

Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan 2025 - 2045



Consultation Statement

Version 2.5 February 2026



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1 INTRODUCTION

This Consultation Statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012. It has been prepared by Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee on behalf of Awbridge Parish Council, with support from Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) and Bluestone Planning LLP consultants to the Parish Council.

Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the Regulations sets out what a Consultation Statement should contain:

- (a) details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
- (b) an explanation of how the community were consulted;
- (c) a summary of the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and
- (d) a description of how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.

2 AIMS OF THE CONSULTATION

The aims of the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan consultation were:

- To involve as much of the community as possible throughout all consultation stages of the Plan development so that the Plan was informed by the views of local people and other stakeholders from the start of the Neighbourhood Planning process;
- To ensure that consultation events took place at critical points in the process where decisions needed to be taken;
- To engage with as wide a range of people as possible, using a variety of approaches and communication and consultation techniques; and
- To ensure that results of consultation were fed back to local people and available to read (in both hard copy and via the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan websites) as soon as possible after the consultation events.

In preparing the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan, the Steering Committee have consulted residents, TVBC and other interested parties. Further details of consultations are itemised in Table 1.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area

The Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan area encompasses the whole of Awbridge Parish. For planning purposes, the parish is covered by TVBC. The designated area has a population of around 767 residents (based on the 2021 Parish Profile), mainly in four settlement areas, Awbridge, Kents Oak, Upper & Lower Ratley and with the recent boundary change, the area of Stanbridge Earls. Parts of Newtown also fall within the parish.

The parish boundary was extended in 2023 to include land bounded by Old Salisbury Lane in the south and the edge of the River Test to the east. This extended area incorporates the newly developed retirement village of Stanbridge Earls, the population of which is not included in the

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2021 data. Unfortunately, more up to date information is not currently available as the Parish Profile has not been updated to reflect the boundary changes.

3.2 Initiation of Neighbourhood Planning

To ensure that any future development took place in keeping with the needs of the community, albeit within the framework established by the local plans, work was initiated in 2017 on a Neighbourhood Plan for Awbridge Parish.

In 2018 a preliminary survey of local residents was carried out, focusing mainly on values and aspirations, and on possible availability of land for development. However, the initiative went into abeyance because of Covid-19.

Work recommenced in 2021, when Action Hampshire was commissioned by the Parish Council to conduct a Housing Needs Survey. Following an open meeting in March 2022, a Working Group of interested volunteers was formed under the auspices of the Parish Council, to take the lead in developing the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

4 CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

4.1 Summary

Throughout the creation of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council have updated residents of progress via articles in the Awbridge News (parish newsletter) and presentations at the Parish Council Meetings. A dedicated page was established on the Parish Council website in 2022, and later on the Awbridge Village website, to report on progress with the Plan and provide background on neighbourhood planning. Minutes of the Steering Committee have been made available on the Parish Council website as have the results of surveys and other important documents.

A number of Parish-wide surveys were conducted to maximise participation, the surveys conducted by the Steering Committee were made available on-line using Survey Monkey whilst providing paper forms for those not having access to the internet.

The main parish wide surveys involving the residents were as follows:

- A residents survey conducted in summer 2018 to gather views and opinions on what people value about living in Awbridge Parish and how they would like to see it develop.
- A Housing Needs Survey followed in 2021 - a paper form was delivered by post to every residence regarding housing needs in the parish.
- The last major survey was a consultation on proposed policies to be included in the Plan, this was held in February 2023. An open day in the Village Hall was held on 25th February 2023 to discuss vision, aims, objectives and the developing policies.

The statutory pre-submission consultation stage in accordance with Regulation 14 was from 1st May 2024 to 12th June 2024. Responses could be made either online, by email or by post. *A further consultation under Regulation 16 to be reported on in due course.*

4.2 Parish-wide Consultations

4.2.1 Residents Survey 2018

The purpose of the 2018 survey was to engage with residents and to seek their opinions and ideas as to what should be included in the Plan, to find out what they like about Awbridge, what they don't like and how they would like to see in the village in the future.

A questionnaire was hand delivered to every property in the parish and replies either posted to the Parish Council or collected by volunteers.

The closing date for the survey was the 31st May and a meeting was held in the village hall on the 18th June 2018 to update the community on progress towards the goal of a NDP for Awbridge and to answer questions about the NDP process.

There was an excellent response for calls at the meeting for volunteers to join the NDP Steering Group and to contribute to the various strands of the Plan. For anyone unable to attend the meeting agenda and presentations were made available on the Parish Council website www.awbridgepc.org.uk under 'News'.

The results of the survey can be found on the [website](#).

4.2.2 Housing Needs Assessment

A Housing needs survey was undertaken in June/July 2021 by Action Hampshire at the request of the Parish Council and a questionnaire was sent to all the homes in Awbridge Parish. The survey was to identify the housing needs of local people for the next fifteen years as part of the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Of the 324 questionnaires distributed, a total of 141 responses were received – resulting in a return rate of 43.5%.



AWBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN: MARKET AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY JUNE 2021

Following the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan survey, one of the next steps is to assess the need for housing in the Parish in the future.

In order to do this Action Hampshire are working with Test Valley Borough Council and Awbridge Parish Council to undertake an independent housing needs survey. The survey results will help inform the policies recommended in the Neighbourhood Plan around future housing provision in the Parish.

The Market and Affordable Housing Needs Survey will soon be posted to all households in the Parish

The information provided will remain confidential and will only be used to produce a summary report for the Parish Council, for the purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan

This is your chance to have your say and influence the Neighbourhood Plan, please complete and return the survey

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Figure 1. Housing Needs Survey

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The final report from Action Hampshire was received in August 2021, this can be found on the [website](#).

4.2.3 Policy Consultation – February/March 2023

Another consultation was carried out in February/March 2023, inviting residents to share their views on issues identified within the parish. This was based on data from the 2018 survey and included examples of potential objectives and subsequent policy areas for the final Plan, giving residents the opportunity to provide feedback and suggest policy themes.

8. We have drawn up draft objectives on Climate Change, Settlements and Design - please could you rate them in order of importance to you?

	Extremely Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	Extremely Unimportant
Encourage use of appropriate renewable energy and sustainable materials on new development	<input type="radio"/>				
Maintain and enhance the distinctive structure of the settlement areas. In particular to maintain the primarily linear form of development along the rural roads and lanes.	<input type="radio"/>				
Retain the individual dispersed small hamlets which are distributed across the Parish and separated by green gaps.	<input type="radio"/>				
Ensure new development respects the identified character of the area and follows the Design Code with appropriate densities, plots sizes, layout, mass and appearance etc.	<input type="radio"/>				
New dwellings should be located such that occupiers can access publicly accessible green spaces and contain sufficient private amenity space (Design Code)	<input type="radio"/>				
Create a Design Code whereby new development will have to respect the character of the Parish	<input type="radio"/>				
Other (please specify)					

Figure 2. 2023 Consultation - Survey Monkey Question 8



Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan

Awbridge Kents Oak Upper Ratley
Stanbridge Ears Lower Ratley



- Protect and mitigate impacts on Ancient Woodlands
- Protecting and enhancing biodiversity sites of local value to the NP Area (i.e. Awbridge Hill Nature Sanctuary as well as the nearby international and national designations)
- Preserve and enhance identified local habitats
- Improve the linkage between existing wildlife areas through the introduction of wildlife corridors
- Ensure that where there is new development, this must be accompanied by a net gain (at least 10%) in the biodiversity of the area.

Policy - Housing

If we include a housing policy in the NP, it would allow us as a community to allocate specific sites for housing over the next 15 years or so. Alternatively, we could rely on the Council to choose housing sites for us - which would be preferable?

If we allocated housing, we have a number of options available to us. We could set numbers, and the location of new housing as well as whether it should

be affordable housing, family housing or for those looking to downsize for example.

We can also choose the form of development, whether it should be a small estate, a linear layout or infill development within gaps of existing houses in the settlement boundary.

What areas could be allocated for new housing? What type of housing would you like to see? How many bedrooms? How many storeys? Do you want to see family houses, apartments or retirement bungalows?

Housing - Replacement Dwellings

Does the Parish have concerns about the reduction in the number of small dwellings being lost to large replacement dwellings? Should replacements be limited in terms of the size of the increase in floor space?

Affordable Housing

Do we want to support or even allocate a site for affordable housing for local people to meet the need in the Parish?

If so, how many houses would be appropriate up to 2040?

Figure 3. 2023 Consultation – Exhibition Board

The policy consultation was widely promoted through several channels, including Awbridge Village News, the Parish Council website, the Village website and posters displayed on parish notice boards.



Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan
Awbridge Kents Oak Upper Ratley Lower Ratley

Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation Event

Please come along - or take part online

Why do we Need a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan (NP) allows residents to provide input on changes and policies being set out in their Parish. This can provide the opportunity for you to choose where you want new homes built, what new building should look like, areas you would like to be preserved, and any improvements you may like to see in the future.

Test Valley is currently working on providing a new Local Plan, and although a Neighbourhood Plan cannot override the Local Plan it will still provide the Parish with regulations and opportunities that will be beneficial.

Once approved, Neighbourhood Plans have legal weight in the planning system and allow local people to shape the futures of their communities.

This event will give you the opportunity to discover and respond to the work we have been doing on a Neighbourhood Plan for our parish.

What's in the exhibition?

- A timeline explaining the NP creation process
- An overview of the different Settlements and key issues within the parish
- Examples of some of the policy areas that may be included in the final plan (as identified to date)

The Neighbourhood Plan steering group consists of members of the community.

