

Summary of Representations

Consultee	Support / object / comment	Section / Policy / Paragraph.	Comments
Environment Agency	No Comment	General	Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on your Draft Neighbourhood Plan. We are a statutory consultee in the planning process providing advice to Local Authorities and developers on pre-application enquiries, planning applications, appeals and strategic plans. We aim to reduce flood risk, while protecting and enhancing the water environment. Based on the fact that there are no site allocations within this plan we have no detailed comments to make.
Southern Water	No Comment	General	Thank you for your email below, inviting Southern Water to comment on the Submission Houghton Neighbourhood Plan. I confirm we have reviewed the Plan and have no further comments to make. We look forward to being kept informed of the Plan's progress.
National Grid	No Comment	General	National Grid has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to Neighbourhood Plan consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document. An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Grid's electricity and gas transmission assets which include high voltage electricity assets and high-pressure gas pipelines. National Grid has identified that it has no record of such assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
National Highways	No Comment	General	We have reviewed the above consultation and have 'No Comments'.
Historic England	Support	HTN4	Thank you for consulting Historic England on the submission version of the Houghton Neighbourhood Plan. Historic England is the government's advisor on planning for the historic environment including advising on the conservation of heritage assets and champion good design in historic places. As such, our review of the plan is limited to those areas that fall within our remit and silence on other matters should not be treated as agreement or consent. I am pleased to confirm we have no objection to the plan policies or proposals. We wish to express particular support for policy HTN4 which we feel provides detail to guide design that is appropriate to the neighbourhood level, along with the guidance set out at Table 2: Key characteristics.
Historic England	Comment	HTN5	With regard to Policy HTN5 it would be helpful to clarify whether the buildings and features identified are considered non-designated heritage assets or features that make a positive contribution to the significance of the conservation area (a designated heritage asset). They may of course be both but it is important to consider that the NPPF gives greater weight to the conservation of designated heritage assets. Historic England Advice Note 1 provides advice on factors to consider in identifying features that contribute positively to conservation areas, whilst Historic England Advice Note 7 provides advice on the processes to identify non-designated heritage assets and create 'local lists'. The National Planning Practice Guidance has been clarified to confirm that non-designated heritage assets may be identified through the neighbourhood plan making process (Historic Environment Chapter, paragraph 40).
Historic England	Comment	HTN6 HTN7 and HTN8	Policies HTN6 HTN7 and HTN8. We note these policies are included under a section headed 'Natural Environment'. However, the policies are at least as relevant to cultural or historic environment as they are to the natural environment, which could cause confusion or oversight by decision makers applying them. To reflect the way these matters are interrelated we suggest combining the chapter headings for chapters 6 and 7 to a single chapter of "6. Built and Natural Environment".
Natural England	Comment	General	At this time, Natural England is not able to fully assess the potential impacts of this plan on statutory nature conservation sites or protected landscapes or, provide detailed advice in relation to this consultation. If you consider there are significant risks to statutory nature conservation sites or protected landscapes, please set out the specific areas on which you require advice. The lack of detailed advice from Natural England does not imply that there are no impacts on the natural environment. It is for the deciding authority to determine whether or not the plan is consistent with national and local environmental policies. Other bodies and individuals may provide information and advice on the impacts of the plan on the natural environment to assist the decision making process.
Rod & Fiona Evans	Support		We wish to strongly support the Houghton NDP. This is a very thorough and considered plan. We would like to particularly support the local green spaces which have been included in section 7.17-7.21. These are a very important part of the villages character now and hopefully, will remain so in the future. The fact that 87% of respondents in the village considered these to be very important speaks for itself.
Jeff Allen	Support	General	Speaking to lots of residents over a long period, everyone including myself are very keen to retain the remaining spaces in this village. People have commented how pleasing it is to see nature living, such as butterflies and the rarer birds like woodpeckers etc. For future generations villagers walking their children must have the same pleasures as we have had. No more building please, we have had more than our share.
Duncan and Lucy Bradshaw	Support	General	My wife Lucy and I have recently moved to Houghton and wanted to share our views on the neighbourhood development plan. For us this is an essential plan which will save the peace and tranquility of the green spaces around us, it will ensure all future development is in keeping with and enhances the unique look and feel of Houghton and it creates a real sense of place where the natural environment is protected and allowed to flourish. We fully support the plans and the details outlined within.
