideration to existing residents and the long term impact. In response, Spitfire’s representatives made it very clear that their objective was purely to maximise the profitability of the development for the landowners. This is totally understandable from a business perspective, what was a little more disquieting was that they justified their application to build 45 homes instead of the 25 indicated in the SWDP allocation, on the basis that if the council did not allow additional building now more land may need to be freed up to meet future housing quota requirements. It felt like well thought through but spurious argument designed to apply additional pressure on the council. The 1 to 1 meeting I undertook at Spitfires request was clearly just a PR exercise to feign an element of care about the Ombersley community needs. I fully support the recommendations of the SWDP i.e. 25 new homes and feel strongly that this should not be increased to 45 with no credible justification other than Spitfires desire to make even greater profits.	Policy TOAD3 provides design guidance for the development of land at Woodhall Lane, recognising that the amount of housing to be built on the site is a matter for the SWDP. The SWDP allocation gives an indicative capacity of 25 dwellings for this 2.03 ha. site, although the SWDP’s policy 13 on the effective use of land indicates that new development on village sites should be provided at an average net density of 30 dwellings/ha. The proposal to construct 45 dwellings is within this figure and will help to ensure the effective use of land.	No change.
Resident 38	Community Actions	C	My comment is for the policy to include working with WCC to provide safe cycling lanes in order to fulfil the government’s funded policy to improve infrastructure facilities for cycling and encourage cycling to work and for pleasure.	This support for the NDP is welcomed. The suggested changes re cycle lanes and crossing points are agreed. Community Action 7 deals with walking and cycling and should be amended as suggested.	Amend Community Action 7 to include reference to working with WCC to provide safe cycling lanes/crossings, referencing the A449 and A4133.
	NDP	S/C	Congratulations on preparing a comprehensive draft development policy. Having recently moved into Sytchampton I was not able to contribute to the previous household survey. As a regular cyclist, I would have added to the		

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			very low contribution championing the need to consider cycling in the development plan. Wherever transport and transport links are considered it should be noted that Ombersley and Doverdale do not have any safe cycle lanes. Whilst there are some quiet lanes, the 2 main roads - A449 & A4133 crossing in Ombersley, are death traps for cyclists.		
Resident 39	Policy TOAD3	O	And where is the access for these new houses going to be as we don't need any further traffic on Woodhall Lane as it is so dangerous already with all the parked cars along there, there's going to be such accident one of these days.	The NDP is not prescriptive on vehicular access to the land north of Woodhall Lane (see NDP para. 6.10).	No change.