The group is being advised by independent planning consultants, Bluestone Planning LLP who are hosting this event.

The event is being held in the village hall between 9-12 on Saturday 25th February

Please do come along to ask any questions or make any comments.

If you cannot attend, visit our Parish website <https://www.awbridge.info/> to see the exhibition online.

We have an online feedback form hosted by Survey Monkey, which can be accessed here via the link or QR code once the event is live:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Y2YQGM6>

Please if you have any other questions, please email info@bluestoneplanning.co.uk and mark the subject as Awbridge NP.

Your feedback is essential - thank you!

Figure 4. Poster for Public Exhibition / Consultation

As part of the consultation process, a public exhibition was held on Saturday 25th February 2023, giving residents the opportunity to view information in person and discuss the proposed policy themes. To ensure accessibility, the exhibition materials were also made available online via the Village website and hard copies of the survey could be requested by those unable to complete it digitally.



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What's in the exhibition?

- A timeline explaining the NP creation process
- An overview of the different Settlements and key issues within the parish (identified partly from your feedback)
- Examples of some of the policy areas that may be included in the final plan (as identified to date)

The Neighbourhood Plan steering group consists of members of the community.

The group is being advised by independent planning consultants, Bluestone Planning LLP who are hosting this event.

The Neighbourhood Plan Team members are wearing name badges, please feel free to ask any questions or make any comments. Your feedback is essential.

Figure 5. 2023 Consultation - Exhibition Board

Feedback was collected through an online form hosted on Survey Monkey, with the consultation period open until 17th March 2023. In total, 73 residents responded to the survey, the majority of whom had lived in the parish for more than 11 years, reflecting a strong level of engagement from long-term community members.

The results of the consultation were then used to shape the final Plan and design statement.

Q7: We have drawn up draft objectives on Landscape and the Environment - please could you rate them in order of importance to you?

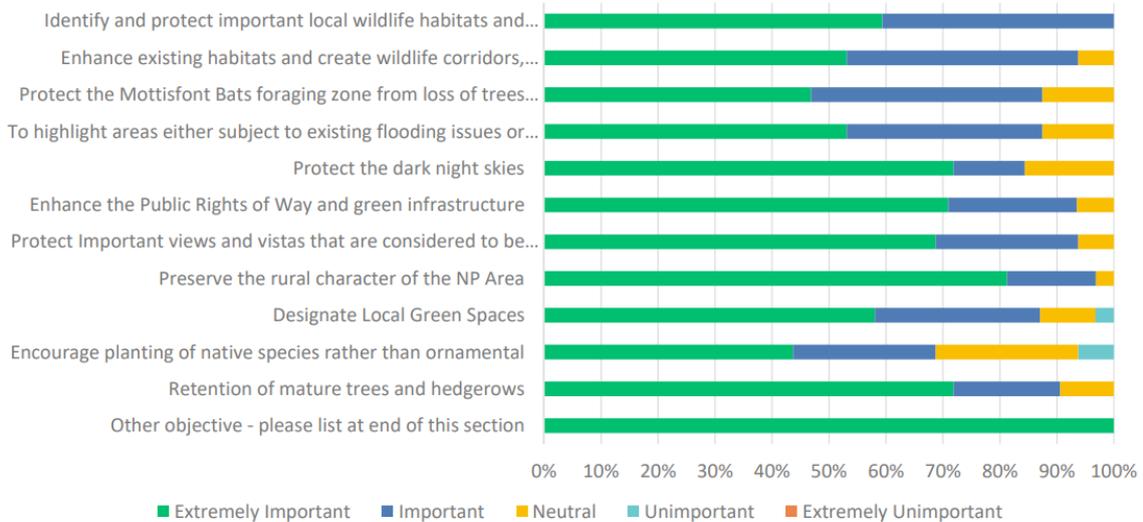


Figure 6. 2023 Consultation - Survey Monkey Question 7 Results

Q13 - Which footpaths and bridleways do you use most in the Parish? Are there paths you would like to see - if so, where?

- Could do with a footpath to the rear of Hansards for safer access to village hall.
- I would like to be able to walk from Kimsbridge to Awbridge Village Hall without having to go all the way up to Church Lane on the Test Way (avoiding roads)
- Bridleway down Dunwood Oaks Centre is very important. Linking this area to the village centre with a footpath would be desirable.
- Between the park and Church Lane. Behind the school through the fields. Conservation area by the park. I wish there was an easier way to walk from Awbridge to Dunbridge avoiding roads.
- Upper Ratley to Village Hall path. Kents Oak/Newtown path. Several paths from Danes Road to Newtown Road.
- The wildlife sanctuary
- Test way and around Awbridge Danes I should like to see safe pedestrian access down Saunders Lane
- between church lne and village hall - this needs work to stop it flooding though!
- Church Lane to Village Hall and Coombe Lane
- Footpath from Danes road to Newtown
- It would be good to have a footpath from the Test Way behind The White House up to the Romsey Road near the village hall.
- Between Romsey road and church lane A footpath to the village hall would be good to save walking on the main road
- It would be great if pathways, of any sort, could give access to the Duke's Head, to Kimbridge Barns, and particularly along Danes Road
- Village Hall across to Church Lane, footpath from Coombe Lane to Church Lane abutting Earls Coombe, cut through from Danes Road to Newtown Road (opposite Church Lane), footpath across the field from Danes Road to Newtown Road.
- From Danes Road through Newtown to Doctors Hill and Gambledown. Old Dunwood golf course path from Newtown, crossing Danes Road and down to Coombe Lane, then footpath past back of Nature Sanctuary to emerge in Church Lane and/or through Sanctuary and across fields from village hall. Fields at Butlers Wood Farm down to Carters Clay. Test Way.

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Figure 7. 2023 Consultation - Survey Monkey Question 13 Results

The full consultation questionnaire is available on the [website](#).

4.2.4 Regulation 14: Pre-submission Consultation

The Pre-submission consultation for the draft of the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan and associated documentation was held from 1st May to 12th June 2024. The consultation was online, promoted via the Awbridge News and both the Parish Council and Awbridge Village websites. Documents were made available for viewing at the Village Hall, Awbridge Church and Romsey library.

During the consultation period the committee had a display table at both the Village fete on 11th

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May and at the Parish Assembly on 23rd May, with members of the committee on hand to provide information and answer questions from the public.



AWBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Hard Copy Comments on Regulation 14 Draft for Public Consultation

Please use this form to comment on the pre-submission Awbridge Neighbourhood Development Plan. Your comments will be considered when reviewing the plan prior to submission to Test Valley Borough Council.

When writing your feedback, please provide the relevant policy, paragraph, figure, or appendix number your comment is referring to. You may use as many boxes as you require, using a separate box for each comment.

Name of Respondent	Contact Details (Phone Number, Email Address and Postcode)	Plan Policy/Paragraph/Figure/Appendix or Page Number	Comment	Suggestions to Deal with Comment Made

Figure 8. Regulation 14 Consultation Comments Form

A total of 139 comments were received as online returns using a Survey Monkey form, attachments to the form or separate letters and emails. These responses came from residents of Awbridge including local landowners, developers, representatives of organisations operating within the parish and statutory consultees.

Responses in terms of numbers of respondents were as follows:

- 6 from residents of the parish/owners of land in the parish but resident outside.
- 5 from statutory consultees.
- 4 from LPAs.
- 2 from developers and organisations operating in the parish.

Apart from general comments, there were over 100 detailed comments on the text of the Pre-submission draft.

The responses and comments received were logged. The Steering Committee then reviewed all comments and decided upon their response:

- Disagreed with reasons for their disagreement.
- Agreed in principle or in part and if so, what amendments should be made to the draft Plan.
- Agreed in full and the amendments to be made to the draft Plan.

To view all comments received, the response by the Steering Committee and any amendments made to the draft Plan see Table 3.

4.2.5 Regulation 16: Submission Consultation

To be completed in due course when the consultation has taken place.

4.3 Meeting the Statutory Requirement

In the preparation of the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan the community has been encouraged to comment and raise issues or concerns through responding to surveys or via the Parish Council.

All statutory requirements have been met and additional consultation, engagement and research has been completed. This Consultation Statement has been produced to document the consultation and engagement process undertaken and is considered to comply with Part 5, Section 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

This included engagement activities such as direct conversations with residents at parish meetings, village fetes and public meetings held in the village hall. Consultation documents were also made available at the Village Hall, Awbridge Church and Romsey Library -locations regularly visited by a wide cross-section of the community.

5 STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT AND HABITAT REGULATION ASSESSEMENTS

Although the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan area is situated wholly outside of the New Forest National Park it was considered prudent to determine whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) were required.

A screening request was sent to the Local Planning Authority, Test Valley Borough Council, to determine whether these assessments were needed. However, because the housing policy has changed, TVBC has requested that this now be re-submitted.

It was determined in January 2026 that the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) nor a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA).