Mr Simon Everard	Support	LGS	<p>We moved to Houghton 2 years ago because it was a beautiful, quiet and unspoiled conservation Village with fantastic local green spaces. I am therefore writing to you in support of the Neighbourhood Development Plan that Houghton Parish Council has recently submitted for adoption.</p> <p>I support what it says in relation to the importance of protecting our local green spaces. I am very keen that the allotments should be preserved and that all the remaining local green spaces outlined on page 37 should be protected from any development. In terms of the character of the village and the importance of the conservation area, I support what the NDP states on pages 23-25. I think it is vital that we maintain the linear nature of the village and all the hedgerows and green spaces within it. This is a rural village and many of us are concerned that over development and the loss of hedgerows, trees and green spaces will inevitably lead to a creeping 'urbanisation' of the village and lose its distinctive character forever. I therefore support the points made in chapter 7 of the NDP (pages 26-29). I wholeheartedly also support the points made about preserving and not blocking the important views listed on page 31.</p> <p>We have no shop, school and no significant businesses in the village. There is no mains drainage or mains gas either. Any further development will inevitably lead to more traffic as households have to rely on cars to take children to school, commute to work, travel to Andover or Romsey for supermarkets, etc. The sustainability of any future building must, therefore, also be an important consideration (page 13 of the NDP). In summary, I support the adoption of the NDP and am particularly concerned to preserve and protect the remaining local green spaces in the village, and to see that any future building is sympathetic to the style of the older buildings in the village and enhances rather than detracts from the character of the village.</p>

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Dr Alistair Dougall	Support	Pages 14 and 15	I am writing to you in support of the Neighbourhood Development Plan that Houghton Parish Council has recently submitted for adoption. I fully support the Plan. In particular, I support what it says in relation to any development being sustainable, our community services, the size and style of any new development and the importance of protecting our local green spaces. We have very few community services in our village, but they are much valued, and I am keen that all should be done to preserve and protect them. Pages 14 and 15 of the Plan set out the services and I fully support what it says. Earlier this year, a planning application was submitted which proposed building four houses on the site of the village allotments. This application was, thankfully, refused, but it brought home to many of us how much we value having the allotments and our other local green spaces. I am very keen that the allotments should be preserved and that all the remaining local green spaces outlined on page 37 should be protected from any development.
Dr Alistair Dougall	Support	HTN3	Despite the fact that some houses have been allowed to be built in the village that have in my opinion neither reflected or enhanced the local character of existing houses, Houghton still has a distinctive character and I am anxious that this should be preserved. I think that it is very important that any new development should reflect and enhance the local character. Insufficient weight has been given to this by developers and planners in recent years. We have seen a large number of large properties built in recent years that are not sympathetic to the character of the village or neighbouring properties, and we certainly do not need any more large houses. If there is a housing need, it is for smaller houses. To that end, I fully support what the NDP says in pages 16-22.
Dr Alistair Dougall	Comment	pages 23-25	In terms of the character of the village and the importance of the conservation area, I support what the NDP states on pages 23-25. It is not, though, just the size and design of any development that concerns me and that can have an adverse impact on the character of the village. It is also important to maintain the landscape character of the village. To that end, I think it is vital that we maintain the linear nature of the village and the hedgerows and green spaces that we still have. This is a rural village and many of us are concerned that over development and the loss of hedgerows, trees and green spaces will inevitably lead to a creeping 'urbanisation' of the village and lose its distinctive character forever. I therefore support the points made in chapter 7 of the NDP (pages 26-29).
Dr Alistair Dougall	Support	views listed on page 31.	I wholeheartedly also support the points made about preserving and not blocking the important views listed on page 31.
Dr Alistair Dougall	Comment	LGS	I have already mentioned the importance of preserving the local green spaces that we have left in Houghton, but I want to return to that as a number of these have come under threat of development in recent months and we have already lost others to development in recent years. I cannot stress enough how horrified most of the village was at the loss, for example, of the old copse at the southern end of the village which was allowed to be destroyed for a large (5 bedroom?) house. The southern end of the village has already changed enormously by the building of a large number of houses in the past few years. The character of that part of the village has been changed and harmed and some green spaces have been lost. If the further loss of any green spaces is allowed, it will change the character of the village completely as well as further damaging biodiversity. To that end, I would be completely against any development on the local green spaces listed on page 37 (and shown in the plan on page 39). Each of them needs protecting.
Dr Alistair Dougall	Comment	General	It is important also to note that we have no shop or bakery or school in the village and we have a very limited bus service. We also have no mains drainage or gas in the village. Any further - and particularly any large-scale - development will inevitably lead to more traffic as homeowners are largely car reliant and tankers to empty septic tanks/cess pits or to deliver oil or gas. The traffic from, to and through the village is already significantly higher than it was just a few years ago. The sustainability of any future building must, therefore, also be an important consideration (page 13 of the NDP).
Dr Alistair Dougall	Support	General	In summary, I support the adoption of the NDP and am particularly concerned to preserve and protect the remaining local green spaces in the village, and to see that any future building is sympathetic to the style of the older buildings in the village and enhances rather than detracts from the character of the village.
Mrs J Moldon	Support		I am writing in support of the neighbourhood development plan which Houghton Parish Council has submitted for adoption. I fully support the Plan developed to maintain the character of this rural village. Recently some large houses have been built which does not reflect this character, and there has been loss of trees, hedges and open spaces. It is most important that these green spaces are protected from further development, page 37. If there is a housing need it is for smaller houses and I support what is said in pages 16-22. We have few community services in Houghton. There is no mains drainage, no gas, no shop, no doctors surgery and minimal bus services. Increasing the number of houses will continue to put pressure on the area with the inevitable rise in traffic. I fully support the adoption of the Neighbourhood Development Plan as I am concerned that it will be impossible to protect the remaining green spaces in this conservation area if the building development continues, which is so out of proportion to the size of this village. NDP paper 26-29.
Mrs E Sedgwick	Support	General	I should like to register my support for the Houghton draft NDP. It is a thoughtful document with regard to both the need to maintain the character of a rural village whilst recognising that change will need to happen as the needs of the community change. I was pleased to see in 1.10 that the rural nature of the village is recognised and any plans for further development are identified as needing to be small scale and replacement. The vision and objectives are realistic and recognise the needs of community as well as the natural and built environment. I was encouraged to read that any further development should be sustainable and small scale. I was also pleased to see detailed reference to preserving and supporting community services such as the allotments, village hall, pub etc. Keeping the character of a linear rural village which is clearly separated from its neighbours is very important in my view. The document sets out clearly how this can be achieved while being open to change. The protection of the various identified views also struck me as being extremely important both with regard to being able to enjoy the local area and also inform further plans, so that the atmosphere of the village is not impacted. The local green spaces are also identified with a view to preservation and again this contributes to the rural "feel" of the area as well as preventing overdevelopment.
Mrs H Hutchinson	Support	General	We fully approve to Neighbourhood development plan to protect our village from being overrun by development. One of the beautiful things that attracted us to this area was the countryside which we understood to be considered in a conservation area. The recently rejected plans on certain spaces are a credit to test valley council not proceeding with unnecessary developments where valued wildlife and countryside will be affected if developments were to proceed. Our countryside is valued for the wellbeing of the community surrounding us.

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Mr & Mrs Nicholas Cardoe	Object	LGS	<p>I refer to our comments and plans submitted to Houghton Parish Council Consultation Statement. Pages 31&32 ref NDP paragraph 7.19</p> <p>In essence within the suggested area LGS5 we own two parcels of land which are both fully enclosed by hedgerow and trees. One parcel is fully enclosed and directly behind a farmhouse and cannot be seen by the general public and a second fully enclosed parcel which is roadside but also enclosed by high hedgerow and trees. There is not public right of way.</p> <p>Below is a copy of our response: Our land (between Coopers Farmhouse and Ladymead Cottage) has two 2 areas (not specified clearly on plan 6): Area 1 = the enclosed field which has a gate to the road. Area 2 = the land directly behind our house. In terms of planning, our land is within a Conservation Area and outside the Village Settlement Area so it is already protected from development via other means. Making it an LGS would not confer any additional benefit to the community. As landowners, we positively embrace the site's conservation and bucolic merits and there is no proposal for development of this site. By giving this land a new designation, it may well ultimately affect the land's value. We feel that our land (between Coopers and Ladymead) when combined with the other areas (LGS5, 8 and 9) is extensive when compared to other nominated green areas in the village. We do not identify our land as being particularly characteristic or giving a specifically unique or significant view. A designation must be supported by clear evidence that the land is demonstrably special to the local community. The dictionary defines "special" as meaning "better, greater, or otherwise different from what is usual". This means that evidence must be produced to prove that proposed Local Green Space land is better, greater, or otherwise different from what is usual in the specific context of the site. We have not seen any evidence to this effect in relation to our land (Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306). The current list has already identified 18 important views in the village. This is a large number of "views" for a small village and we feel that our land is not justified as another required green space or as an important view (part of LGS5, View 13). View 13 of the land (Area 1) is very limited and is only seen from our gate. This gate is set back from the road, on private land away from public access (we believe the photo was taken off the pavement). There is no other public view of the field as it is hidden by a large, tall hedge. View 13 appears to be a late inclusion and not part of the original views exhibited in the last draft (Houghton consultation draft NDP v1.pdf) publicly available on the Houghton website up until the parish meeting on 30 March 2021. The land immediately to rear of our house (Coopers Farmhouse Area 2), which is not part of the field or View 13, does not form part of the street scene of the village. This land is surrounded by stock fencing, tall thick hedge and trees. It cannot be accessed or viewed by the local community from the public road or a footpath ie. any public access point. We strongly object to this area being included. There is insufficient clear evidence available as to what features of our land are being highlighted as an inclusion as a LGS. Amendments to draft Houghton NDP Government guidelines note (Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 37-021-20140306) that management of the land designated remains the responsibility of the landowner and these features have not been highlighted. (See original representation for map)</p>