TABLES

Table 1: Community Engagement

No.	Event or Activity	Date
1	Two parishioners, supported by the Parish Council, begin scoping out the process and procedure for creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Awbridge.	Aug 2017
2	Awbridge News (parish magazine) articles begin to provide progress updates to the community.	Aug 2017
3	Residents survey undertaken, a questionnaire was hand delivered to every property in the parish.	May 2018
4	Public meeting held in the village hall to provide feedback from the questionnaire and seek volunteers for a steering group.	18 th Jun 2018
5	Housing Needs Survey, commissioned by the Parish Council, undertaken by Action Hampshire and a questionnaire sent to all the homes in Awbridge Parish.	May/Jun 2021
6	A new working group formed under the auspices of the Parish Council, following a period of inactivity as a result of Covid.	Apr 2022
7	Regular progress updates resume in the Awbridge News.	Apr 2022
8	Bluestone Planning Consultant commissioned to work with the steering group and provide professional guidance.	July 2022
9	Dedicated Neighbourhood Plan page created on the Parish Council website.	Dec 2022
10	Awbridge NDP Consultation Event held in the village hall, with a survey monkey feedback form.	25 th Feb 2023
11	Dedicated Neighbourhood Plan page created on the Awbridge Village website.	Mar 2024
12	Pre-submission consultation in accordance with Regulation 14.	1 st May - 12 th Jun 2024
13	Village fete, display of the draft NDP documents and face to face engagement with members of the public.	11 th May 2024
14	Parish Assembly, display of the draft NDP documents and face to face engagement with attendees.	23 rd May 2024
15	Parish Assembly display of the final Plan documents and face to face engagement with attendees.	15 th May 2025

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Table 2: Statutory Consultees for Regulation 14

Organisation	Contacted	Responded
Parish Councils TVBC		
Abbotts Ann Parish Council	Y	N
Ampfield Parish Council	Y	N
Amport Parish Council	Y	N
Andover Town Council	Y	N
Appleshaw Parish Council	Y	N
Ashley Parish Meeting	Y	N
Ashmansworth Parish Council	Y	N
Awbridge Parish Council	Y	N
Barton Stacey Parish Council	Y	N
Bossington Parish Council	Y	N
Braishfield Parish Council	Y	N
Broughton Parish Council	Y	N
Bullington Parish Council	Y	N
Charlton Parish Council	Y	N
Chilbolton Parish Council	Y	Y (NC)
Chilworth Parish Council	Y	N
Cholderton Parish Meeting	Y	N
East Dean Parish Council	Y	N
East Tytherley Parish Council	Y	Y (NC)
Enham Alamein Parish Council	Y	N
Facombe Parish Meeting	Y	N
Fyfield Parish Council	Y	N
Goodworth Clatford Parish Council	Y	N
Grateley Parish Council	Y	N
Houghton Parish Council	Y	N
Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council	Y	Y (NC)
Kimpton Parish Council	Y	N
Kings Somborne Parish Council	Y	N
Leckford Parish Meeting	Y	N
Little Somborne Parish Council	Y	N
Lockerley Parish Council	Y	N
Longparish Parish Council	Y	N
Longstock Parish Council	Y	N
Ludgershall Parish Council	Y	N
Melchet Park & Plaitford Parish Council	Y	N
Michelmersh & Timsbury Parish Council	Y	N
Monxton Parish Council	Y	N
Mottisfont Parish Council	Y	N

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Organisation	Contacted	Responded
Nether Wallop Parish Council	Y	N
North Baddesley Parish Council	Y	N
Nursling & Rownhams Parish Council	Y	N
Over Wallop Parish Council	Y	N
Penton Grafton Parish Council	Y	N
Penton Mewsey Parish Council	Y	N
Quarley Parish Council	Y	N
Romsey Town Council	Y	N
Sherfield English Parish Council	Y	N
Shipton Bellinger Parish Council	Y	N
Smannell Parish Council	Y	N
Stockbridge Parish Council	Y	N
Tangley Parish Council	Y	N
Thrupton Parish Council	Y	N
Tidcombe & Fosbury Parish Meeting	Y	N
Tidworth Town Council	Y	N
Upper Clatford Parish Council	Y	N
Valley Park Parish Council	Y	N
Vernham Dean Parish Council	Y	N
Wellow Parish Council	Y	N
West Dean Parish Council	Y	Y (NC)
West Tytherley and Frenchmoor Parish Council	Y	Y (NC)
Wherwell Parish Council	Y	N
Borough and Unitary Councils		
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council	Y	N
East Hampshire District Council	Y	Y (NC)
Eastleigh Borough Council	Y	Y (NC)
Fareham Borough Council	Y	N
Gosport Borough Council	Y	N
Hart District Council	Y	Y (NC)
Havant Borough Council	Y	Y (NC)
New Forest District Council	Y	Y (NC)
Rushmoor Borough Council	Y	N
Southampton City Council	Y	Y (NC)
Test Valley Borough Council	Y	Y
West Berkshire Council	Y	Y (NC)
Winchester City Council	Y	Y (NC)

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Organisation	Contacted	Responded
County Councils		
Hampshire County Council	Y	N
Hampshire CC Economy, Transport and Environment	Y	N
Hampshire County Council Estates Practice	Y	N
Hampshire County Council Highways	Y	N
Hampshire County Council Property Services	Y	N
Hampshire County Council Transport Policy	Y	N
HCC Development	Y	N
Wiltshire Council	Y	Y (NC)
Utilities		
British Gas	Y	Y (NC)
BT	Y	N
Cholderton & District Water Company	Y	N
Mobile Operators Association	Y	N
National Grid	Y	N
National Grid Electricity Transmission	Y	N
Network Rail	Y	Y (NC)
Bournemouth Water	Y	N
SSE Telecoms	Y	N
Scottish & Southern Energy	Y	Y (NC)
Southern Gas Networks	Y	N
Southern Water	Y	N
Virgin	Y	N
Central and Local Government Agencies		
Environment Agency	Y	Y (NC)
Highways England	Y	Y (NC)
Natural England	Y	N
New Forest National Park Authority	Y	N
The Coal Authority	Y	N
Historic England	Y	Y
Homes England	Y	N
NHS West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group	Y	Y (NC)
North Wessex Downs AONB	Y	N
Tourism South East	Y	N
Unity (was Test Valley Community Services)	Y	N

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Organisation	Contacted	Responded
NGOs and Other Campaigning Groups		
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Y	N
Hampshire Chamber of Commerce	Y	N
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust	Y	N
National Trust	Y	Y (NC)
TVBC Councillors Blackwater Ward		
Cllr Nick Adams-King,	Y	N
Cllr Gordon Bailey,	Y	N
Hampshire County Councillor		
Cllr Nick Adams-King,	Y	N

Note. "Y (NC)" in the "Responded" column denotes that a response was received but no comment made.

Table 3: Regulation 14 Responses

Note 1. Headings, sub-headings, policies, paragraphs and figures relate to the Pre-submission Draft Plan and not the Submission Draft - in many cases these have changed in latter draft.

Note 2. In a few instances personal names or details which would identify an individual which is given in comments have been redacted.