Richard Priestley	Support	General	<p>I am writing to you concerning the Neighbour Development Plan that the Houghton Parish Council has submitted to you which I, whole heartedly, support. The village of Houghton is and always has been a rural village with the river Test running through. It has some important listed buildings and recent developments, especially to the south of the village, have had an adverse impact on the character of the village. There is a danger that 'creeping urbanisation' might damage the situation further as many new houses have been built thereby destroying some trees, hedgerows and, most importantly, open green spaces. It is these green spaces that are so fundamental to the 'village environment' and which have recently been preserved when two applications for new buildings were refused. With very few community assets in the village the allotments are of particular interest to the community and the request for building there was totally unsympathetic to the wishes of the village. We really do not need any more houses in Houghton having exceeded the target that was set. The current boundary settings for the village do go a long way to preserving the open spaces and reflect what is both desirable and in keeping with a long history of a typical rural English village. So I support the adoption of the NDP in order to preserve the character and charm of the village.</p>
Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	7.14 7.17	<p>As a resident and homeowner in the village of Houghton, I write in support of the Neighbourhood Development Plan submitted for adoption by Houghton Parish Council. My support for the plan is based on the vision it proposes of a future wherein the community of Houghton will see its distinctive and strong rural character protected for future generations to enjoy. The importance of protecting our local green spaces seems to me to be essential if this is to be achieved. As the NDP states: 7.14 Views of the rural landscape around Houghton and environs are a significant way of appreciating the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside. 7.17 National planning policy allows NDPs to designate land as Local Green Space in order to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities. In my opinion, the natural environment, hedgerows and green spaces, are as important a feature of Houghton's distinct 'ribbon' character as are the forty five listed buildings and several non-designated heritage assets that comprise Houghton's built environment: each is complementary to the other. Both need to be taken into careful account when planning and development are being debated. The open spaces within the village settlement form its dispersed character as farmland, fields, the allotments and small areas of woodland border the village road. The NDP focuses on conserving these natural spaces and I agree with their view.</p>
Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	Para 3.3	<p>3.3 Objectives for the natural environment • To protect, conserve and enhance landscape character. • To protect important views of the landscape and the settlement within it. • To protect Local Green Spaces of particular importance to the local community. There has been significant new building development within the village in recent years, and much energy has been spent in arguing a need to respect and reflect traditional building forms in terms of design, materials and scale; a key issue addressed in the NDP, and one I fully endorse. Unfortunately, as a consequence, a number of green spaces have already been irretrievably lost. Most shocking was the ripping out of an ancient copse, adjacent to the water meadows at the south end of the village, regardless of the loss of wildlife and biodiverse woodland, in order to accommodate an application to build a large contemporary home. This simply must not be allowed to happen. The village is encouraged by the recent refusal of a planning application to build four off plan houses on the village allotments as hopefully this signifies a significant step forward in understanding that there is not only an urgent need to protect a much- valued and enjoyed local resource open to all residents, but also, as I've previously stated, a responsibility to protect and preserve Houghton's distinctive and strong rural character before it's too late. I believe that the implementation of the NDP will help to achieve this.</p>
Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	Policy HTN2	<p>Policy HTN2 in the plan guards against the unnecessary loss of valued services, facilities, and open spaces in the village which enable many different forms of social interaction, support healthy lifestyles and which are well-used. I am most encouraged that the NDP sets these issues at the heart of its arguments, reminding us all how easily the built character of the village can be irrevocably altered or erased</p>

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Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	Para 3.1	3.1 Objectives for the community • To protect, retain and improve community services and facilities including open space and land and buildings used for sport and recreation and access to the countryside, to support health, social and cultural well-being. • To help meet housing requirements by encouraging a mix of type and size of properties in line with community needs. Houghton lies within a conservation area and has a range of heritage assets, sites of Special Scientific Interest and sites of importance for Nature Conservation, as shown on plans 3 and 4. It is surely imperative that the village acts to maintain and protect its natural environment as an invaluable part of its heritage by giving most careful consideration to the design, scope and location of any new development, as well as whether a local need is being met. Again, I agree with the proposals set out clearly in the NDP.
Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	Policy HTN4 /HTN5	Policy HTN4 /HTN5 to maintain the overall dispersed and linear form of the village ...be in keeping with the character of properties in the locality, including as to scale, height, materials and detailing.... existing boundary hedgerows should be maintained ...retain existing roadside grass verges... avoid undue adverse impacts on amenity, wildlife and dark skies from external lighting and signage.
Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	Policy HTN1	Sustainability and protecting the environment are key considerations of the NDP as shown in Policy HTN1 which addresses economic, social and environmental issues and how they should be pursued in mutually supportive ways. I fully support this.
Mrs Sheryl Williams	Support	General	My final but equally important point would be to emphasise that community services in the village are limited yet much valued where they exist. There is a very limited bus service. There are no longer shops, no school, no surgery, no mains drainage, no gas. There are lovely walks in pastoral landscapes but to access the essential services I have just listed, villagers use their cars or arrange home deliveries of goods and services. With increased development and growing numbers of residents comes a marked increase in traffic passing through the village. Traffic on the village road is already notably much busier now ; heavy, over- large vehicles seeking to access building sites, or turn around are a particular problem and definitely unsuited to our narrow roads as not only are they a hazard to lighter vehicles, cyclists or pedestrians, but damaging to grass verges and hedgerows. Houghton is a village known for its quiet charm, rural character and natural, unspoilt beauty. I support the adoption of the NDP as I strongly believe that we must protect these distinctive features for future generations to enjoy.
Mrs Sara Walker	Comment	General	I support the Houghton Neighbourhood Development Plan which has recently been submitted, particularly the desire to protect our green spaces, which are such an important part of the village, and also the desire for any future development in the village to be sustainable and appropriate to the surrounding landscape. Houghton has been subject to a considerable amount of development over the last few years which has already changed the character to the south of the village and valuable green space has already been lost for ever. There has been no thought of the long term infrastructure and the increased road usage related to these extra houses and the time has come to take control of how the village moves forward in future years. We need to protect the village's charm and character for future generations and resist developer's plans to turn Houghton into yet another urbanised and characterless village with no infrastructure to support it. There is only a minimal bus service, no shop/school/surgery, no mains drains and narrow roads with an already increased amount of traffic. The Houghton Neighbourhood Plan is well considered and contains sensible proposals which I fully support. The last couple of years has highlighted the importance of our surroundings for our well being and this will only increase over time. We need to protect this village for future generations.
Mr A Young	Support	General	Houghton is a small rural conservation village, much loved by residents and visitors alike. The village is characterised by a linear development interspersed by much loved green spaces. Please support the Houghton NDP in its entirety.
Mr Nick Butler	Object	Policy HTN8	The draft Houghton Neighbourhood Plan seeks to protect Local Green Space through Policy HTN8. However, this is a policy which is supported by weak or limited evidence. Although Neighbourhood Plans can designate Local Green Spaces, this must not be done in a manner which undermines national and local planning policy principles for sustainable development. The use of the power to allocate Local Green Spaces in the Houghton Neighbourhood Plan has not been exercised in the consistent and complimentary way anticipated in the NPPF. No sites for any form of development are proposed in the draft NP, despite Houghton being identified as a Rural Settlement with a defined settlement boundary in the current Test Valley Local Plan. Nor is any housing figure for the Neighbourhood Area set. Instead, the main function of the plan appears to be to eliminate sites which might perform a useful role in the future growth of the village, rather than properly identifying an area that is demonstrably special. This is not the reason why LGS designations were conceived. Furthermore, the wording of Policy HTN8 is ambiguous as to how the Policy will be applied in line with National Policy and policy within the adopted Local Plan. Policy HTN8 states that 'Development will be managed in a manner consistent with that applicable to designated Green Belt'. However, given that there is no green belt land within Test Valley, we consider this statement to be imprecise. It does not make it clear what policies the Neighbourhood Plan considers that Test Valley should apply to LGS sites.