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ID	Reference	Comment	Steering Group Response to Comments	Changes to Plan
1		We have no comments to make.	Noted.	No Action.
2		I can confirm that the planning policy team have no comments. It is noted that the plan has no development allocations or policies of a spatial scale which would have a direct impact upon Eastleigh Borough.	Noted.	No Action.
3	1.1.8	What does vibrant mean?	Noted.	No Action.
4	1.1.9	Rewrite to read: Measuring Impact: We are committed to monitoring the effectiveness of the policies in the plan. An annual review will assess their timeliness and identify areas for improvement. This commitment to continuous evaluation ensures the plan's effectiveness in shaping a vibrant future for the future of Parish.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
5	1.1.0	Rewrite to read: Figure 2 below illustrates the journey of this Neighbourhood Plan from conception to publication.	Figure and accompanying section removed.	Action.
6	1.1.18	Rewrite to read: The Test Valley Borough Local Plan Review (TVBLPR) 2011-20292 is the Adopted Development Plan for Awbridge Parish.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
7	1.1.20	Rewrite to read: The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted in 2013 and runs to 2030. An initial review was undertaken in 2018, with a detailed review in 2020. A partial update was identified as being required and work is ongoing.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
8	1.1.26	Rewrite to read: Stanbridge Manor (now Stanbridge Earls), in the parish, is reputed to have been the site of the home of Saxon King Ethelwulf (806-858AD), who was the father of King Alfred.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
9	3.3	This background information is helpful to set the scene in this Regulation 14 plan, but will not need to be repeated in the Regulation 16 plan.	Background information removed from the main body and placed in the Appendices.	Action.
10	4.2.1	This is repeated in Para 4.2.2 and so can be deleted.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
11	4.3	This is confusing. #1 is more like a vision and should be broadened out to include some of the other parts in the other numbers. 2, 3 4 and 5 read more like objectives or supporting text to the vision. #2 'structure of the village' should this read 'layout of the village' 'green spaces' should this read 'countryside' #3. 'publicly accessible green spaces and gardens ..' this needs a comma adding 'publicly accessible green spaces, and gardens ..' #4. do the gardens in #3 need to link to the countryside directly or green corridors? #5 'modest in scale and size' what does this mean?	The objectives and vision have been developed by the group, drawing on residents' feedback from community consultations and further refined during the 2023 Consultation.	No Action.
12	4.3	The objectives would benefit from being grouped by theme. What is the significance of the colour coding? #6 'structure of the settlement' should this read 'layout of the settlement'. #7 'green spaces' should this read 'countryside'. #10. this should be edited to read: 'New development should respect the identified character of the area and follow the design code' #11 what is meant by 'can access publicly accessible green space'? By foot, by car, directly from the property. This is unclear. #13 remove question mark at the end. #14 reword to 'Seek to reduce traffic volumes / parking congestion around the school.	The objectives and vision have been developed by the group, drawing on residents' feedback from community consultations and further refined during the 2023 Consultation.	No Action.
13	5.2	Rewrite to read: Natural Environment.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
14	6	These would benefit from being numbered.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
15	6.1.3	Rewrite to read: The Parish covers 595 hectares and falls within the following landscape character areas (LCAs): 2A Embley Wood and Heathland, 3B Melchet and Awbridge Wooded Farmland, and 5B Middle Test Valley Floor as shown in figure 7.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
16	6.1.5	A map showing the location and extent would be helpful. TVBC can assist with mapping if needed.	Noted.	No Action.
17	6.1.7	Remove paragraph.	The paragraph has been rewritten to focus on planting of native species.	Action.
18	6.1.10	Figure 7 should be moved to this page.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
19	Figure 8, pg. 14	What is the relevance of this photo? Is this Awbridge Danes? Should be referred to in the text.	Noted.	No Action.
20	Figures 9, 10, 11 and 12, pg. 14	Figures 9 - 12 What is the relevance of these photo? They should be referred to in the the text or removed if not relevant.	Noted.	No Action.
21	Policy A1 - Landscape	Rewrite to read: Development proposals should have regard for the distinct rural character of the settlements and wider landscape by: 1. Ensuring that the dispersed small hamlets which are distributed across the Parish do not coalesce and lose their individual identity.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
22	Policy A1 - Landscape	"Development proposals should have regard for the retention of the distinct rural character of the settlements and wider landscape by aiming to"... How will this be measured?	It is the job of the landscape officer to make a determination on this.	No Action.
23	Policy A1 - Landscape	Rewrite 1 to read: Ensuring that the dispersed small hamlets which are distributed across the Parish do not coalesce and lose their individual identity.	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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			such as large scale pig farming, poultry farming and equestrian uses alongside referring to DEFRA definition.	
24	Policy A1 - Landscape	What are these intensive uses?		Action.
25	Policy A1 - Landscape	What evidence is there of harm caused by these uses? How could they be lessened?	Incorporate evidence of harm in supporting text.	Action.
26	Policy A1 - Landscape	How could development 'address the issues and solutions'/?	This is for the developer to address as part of their application.	No Action.
27	Policy A1 - Landscape. Area 5b Middle Test Valley Floor - Bullet Point 3	These do not need to be in the policy. Could be moved to the supporting text or referred to the appendix.	Noted.	No Action.
28	6.2.2	Rewrite to read: These views are drawn from the Parish Character Appraisal and Design Code (see Appendix I) and have been deemed significant due to their contribution to:	Action, as per comment.	Action.
29	6.2.3	Rewrite to read: When considering development proposals within the Plan Area, careful consideration must be given to the potential impact on the following identified significant views.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
30	Policy A2 – Important Views and Vistas	The view descriptions need to be shortened. This could be added to the supporting text or references in an appendix.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
31	Policy A2 – Important Views and Vistas	The views should be renumbered starting at View 1.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
32	Policy A2 – Important Views and Vistas	Rewrite to read: The following Important Views have been identified and are shown in Figure 13. Development proposals which would have a significant adverse impact on an identified Important View will not be supported. View 1: Long ranging views in an easterly direction from one end of the village to the other. View 2: Southerly view from the footpath across the field. View 3: northerly view from the footpath across the field. View 4: This view north looks out towards the ridge with the Test Valley beyond. View 5: This View looks northwest towards the village hall along the public footpath. View 6: Southeast along the footpath towards the church. View 7: Looking east out of the village. View 8: High point looking northwest. View 9: Due east. View 10: Long distance view looking south west from public footpath towards woodland behind Danes Road. View 11: Looking north east from public footpath towards junction with the Test Way. View 12: Long distance view northwest along The Test Way. View 13: Long distance view across fields looking west from the Test Way. View 14: Looking north towards Awbridge Danes. View 15: Looking south west across the vineyard with further views southwards on downward facing slopes.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
33	pg. 19	Rewrite to read: Map of Important Views	Action, as per comment.	Action.
34	6.3.4	Rewrite to read: Each space has been individually assessed in accordance with the NPPF Criteria and found to be play a key part in the enjoyment of the Parish and are therefore special to the local community. A full description of each site and the justification for its designation can be found in Appendix II Local Green Space Assessment.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
35	6.3.5	Rewrite to read: Each area was considered using the following criteria as set out in evidence base.	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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		<p>Rewrite to read: The Local Green Spaces are shown on the 'Map of Local Green Spaces' (Figure 15) and listed below. These spaces will be protected for the benefit of the community Policies for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with those for Green Belts.</p> <p>LGS1: Post Office Triangle LGS2: Saunders Lane / War Memorial LGS3: Cowlease Close LGS4: Barley Hill / Saunders Lane North (*BOA) LGS5: Spring Fields LGS6: large grass verge on the bend of Romsey Road LGS7.1: Grass verge at the north of the Romsey road- LGS7.2: Grass verge to the east of Stanbridge lane at the junction with Romsey Road LGS8: The playing fields LGS9: Wildlife Sanctuary (*BOA)</p>		
36	Policy A3– Local Green Spaces		Action, as per comment.	Action.
37	Figure 14, pg. 22	This should be moved to the appendix.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
38	pg. 24	Rewrite to read: Local Green Spaces in the Parish	Action, as per comment.	Action.
39	LGS10, pg. 24	Remove text: "and is an area of contemplation and mindfulness".	Noted.	No Action.
40	pg. 25	Rewrite to read: Map of Local Green Spaces	Action, as per comment.	Action.
41	Figure 15	Captions on map do not match those in the policy. Numbering is incorrect - only 10 in policy and 11 on the map.	Correct numbering.	Action.
42	Policy A4.1 – Biodiversity and Habitats	The numbering is confusing. Should just be A4, A5 etc	Noted.	No Action.
43	Policy A4.1 – Biodiversity and Habitats	The 10% requirement is now addressed in national policy and does not need repeating in this plan. The policy can therefore be deleted.	Remove policy reference to 10% BNG.	Action.
44	Policy A4.2 – The Solent Region International Sites	This is not addressed in the Natural England guidance and therefore should be deleted. Rewrite to read: Applications for development that will result in a net increase in nitrogen reaching the Solent Region International Sites through e.g. additional units of overnight accommodation will be required to confirm the nitrogen budget and set out specific and appropriately located mitigation measures that will be implemented in order to ensure development is nutrient neutral from the start of its operational phase. Such mitigation measures must be secured for the duration of the development's effects.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
45	pg. 27	<p>Add the provided text following 6.4.10: The Bechstein's bat is one of the rarest species of bats in the UK These are tree roosting species, where they roost in cracks and crevices as well as holes available in trees. Of further note is the potential for the area to support Barbastelle bats. This rare species breeds in woodlands near Mottisfont which are protected through the designation of the Mottisfont Bats Special Area of Conservation. It is one of only six known maternity sites in the UK and therefore extremely important.</p> <p>The bats make use of a much wider area around the designated site and could potentially be foraging and breeding at satellite sites in the Plan area. Consequently, new development will need to demonstrate that it has taken bats and this species in particular into account, identifying whether these bats may be using the development site and if so, the measures that will be put in place to protect and enhance their habitat. '</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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	46 pg. 27	<p>An additional policy is also required for the New Forest Special Protection Area. Suggested wording is as follows: There is also a requirement to provide mitigation in accordance with Policy E5: Biodiversity of the Test Valley Local Plan 2011-2029 and the New Forest SPA Mitigation – Interim Framework 2014 (or any subsequent updates of these documents), where development is proposed within 13.8km of the New Forest SAC, SPA and Ramsar sites (i.e. within the Parish).</p> <p>The New Forest Special Protection Area has been designated to protect certain bird species which occur frequently in the New Forest area but are otherwise rare or declining. Several of these species are however susceptible to recreational pressure. Consequently, the National Park Authority is working with authorities on its boundaries to address the impacts from walkers and dog walkers who arrive as day visitors and staying tourists. All development coming forward in the Plan area has the potential to increase the number of day visitors to the New Forest The surrounding local councils are therefore addressing this through their own recreation mitigation strategies. Residential and tourism developments will therefore be required to contribute to the relevant authority's strategy through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 Agreements as set out in the policy below.</p> <p>Policy WP-L9–New Forest Special Protection Area New residential development and overnight accommodation (including seasonal workers accommodation and temporary campsites) within the identified New Forest SPA 13.8km 'zone of influence' – which covers the whole of the Wellow Neighbourhood Area – will need to mitigate against the recreation pressure on the New Forest Special Protection Area. This could be in the form of a financial contribution towards an agreed package of mitigation measures within and outside the designated sites, including the provision of alternative natural green space for recreational use to the...</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
47	Policy A4.3 – Mottisfont Bats	<p>Rewrite to read (as agreed with Natural England): Where direct or indirect impacts on suitable roosting, foraging and commuting habitats for Barbastelle bats are considered likely to occur, such impacts must be fully assessed, avoided and, where required, appropriately mitigated to prevent any adverse impacts on this internationally protected site at the planning application stage. This should be in full accordance with relevant best practice guidelines and must fully adhere to any updates to the guidance issued following the making [adoption] of this Plan.</p> <p>Planning applications for development shall be supported by an appropriate level of ecological survey undertaken in accordance with best practise survey guidelines. This will establish the ecological baseline in respect of bats and thereby determine the need for, and inform the formulation of any avoidance, mitigation and where required as a last resort, compensation measures necessary as part of the project design, to ensure no adverse effect on the integrity of the Mottisfont Bats Special Area of Conservation (SAC) over the lifetime of the proposed development and to promote the conservation of bats generally.</p> <p>Exterior lighting affecting roosting, foraging and/or commuting habitat for bats will need to conform with the latest best practice guidelines outlined by the Bat Conservation Trust and the Institute of Lighting Professionals (current guidelines being Guidance note 08/18 Bats and artificial lighting in the UK) due to the proximity to the Mottisfont Bats SAC.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
48	Figure 16, pg. 29	The parish boundary would be helpful on the map rather than the star. New Forest Special Protection Area also needs to be shown on the map.	SPA already shown.	No Action.
49	Figure 17, pg. 30	It would be helpful if the local names for these areas was annotated on the map.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
50	Figure 18, pg. 31	It would be helpful if the names for the sites / areas were annotated on the map.	a key for clarity.	No Action.
51	Policy A5 – Dark Night Skies and Bat Foraging Routes	Rewrite to read: Policy A5 - Dark Night Skies	Action, as per comment.	Action.
52	Policy A5 – Dark Night Skies and Bat Foraging Routes	<p>Rewrite to read: Applications for development that respond to light pollution and dark night skies by conserving and enhancing the tranquillity of the area and complies with other relevant policies will be permitted.</p> <p>Development proposals should seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain or enhance the measured pre-development dark sky quality of the surrounding area as shown in figure 20; • Limit light pollution that can potentially be created from extensive street and exterior lighting associated with new development, particularly in prominent areas, such as around the Village Hall; • New street lighting will not be supported. • Meet or exceed the current guidelines established for rural areas by the Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILP); • Employ energy efficient forms of lighting that also reduce light spill, particularly uplighting. 	Action, as per comment.	Action.
53	Policy A5 – Dark Night Skies and Bat Foraging Routes	Remove last paragraph because this is addressed in policy A4.3 and does not need repeating here.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
54	Figure 20	The parish boundary would be helpful on this map.	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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55		<p>This is a strategic issue and is a matter for the local plan, and not a Neighbourhood Plan matter.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, what is the evidence to support the gaps?</p> <p>The land between the settlements for Local Plan purposes are in the 'open countryside' where there is a presumption against development, and therefore the settlement areas will not coalesce. Therefore this additional layer of policy is not required.</p>		
	6.6	This section will therefore need to be deleted.	Policy revised.	Action.
56	7.1.2	Rewrite to read: Awbridge Parish is classified as open countryside (with the exception of Kent's Oak), could support the following types of housing development under the Adopted Local Plan:	Action, as per comment.	Action.
57	7.1.7	<p>Although this is factually correct, once the Local Plan is adopted, this will trigger a review of the Neighbourhood plan, which will then have to meet the requirement to deliver some development. In the interim, this could encourage developers to submit speculative applications for development.</p> <p>It is a missed opportunity for this plan not to identify a site for development, and the plan will become quickly out of date.</p>	The plan includes a supportive housing policy, see Policy A8.	No Action.
58	7.1.9	It is a missed opportunity for this plan not to identify a site for development.	The plan includes a supportive housing policy, see Policy A8.	No Action.
59	7.1.10	This plan should be looking forward to 2040, and not looking back	Noted.	No Action.
60	7.1.13 - 7.1.14	A policy on housing mix would help address this issue.	Noted.	No Action.
61	7.1.15	This is addressed in other policies and does not need repeating here.	Noted.	No Action.
62	7.1.16	If the community consultation and the evidence has identified an need, then this plan should be addressing the need and allocating a site. This would allow the community to be involved in the site selection consultation process and ensure that the site would deliver the homes for first time buyers and downsizers.	The plan includes a supportive housing policy, see Policy A8.	No Action.
63	Policy A7 – Affordable Housing and Community Led Housing	<p>Rewrite to read: Proposals for an affordable housing site or community led site with an element of affordable housing to meet local needs would be supported provided that the scheme makes provision for approximately 10 homes as currently identified in the Test Valley Borough Council's Housing Register and have a local connection to Awbridge (or as latterly superseded).</p> <p>It must be demonstrated that any proposed scheme respects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the linear settlement pattern of the Parish; • its relationship with the open countryside; • the physical and visual extent of a defined Gap, and does not result in coalescence with a neighbouring settlement area; • the wider landscape with native planting to ensure that the edge of the settlement retains its rural character; • Access is fully integrated within the settlements through direct connections to existing streets and paths avoiding a single point of access away from the built up areas; • and not cause unacceptable harm to Local Green Spaces, identified Key Views, non-designated or designated heritage assets or identified biodiversity assets; and • the Design Code set out in Policy A11. 	Action, as per comment.	Action.
64	Policy A7 – Affordable Housing and Community Led Housing	How will how the proposed scheme respects the provided list in Policy A7 be assessed?	This will be assessed by a planning officer.	No Action.
65	Policy A7 – Affordable Housing and Community Led Housing	The local housing needs survey that was carried out in 2021 provides more local evidence of the need in the Parish. This is good evidence to support downsizer and first time buyer homes as well as for the need for 2-3 bed homes. This should be used to allocated a site to deliver the need and to have a policy on the mix of new homes that should come forward.	The plan includes a supportive housing policy, see Policy A8.	No Action.
66	Policy A7 – Affordable Housing and Community Led Housing	If a site is allocated all of these issues could be addressed.	The plan includes a supportive housing policy, see Policy A8.	No Action.

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67	7.1.22	How will this be assessed?	This will be assessed by the planning officer.	No Action.
68	7.1.25	What is the evidence for this?	Remove paragraph.	Action.
69	Policy A8.1 – Non-Designated Heritage Assets	This is not a non designated heritage asset.	Noted.	No Action.
70	Policy A8.2 – Awbridge Danes	As this is a designated park and garden, this is addressed in legislation, and does not need to be repeated here.	Remove paragraph.	Action.
71	8.1.5	Delete text.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
72	Policy A9 – Design, 1st Sentence	This sentence does not make sense.	Rewrite sentence.	Action.
73	Policy A9 – Design, 2nd Bullet Point	How will this be assessed?	This will be assessed by a planning officer.	No Action.
74	Policy A9 – Design, 3rd Bullet Point	How will this be assessed?	This will be assessed by a planning officer.	No Action.
75	Policy A9 – Design, 4th Bullet Point	How will this be assessed?	This will be assessed by a planning officer.	No Action.
76	Policy A9 – Design, 5th Bullet Point	How will this be assessed?	This will be assessed by a planning officer.	No Action.
77	Policy A9 – Design, 6th Bullet Point	How will this be assessed? How is the local area defined	Incorporate text to explain how the local area is defined and how it will be assessed.	Action.
78	Policy A9 – Design, 7th Bullet Point	How will this be assessed? What is appropriate?	This will be assessed by a planning officer.	No Action.
79	Policy A9 – Design, 9th Bullet Point	This sentence does not make sense.	Rewrite sentence.	Action.
80	Figure 27, pg. 49	This map needs a legend.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
81	Policy A10 - Flooding and Drainage	<p>Rewrite to read: Development proposals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate that new developments will not increase the risk of flooding, particularly in those areas highlighted on figures 27 and 28; • Contain sufficient information to demonstrate that both fluvial and surface water flood risk, in addition to geological conditions on site, have been examined to ascertain infiltration rates; • Provide an appropriate foul and surface water drainage strategy to accompany a development proposals when located within areas A, Ai, B, Bi, or Bii as shown on figure 28 below; • Within all areas, adopt appropriate and maintainable sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) suitable for infiltration rates as part of new developments; • Be accompanied by sufficient information to demonstrate that arrangements for run-off from private drainage systems will be satisfactory prior to commencement of development (particularly within areas subject to flooding or in areas A, Ai, B, Bi, or Bii as shown on figure 28); • Ensure that where it is proposed to discharge additional water into a nearby ditch, that such proposals should demonstrate that the ditch connects into an identified watercourse as highlighted on figure 28; • Ensure that new development in close proximity to the River Test SSSI adopts best practise SuDS to ensure the protection of the water supply; and • Within all areas, highlight how water efficiency, the use of green roofs, porous paving, rainwater harvesting methods and greywater recycling has been considered and incorporated as appropriate. 	Noted.	No Action.
82	Policy A10 - Flooding and Drainage, Last Bullet Point	How will this be assessed?	This will be assessed as part of the planning application.	No Action.
83	9.2.1	Rewrite to read: The Community Survey in the original Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire indicated that a large proportion of the respondents had concerns over road related issues. Whilst many relate to problems that currently exist, there is a concern that development proposals have not always included the most appropriate mitigation measures or appropriate levels of accessibility. This section of the Plan identifies the current issues and assesses them with regard possible future development.	Noted.	No Action.