Mr Nick Butler	Object	LGS 9	Site LGS9 – Land South of Clarendon Way. The rationale for allocating our client's site as Local Green Space is contained at Appendix C of the Neighbourhood Plan. This wording of Appendix C has been amended within the Regulation 16 Plan, but on the whole little has changed in the Parish Council's justification. It is unclear where these important views are enjoyed from in relation to the site. From the road it is largely screened by mature hedgerow which is on the whole higher than head height. The only view possible from the road is via the access gate (which is the view reproduced in the Neighbourhood Plan). The Consultation Statement response states that the "hedgerow boundary contributes to the rural character and setting of the village, and creates a natural break in frontage development along the village road." This contradicts with the rationale contained within Appendix C of the Neighbourhood Plan, which states that the site provides views towards the River Test from the village road. It is therefore unclear which the Council believes is important, the views which are largely non-existent from the village road, or the function of the hedgerow along the village road in creating a break in development. Policy HTN8 has been supported by weak or contradictory evidence. The identification of "Important Views" in the Neighbourhood Plan appears to be used to support the proposed LGS designations. There are two other proposed LGS sites where the draft Plan identifies Important Views under Policy HTN7 in similar circumstances – namely where views across the land are confined to access gates or breaks in hedgerow. It is clear therefore that the effect of Policy HTN7 is very different from proposed designation as Local Green Space. However, there is no "new" justification provided for the designation of LGS9 other than the importance of this single viewpoint, something which is proposed to be addressed under Policy HTN7 in any case. The following section sets out how why it is our contention that the allocation is not compliant with National Policy relating to Local Green Space allocations.
Tim and Liz Hammond	Support		We fully support the Plan. In particular, we support what it says in relation to any development being sustainable, our community services, the size and style of any new development and the importance of protecting our local green spaces. It is our view that there have been far too many new houses built in Houghton in recent years. If this is continued into the future, it would fundamentally change the character of our small village, destroying the many attractive rural aspects. At the current rate of development we risk losing a traditional, rural Hampshire village and becoming a dormitory town. We see a consistent picture of developers wanting to build large new executive homes which are squashed in together, to maximise profits, and are characterised by small gardens and large garages to house the cars that increasingly clog our narrow little country lanes. None of this is consistent with the character or architecture of our small rural community. It is vital that Houghton is protected from further inappropriate development.

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Tim and Liz Hammond	Support	LGS	We have very few community services in our village, but they are much valued, and we are keen that all should be done to preserve and protect them. Pages 14 and 15 of the Plan set out the services and we fully support what it says. Earlier this year, a planning application was submitted which proposed building four houses on the site of the village allotments. This application was, thankfully, refused, but it brought home to many of us how much we value having the allotments and our other local green spaces. We are very keen that the allotments should be preserved and that all the remaining local green spaces outlined on page 37 should be protected from any development.
Tim and Liz Hammond	Support	General	Despite the fact that some houses have been allowed to be built in the village that have in our opinion neither reflected or enhanced the local character of existing houses, Houghton still has a distinctive character, and we are anxious that this should be preserved. We think that it is very important that any new development should reflect and enhance the local character. Insufficient weight has been given to this by developers and planners in recent years.
Tim and Liz Hammond	Support	HTN5	In terms of the character of the village and the importance of the conservation area, we support what the NDP states on pages 23-25. It is not, though, just the size and design of any development that concerns me and that can have an adverse impact on the character of the village. It is also important to maintain the landscape character of the village. To that end, we think it is vital that we maintain the linear nature of the village and the hedgerows and green spaces that we still have. This is a rural village and many of us are concerned that over development and the loss of hedgerows, trees and green spaces will inevitably lead to a creeping 'urbanisation' of the village and lose its distinctive character forever. We therefore support the points made in chapter 7 of the NDP (pages 26-29). We wholeheartedly also support the points made about preserving and not blocking the important views listed on page 31.