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84	9.2.3	Rewrite to read: The various issues have been highlighted on figure 35. In particular, there are a number of narrow rural lanes where there are current conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists and motor vehicles. Figure 30 highlights the current problems experience on Saunders Lane for example, where pedestrians have to walk on the road. The lane is not sufficiently wide enough for two vehicles to pass and there is no pavement or protected area for pedestrians. There are numerous dwellings in this location and no safe walking route to the school or other facilities. The recent development at Butteridge Rise, has exacerbated this problem further with no suitable mitigation measures proposed. In this regard, it is key that where there is a net gain in dwellings, proposals are not located where they are inaccessible to pedestrians or would result in solely car based journeys.	Noted.	No Action.
85	9.2.5	But the plan is not proposing any development in the area.	Rewrote sentence for clarity.	Action.
86	9.2.7	Rewrite to read: The Stanbridge Earls area was designed as a self-contained community and given the age restriction of residents, it is unlikely that such Parish facilities and services would be a priority.	Rewrote sentence for clarity.	Action.
87	9.2.8	Rewrite to read: Figure 35 highlights a number of road safety concerns and issues. In particular, it the figure highlights the number of reported road traffic incidents since 2000. From this, it is clear where the roads with significant problems exist. It is key that any new development does not exacerbate the problems and propose suitable mitigation measures to address problems.	Noted.	No Action.
88	9.2.8	But the plan is not proposing any development in the area.	Rewrote sentence for clarity.	Action.
89	Policy A11 – Accessibility, Public Rights of Way and Highway Safety, Second Paragraph	Is this strong enough wording?	Noted.	No Action.
90	Policy A11 – Accessibility, Public Rights of Way and Highway Safety	<p>Rewrite to read: Support will be given to proposals for improving local walking and cycling routes between the settlements to the various community facilities, particularly the proposed permissive footpath as shown on figures 31 and 34.</p> <p>Development proposals should demonstrate how consideration has been given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore safer cycling and pedestrian routes linking the Parish to the wider area; • Ensure new development along Danes Road includes adequate parking provision which does not exacerbate existing problems in the vicinity of the primary school; • Support improvements to improve school parking problems where relevant; • Fund sustainable travel options and promote realistic alternatives to car based travel (as appropriate); • Ensuring that development does not exacerbate highway safety issues as identified on figure 35 including on problem junctions, rural narrow lanes, areas of pedestrian safety concern and roads with high numbers of incidents. • The protection and enhancement of existing Public Rights of Way and ensure new development would not have an unacceptable harm to its operational use. <p>Proposals will be required to provide sufficient and proportionate highways information and plans to address the above issues.</p> <p>Any provisions for new footways or paths must be appropriate to a rural area.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
91	Figure 34, pg. 55	A clearer map would be helpful.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
92	Policy A12 – Community Services and Facilities, and Small Scale Employment Uses	Rewrite to read: Policy A12 – Community Facilities, and Small Scale Employment Uses	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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	<p>Rewrite to read:</p> <p>The following facilities are considered essential to the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awbridge Primary School • Village Hall • Playground and Playing Fields • Hansard's Farm Shop • All Saints Church <p>Development proposals which include the enhancement of community facilities must demonstrate how they will meet a community need. Where there is a proven need and the proposal is in accordance with the Development Plan, it will be supported.</p> <p>Such proposals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create spaces that encourage social interaction and inclusivity for all; and • Be accessible to all; and • Include safe access for pedestrian, cyclists, and road users; and • Provide appropriate parking for cycles and vehicles (including electric vehicle charging points). <p>Proposals for new or expanded small scale start up business units or similar uses, which are appropriate in terms of noise and air pollution, traffic generation, visual impact and design to a countryside setting will be supported.</p>			
93	<p>Policy A12 – Community Services and Facilities, and Small Scale Employment Uses</p>		Action, as per comment.	Action.
94	<p>Policy A12 – Community Services and Facilities, and Small Scale Employment Uses</p>	Small Scale Employment Uses should be in a separate policy.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
95	<p>Facilities Bullet Point List</p>	These should be numbered here and on figure 34.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
96	<p>Second Paragraph</p>	How will this be demonstrated/assessed?	Noted.	No Action.
97	<p>Last Paragraph</p>	This should be in a separate policy.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
98	<p>Appendix II – Local Green Space Assessment, pg. 60</p>	This can be moved to the evidence base in the Regulation 16 document	Action, as per comment.	Action.
99	<p>Appendix V – Non-Designated Heritage Assets</p>	This can be moved to the evidence base in the Regulation 16 document	Action, as per comment.	Action.
100	<p>3 - Kent's Oak, pg. 66</p>	That is not a non designated heritage asset.	Noted.	No Action.
101		Overall, the plan is heading in the right direction but there are a number of policies that would benefit from editing, to make them more effective.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
102		The plan would also benefit from allocating a site to meet the identified need for affordable homes, and the need for downsizer and first time buyer homes. This is a real missed opportunity.	The plan includes a supportive housing policy, see Policy A8.	No Action.
103		Given the Parishes proximity to the numerous international designations, the plan should be screened for the need for a SA / SEA / HRA.	Action, as per comment.	Action.
104		We have no comments to make on the plan at this time.	Noted.	No Action.
105		<p>We welcome the production of this neighbourhood plan and are pleased to see that the historic environment of your parish features throughout this draft.</p> <p>Although your neighbourhood area does contain a number of designated heritage assets, at this point we don't consider there is a need for Historic England to be involved in the detailed development of the strategy for your area.</p>	Noted.	No Action.
106		We recommend the inclusion of a glossary containing relevant historic environment terminology contained in the NPPF, in addition to details about the additional legislative and policy protections that heritage assets and the historic environment in general enjoys.	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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107	6.2.2	<p>Reference is made to the New Forest National Park under the bullet point on 'heritage assets'. However, the New Forest National Park is not a 'heritage asset' – which typically refers to either designated (e.g. Conservation Areas) or nondesignated heritage assets (e.g. locally-listed buildings). The National Park may fit more closely under the 'Landscape Connection' bullet point.</p> <p>Landscape Connection: Maintaining the strong connection between settlements and the surrounding landscape (including the New Forest National Park).</p> <p>Heritage Assets: Recognizing the proximity to designated heritage assets.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
108	Important Views and Vistas	<p>The wording for View 9 refers to 'the AONB'. There is no AONB within the designated Awbridge Neighbourhood Area. View 9: This is another high point looking Northwest with a view falling away towards the Test Valley and the world-renowned chalk streams. This is intersected by the railway line to Romsey and then on to Southampton.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
109	Section 6.4 – Biodiversity and Habitats, 6.4.10	<p>The introductory text refers to the internationally designated sites of the New Forest – the SAC, SPA and Ramsar site. The whole of the Awbridge Neighbourhood Area is located within the defined 13.8km 'zone of influence' for the New Forest's designated sites, meaning that net new housing development and other forms of overnight accommodation must address the recreational impacts arising on the designated sites. It is noted that policy A4.1 does not explicitly refer to the need to mitigate recreational impacts on the New Forest's designated sites. Given the existing legal requirements in the Habitats Regulations and other parts of the statutory 'development plan' that cover this, we do not consider this to be an issue or an omission that needs corrected.</p> <p>No changes required – the need to address recreational impacts from new development on the New Forest's designated sites is reflected in other planning policy documents for the area without it needing to be explicitly covered in the Awbridge Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
110		<p>Based on our experiences of dealing with the requirement for nutrient neutrality in new development in the affected Solent catchment for several years, we suggested the following re-wording. TVBC are the 'competent authority' in law, rather than Natural England.</p> <p>Test Valley Borough Council will carry out the necessary assessment of the impacts of development on water quality under the Habitats Regulations. Mitigation schemes available which enable developers to purchase nitrogen credits to the value of the increased nitrogen levels their developments are calculated to generate.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
111	Policy A4.2	<p>The National Park Authority is not aware that farming practices are within the remit of the planning system or currently covered by Natural England's Solent nutrient guidance, which instead focuses on new residential development and other forms of overnight accommodation. Based on our experiences of dealing with the requirement for nutrient neutrality in new development in the affected Solent catchment for several years, we suggested the following re-wording: "Applications for development that will result in a net increase in nitrogen reaching the Solent's International Sites through e.g. additional units of overnight accommodation will be required to confirm the nitrogen budget and set out specific and appropriately located mitigation measures that will be implemented in order to ensure development is nutrient neutral from the start of its operational phase. Such mitigation measures must be secured for the duration of the development's effects.</p> <p>The purchasing of off-site nutrient may be an appropriate alternative to direct provision of mitigation. In this case it will be necessary to liaise with Test Valley Borough Council and Natural England as appropriate to confirm the suitable mitigation schemes from which credits can be purchased to ensure the credits purchased are sufficient to fully mitigate the impacts of the development on the Solent internationally designated sites." credits from an approved scheme.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.

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112	Policy A10 – Flooding and Drainage	<p>As the water supplier for Awbridge parish Southern Water supports the last criterion of this policy which encourages water efficiency in new development. Water UK's '21st Century Drainage Programme' states 'more people, bigger towns and cities and the effects of climate change will mean a greater demand for water'. To ensure a holistic approach to sustainability, all types of new development should be encouraged to achieve higher levels of water efficiency.</p> <p>The Environment Agency classifies the south east as an area of 'serious water stress', and a variety of factors such as an increasing need to limit surface and groundwater abstractions, increase drought resilience, meet the needs of a growing population and adapt to climate change, all combine to present both challenges and opportunities to change the way we manage water. Whilst tackling this challenge will require a multi-faceted approach, there is an opportunity for all levels of the planning system to play their part, by ensuring through policy that new development is required to meet higher standards of water efficiency.</p> <p>High standards of water efficiency in new developments equate to greater long-term sustainability – with the potential to delay or reduce the need to increase abstraction or find new water resources. There are also additional benefits to minimising water use in terms of reduced carbon emissions from treating, supplying, and heating water, as well as lower water and energy bills for future occupants.</p> <p>We further support the criterion requiring best practice SuDS in proximity to the River Test SSSI to ensure protection of the water supply – we have our own guidance on this topic which can be found here; suds-in-spz-guidance.pdf (southernwater.co.uk)</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
113	Policy A12 Community Services and Facilities	<p>Southern Water is the statutory water supplier for Awbridge and as such has a statutory duty to serve new development within the parish.</p> <p>Although there are no current plans, over the life of the Neighbourhood Plan, it may be that we will need to provide new or improved infrastructure either to serve new development and/or to meet stricter environmental standards. It is therefore important to have policy provision in the Neighbourhood Plan which seeks to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to meet these requirements.</p> <p>Whilst this policy supports development which seeks provision or funding for infrastructure, we would also look for policy to support the general provision of new or improved utilities infrastructure, by infrastructure providers. The NPPF (2023) paragraph 28 establishes that communities should set out detailed policies for specific areas including 'the provision of infrastructure and community facilities at a local level'. Also the National Planning Practice Guidance states that 'Adequate water and wastewater infrastructure is needed to support sustainable development'.</p> <p>Although the Parish Council is not the planning authority in relation to water supply development proposals, support for essential infrastructure is required at all levels of the planning system.</p> <p>Proposed amendment</p> <p>To ensure consistency with the NPPF and facilitate sustainable development, we propose an additional policy criterion as follows: New and improved utility infrastructure will be encouraged and supported in order to meet the identified needs of the community subject to other policies in the plan.</p>	Action, as per comment.	Action.
114		We have reviewed information available on your planning portal and have 'No Comments'.	Noted.	No Action.
115		I have reviewed the consultation documents and did not identify any issues for the Trust and therefore we will not be submitting any representations.	Noted.	No Action.
116	Housing Need, 7.1.1 to 7.1.17	<p>Addressing this emerging Policy of the TVBC Local Plan at Para 7.1.7, the draft NP states that: 'As these policies have not yet undergone public consultation or examination, they do not hold any weight at this point. It is expected that the Regulation 19 Plan, will be published in 2025, (as of the time of writing)'.</p> <p>This statement is simply not true in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework, which as per Para 48 states that: Local planning authorities may give weight to relevant policies in emerging plans according to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced its preparation, the greater the weight that may be given); b) the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); c) the degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given). 	Noted.	No Action.

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117	Housing Need, 7.1.1 to 7.1.17	<p>Policy SS5 has been published and has undergone a period of consultation. Moreover, it also represents the most up to date position of the Borough Council and the expectation of the Neighbourhood Plan to identify land to meet a minimum of 10 dwellings during the Plan Period. To that end, the emerging NP should be paying due regard to the emerging Policy and giving weight to the Policy in the drafting of its Policies in advance of the judgement of whether the basic conditions has been met.</p>	Noted.	No Action.
118	Housing Need, 7.1.1 to 7.1.17	<p>Turning to the NP evidence and its consultation concerning housing need, there is clear an unequivocal evidence of a need for new open market and affordable housing from the response to Q26 and the commentary provided within Para 7.1.12 to 7.1.17 of the Draft NP.</p> <p>I refer to in particular, Paragraphs 7.1.13 and 7.1.14, which summarises aptly the problem facing the community at Awbridge and those other more rural communities.</p> <p>7.1.13. There is a concern over the trend of replacing smaller dwellings (2 bed) with substantially larger 5+ bedroom homes or subdividing such plots, with a number of these properties. Equally, those already in larger, but under occupied dwellings are finding it difficult to downsize into appropriate properties.</p> <p>7.1.14. These problems do little to support those looking to get onto the property ladder, nor does it encourage young families to stay or settle in the area, due to lack of affordability. This leaves the Parish with an aging population and results in a market where local people have to move away to purchase more affordable properties elsewhere.</p> <p>The need for a proactive approach to address these concerns couldn't be more evident from the responses received from the community, and yet, the response within the Neighbourhood Plan is to avoid the identification of a residential development scheme that could alleviate these problems faced by the community, instead leaving future housing delivery to that of speculative Planning Applications that may or may not occur.</p> <p>To summarise the position in respect of housing need, the emerging Policy SS5 of the Local Plan should be given appropriate weight in the forming of the Neighbourhood Plan and provides the latest expectation of the Borough Council towards the Parish in forming the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Recognising this emerging Policy and the need to allocate a residential development will address the importance of the need for new homes alleviating real concerns and the ability for people to remain in the village, while also allowing first time buyers and families to access the housing market.</p>	<p>The Parish acknowledges the comments made in relation to housing need. As set out in the Neighbourhood Plan policies, the community is generally supportive of new housing where it meets identified local needs, in particular smaller and more affordable homes for local people, given that the parish already has a predominance of larger dwellings.</p> <p>The community has not voted to allocate any specific sites for housing within the Neighbourhood Plan. However, should a larger development proposal come forward through the planning process, the expectation would be that it delivers clear community benefits. These include provision for a pre-school facility, a safe and accessible play area for younger children and a car park to improve safety for families walking to the primary school.</p> <p>This approach reflects the outcomes of community engagement and ensures that any future growth is proportionate, meets local needs and contributes positively to the Parish.</p>	No Action.
119	Policy A12 'Community Services and Facilities, and Small Scale Employment Use	<p>Appended to this representation is a joint letter from the Chair of Trustees at the University of Winchester Academy Trust, within which the Awbridge Primary School belongs and the Primary School, which sets out further details on these challenges and the importance to the School of achieving locally a new Pre-School to assist with enrolment numbers.</p> <p>With the need to keep numbers on the enrolment at the school high vital for the future funding of the school and its existence, the proposals as set out within Section 6 would assist in providing both an increase in the range of properties within the Parish to aid in alleviating the concerns raised by the community, but also via the provision of the Pre-School, provide a direct and tangible benefit to the School.</p> <p>The closure of a facility such as a rural Primary School has profound effects on the community and travel patterns as those locally are required to find alternative education provision, highlighting why their survival and long term prosperity is often the cause of much campaigning and effort by Parish Council's and communities alike.</p> <p>At Awbridge we have a Primary School reaching out and seeking assistance, which the Neighbourhood Plan could assist with in supporting a deliverable proposal to construct and deliver the Pre-School alongside a new Café and Shop, in turn not only supporting an existing essential facility, but delivering new facilities for the community of Awbridge.</p> <p>I would refer you to Appendix 1 for the letter in full and in the context of maintaining this essential community facility.</p>	<p>The Parish acknowledges the comments made in relation to housing need. As set out in the Neighbourhood Plan policies, the community is generally supportive of new housing where it meets identified local needs, in particular smaller and more affordable homes for local people, given that the parish already has a predominance of larger dwellings.</p> <p>The community has not voted to allocate any specific sites for housing within the Neighbourhood Plan. However, should a larger development proposal come forward through the planning process, the expectation would be that it delivers clear community benefits. These include provision for a pre-school facility, a safe and accessible play area for younger children and a car park to improve safety for families walking to the primary school.</p> <p>This approach reflects the outcomes of community engagement and ensures that any future growth is proportionate, meets local needs and contributes positively to the Parish.</p>	No Action.

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120	Policy A2, A3 and A6	<p>It is noted within the draft NP that the land subject to this representation has been identified as a potential 'Gap' under Policy A6, with an important view crossing the land parcel (View 5) under Policy A2.</p> <p>In respect of the proposed 'Gap' status, it is noted that the same designation is proposed for the majority of land surrounding the defined settlement boundary of Kent's Oak, with a SINC located to the east of the houses fronting Saunders Lane. As noted within the NP, the majority of the Parish of Awbridge is washed over by Countryside Policies, with only those properties located at Kent's Oak included within a defined settlement boundary. The approach taken by the NP in respect of Policy A6 seeks a long term restriction of a principal source of new housing within the Parish, namely small extensions to the defined settlement boundary.</p> <p>Save for Pages 12-14 of the Character Appraisal & Design Code, I'm not aware from my reading of any Landscape or detailed Visual Impact Assessment having been undertaken in forming the boundaries of these potential 'Gaps', necessary to have the required evidence base for Examination. Given the lack of such a Policy designation affecting the land around Kent's Oak within the adopted and emerging Local Plan Proposals Map, once would expect to see a robust evidence base to justify the proposal given its potential effect is to sterilise large swathes of land, hindering the prospect of meeting the housing and social needs of the Parish.</p> <p>In the absence of an evidence base to justify a land based designation out of conformity with the adopted and emerging Development Plan, Gap No.3 should be removed from the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>The community has not voted to allocate any specific sites for housing within the Neighbourhood Plan. However, should a larger development proposal come forward through the planning process, the expectation would be that it delivers clear community benefits. These include provision for a pre-school facility, a safe and accessible play area for younger children, and a car park to improve safety for families walking to the primary school.</p>	No Action.
121	Policy A2, A3 and A6	<p>Turning to Policy A2, it is noted within the NP that an important view does not prevent development coming forward but seeks that the merit of the view is not undermined. Through the masterplanning stage of the proposals as set out within Section 6, such principles can be explored.</p>	Noted.	No Action.
122	Policy A2, A3 and A6	<p>Finally in respect of Policy A3, I note that the Highway Verge to the south of the subject site has been identified as a potential 'Local Green Space' (LG56). The principle of providing for attractive and accessible green spaces for the community to enjoy is commended and supported, however, this is an isolated parcel of highway verge, of no more than 7m wide at its widest, located adjacent to Romsey Road.</p>	<p>This approach reflects the outcomes of community engagement and ensures that any future growth is proportionate, meets local needs, and contributes positively to the Parish.</p>	No Action.
123	Policy A2, A3 and A6	<p>Noting Figure 14 of the Neighbourhood Plan, we can see the process with which the Parish has assessed these parcels of land and whether they should be designated as Local Green Spaces. Of particular note is 'is the site demonstrably 'special' to the Local Community' and 'does the site hold a particular local significance'? This includes value relating to: Beauty, Historic, Recreation, Tranquillity and Wildlife.</p> <p>Taking the first point, there is nothing within the Parish history or Neighbourhood Plan documentation that suggests this small parcel of highway verge is special to the community. Turning to the bullet point criteria, the land cannot be said to be beautiful, historic, hold any recreational value, be tranquil given it forms part of the highway verge and doesn't hold any special designation in respect of ecology or wildlife. At no point therefore would this land meet the tests as set out within Figure 14 and the NPPF.</p> <p>On Page 22 some further commentary on the grass verge and its role locally is provided, which states that 'safety sightlines to dangerous and busy parts of the road and safe refuge for pedestrians, whilst providing wildflower areas in the Spring'.</p> <p>In respect of the sightline point, this I can understand in respect of aiding with forward visibility when travelling along Romsey Road in both directions, but this is not a legitimate reason under the guidance of the NPPF upon which to designate as a Local Green Space. The safe refuge point is equally not a cause for identification as a Local Green Space given the presence of an adopted footpath adjacent to the verge. In respect of the wildflowers, the land is managed by Hampshire County Council as part of its ongoing mowing management programme of all of its highway land, and thus the land couldn't be managed for any other purpose.</p> <p>Given the importance of a Local Green Space designation as afforded by the NPPF and the need to meet the criteria as set out, Parcel LG56 should be removed from Policy A3.</p> <p>As set out within Section 6, the emerging proposals incorporate swathes of green space associated with the new homes, Pre-School, Shop & Café, which the long term management of for the benefit of the wider community to use and act as a focal point within the village can be discussed.</p> <p>Such measures would far outweigh any perceived benefits of seeking to identifying a parcel of highway verge as a Local Green Space.</p>	Noted.	No Action.

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124		<p>Working in collaboration with Alfred Homes and Awbridge Primary School can deliver not only a range of affordable and open market properties for the Village, but moreover, yield tangible benefits for the community in the form of the Pre-School, Village Shop and Cafe identified as needed by the Community and acknowledged within the Neighbourhood Plan, while helping to reduce the pressure on the Primary School, the importance of which is set out within Appendix 1.</p> <p>Such an approach would, in our view, go to the heart of what a Neighbourhood Planning should seek to achieve, namely delivering benefits for the community while safeguarding against future housing and social pressures.</p>	Noted.	No Action.
125	Important Views, View 5, pg. 19	I agree that view 5 in the Parish needs to be protected. In the late Autumn, Winter and early Spring it lovely to look over the view. The view point is easy to get to for all ages due to the village footpaths and lovely to take in when walking to and from the Hansards and the Village hall. Please preserve this view and don't allow development to spoil it.	Noted.	No Action.
126		A small point to note, Page 38 and property 11 is called Coombe Farm, not Coombe Valley.	Officially labelled Coombe Valley, as visible on Historic England website.	No Action.
127	6.6.6 - 6.6.9	In particular, we are concerned in relation to the demarcation of 'Gaps between Settlement' through and including the garden at Daneswood. We appreciate the sentiment of having a 'gaps' and a settlement buffer between the hamlets making up Awbridge. However, your proposal appears to be entirely at odds with the reality of the situation. Daneswood was built in circa 1930 meaning that the building itself and its surrounding gardens have been properly classified as 'settlement' since that time. You are now trying to establish a gap between settlements with part of an existing and long standing settlement. That cannot be right on any level.	Revised Green Gaps policy.	Action.
128	6.6.6 - 6.6.9	The historic plans show that there has been one continuous settlement between Linton Woods and Woodside since the 1930's. It appears a nonsense now to try to separate these settlements so that there is a supposed settlement demarcation between Kents Oak and Upper Ratley on the north side of Danes Road. There is one continuous settlement between Linton Woods, Daneswood and Woodside. The plan also appears to infer that Daneswood sits outside of either settlement which is rather odd given that it forms part of a continuous series of properties along the north side of Danes Road.	Revised Green Gaps policy.	Action.
129	6.6.6 - 6.6.9	<p>The garden at Daneswood spans the entire distance between the two boundaries and is within the curtilage of the property. This area is fully utilised as garden and has fencing around it. Furthermore, the areas within the areas demarcated for the settlement gaps contain long established formal driveways, which are clearly a form of settlement, or features associated with settlement. Daneswood is in itself developed land comprising of settlement meaning that it cannot possibly be considered suitable land for the type of 'gap' sought. The reality is there has always been a continuous settlement on the north side of Danes Road.</p> <p>We appreciate that there is a field on the south side of Danes Road opposite Daneswood (Gap 2). This is not residential land and appears to have never been subject to any form of development. Gap 3 is also not residential land. It seems therefore completely illogical to be trying to create a 'buffer zone' between settlements when there has never been one. Gap 1 is clearly formed of residential land and it is Daneswood's garden. You will appreciate that a garden has the necessary amenity of improving the quality of a house. Therefore, we object to our garden being demarcated as a 'gap' because it simply is not.</p> <p>Moreover, we do not think that planning can implement a change to the use of a garden for a house. This area remains our private garden. The garden is large and has a wooded area within it, but the garden is fenced with deer proof fencing around its entirety and is used for the amenity of the house. We therefore strongly object to our private enjoyment of our residential property being demarcated in anything other than a planning area as a garden to a private house. Para the 6.6.9 states that large gardens can be developed with outbuildings and recreational structures, which is correct and enhances the value and amenity of the house and plot. As long as these developments are within the permitted use of a garden, we object to the local authority interfering with our right to use our garden as we see fit.</p> <p>We note that there is a right of way that follows our southern driveway and then continues across our field. We do not believe that this fundamentally changes the nature of the land as a garden space.</p> <p>Please note that paragraph 6.6.9 of the statement mentions about the use of large gardens for high value properties. We would submit that this is the only property of this type that it is proposed that this restriction should apply to under the draft plan. No other property of any size would have a restriction applied to it. This planning process therefore interferes with our reasonable use of our garden.</p> <p>We therefore strongly object to paragraphs 6.6.6 to 6.6.9 of the neighbourhood plan. To be clear, this includes the settlement buffer between Daneswood and Woodside and Daneswood and Linton Woods. We also object to the settlement gaps through our garden.</p>	Revised Green Gaps policy.	Action.
130	Important Views, Views 2 and 5, pg. 19	Im extremely please to see all the Important Views within our beautiful parish mentioned. I fell very strongly about view 2 & 5 as these are very important 1st due to the view preserved but also they are the two most local and assessable to all villagers due to foot paths. Would really not want them developed. would not benefit the village at all. Keep the Important Views Of the Parish Green and not Developed.	Noted.	No Action.

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131		Can we ensure that sufficient consideration has been made to future climate change and the impact that this will have on sourcing and usage of traditional materials and palettes. as we move to the future current traditional styles and materials may not suit our climate needs of the future. Climate change may require drastic design changes to new housing stock to counteract weather, land, and drainage issues by locking into traditional set style down we could inadvertently create further localized issues. We should not be afraid to embrace modern design for future generations that is empathetic with the surroundings, factors in climate change, and enhances the countryside experience. ie Modern is not always bad.	Noted.	No Action.
132		New building stock may need to be a creative design and building is not necessarily a traditional style but enables a building to use modern materials. We have to move with the times as climate change may dictate that we use different materials I am a passionate believer in biodiversity and would like to see a modest property development that meets smaller dwellings' needs and that ensures sustainability in a modern manner.	Noted.	No Action.
133		We should consider further community workspace/drop-in workspace areas within the village to provide a centre that will encourage local working.	Incorporate as an aspiration.	Action.
134		We should consider community areas such veg gardens and look towards becoming a sustainable village in terms of our part towards food security in the future.	Incorporate as an aspiration.	Action.
135		Boundary Hedges should be no bigger than 8 feet between house boundaries and not be of ornamental or leylandii-type trees but native hedging. Where non-native hedges have been allowed to grow beyond 10 feet these need to be brought back to size.	Noted.	No Action.
136		Tree stock within should be preserved and carefully managed and increased where possible. We should avoid unnecessary tree loss due to the house owner's desire for pure personal aesthetics.	Noted.	No Action.
137		I have lived in the village for 30 years. I find myself in an oversized house for my needs and unable to downsize into a suitable property to remain in the village. One opportunity I do have, to not leave the village is to build a modest eco-sustainable property within my grounds so I can remain in the village and my community. I want to ensure that planning for this type of development remains possible and I am not forced out of my village.	Noted.	No Action.
138	Important Views, Views 2 and 5, pg. 19	I agree that views 2 & 5 in the Parish need to be protected. In the late Autumn, Winter and early Spring these view over the wider village are amazing the view points are also so easy to get to for all ages due to the village footpaths. View point 5 is very important as it also incorporates a green space just in front. Great views eas to access when walking to Hansards and the village hall. Please preserve this view and don't allow development to spoil it.	Noted.	No Action.
139		Add text: "The church community that worships All Saints Awbridge are committed to maintaining and sensitively refurbishing in an eco-friendly way the Grade 2 listed building and graveyards entrusted to our care. The church building is both a designated heritage asset and a wonderful community resource for which we will need to raise funds for investing over £150,000 in order to complete the repairs and recommended improvements identified in the recent Quinquennial Architect's Inspection. This will include the replacement of ageing audio-visual, heating and lighting systems that will enable significantly improved opportunities for wider community use that is now possible wit our new car park that avoids congestion in Church Lane. It is hoped that most of the work will be completed in time to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the church in 2026".	Action, as per comment.	Action.