Tim and Liz Hammond	Support	LGS	We have already mentioned the importance of preserving the local green spaces that we have left in Houghton, but we want to return to that as a number of these have come under threat of development in recent months and we have already lost others to development in recent years. We cannot stress enough how horrified most of the village was at the loss, for example, of the old copse at the southern end of the village which was allowed to be destroyed for a large house. The southern end of the village has already changed enormously by the building of a large number of houses in the past few years. The character of that part of the village has been changed and harmed and some green spaces have been lost. If the further loss of any green spaces is allowed, it will change the character of the village completely as well as further damaging biodiversity. To that end, we would be completely against any development on the local green spaces listed on page 37 (and shown in the plan on page 39). Each of them needs protecting.
Tim and Liz Hammond	Comment	General	It is important also to note that we have no shop or bakery or school in the village and we have a very limited bus service. We also have no mains drainage or gas in the village. Any further - and particularly any large-scale - development will inevitably lead to more traffic as homeowners are largely car reliant and tankers to empty septic tanks/cess pits or to deliver oil or gas. The traffic from, to and through the village is already significantly higher than it was just a few years ago. The sustainability of any future building must, therefore, also be an important consideration (page 13 of the NDP). In summary, we support the adoption of the NDP and am particularly concerned to preserve and protect the remaining local green spaces in the village, and to see that any future building is sympathetic to the style of the older buildings in the village and enhances rather than detracts from the character of the village.
Nicholas Smith	Comment	General	There has been a great deal of development in Houghton recently. The pressure for more development within the village is considerable. The Houghton Neighbourhood plan gives a reasoned response to over-development of the area highlighting the rural nature of its surroundings in particular the Test Valley, an area of outstanding natural beauty. Of particular note is that Houghton does not have either mains drainage or a gas main supply and there are no plans to install either. This means all development in the village carries an extra burden of needing road traffic to deliver Oil, Gas and to remove sewage waste. This increases the carbon footprint of all the houses contained within the neighbourhood plan and any new development. The run off to the drainage fields must be having an effect on the water table and ground water in the village, little of it being treated. Are all the new houses heated by air source, ground source or helped by solar power? I don't think so. While the solar farm within the neighbourhood plan is welcome it is not reducing the villages carbon footprint directly, this is being increased yearly due to more development. I hope the village will be protected in future to improve its impact on the environment rather than adversely affect it.
Terence Heffernan	Support	General	I fully support the contents of the Houghton Neighbourhood Development Plan. In particular, it is my wish to protect the green spaces in this village as we have lost too much of this already to housing development. This in a village that has, arguably, been overdeveloped given the lack of infrastructure and amenities in the village.
Georgina Cartwright	Support	HTN8	We would like to support the NDP of the designation of land as Local Green Spaces within the village of Houghton. It is of huge importance to residents who hold the spaces suggested in particular significance and is a key characteristic of the village. They break up the buildings and enhance the appearance of the conservation area and the views. LGS5, LGS8 and LGS9 we consider very important as they are outside settlement and are classed as countryside and should remain so. They are areas that have views down to the Test and are very important to the community whatever development takes place and should be maintained wherever possible.
Georgina Cartwright	Support	Views	We live in the village and are very keen to support the fact that the important views as set out in the HNP must be maintained. They preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the villages and all 18 listed need to be maintained without development blocking or having an adverse impact. We need to protect these views as many have views down to the River Test a site of special scientific interest. Plan 8A and Plan 8B views need to be protected and as a resident we feel very strongly about this as development takes place.
Kevin Barwick	Support	General	See full representation for comments.
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Plan 4	Houghton Lodge is a registered Historic Park and Garden and should be shown on Plan 4. TVBC can help with this map.
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	HTN 2	<i>Development involving the loss of the community services, facilities and recreational open space listed below and shown on Plan 5 . Add 'listed below' for clarity</i>
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Para 5.10	A scheme of up to 10 dwellings would not provide any AH unless on a rural exception site.
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Para 6.3	This could now refer to the National Design Model code, which has recently been published.
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Table 2	This section would benefit from photographs of the types of features indicated in the text. This will help with the clarity of the table, as it will be clear what is locally distinctive. What do 'sizeable gardens' mean in practice?

Summary of Representations

Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	HTN5	The second half of the policy would benefit from being in a separate policy for non-designated heritage assets. The policy only needs to identify the assets, and once identified the Local Plan heritage policies will apply
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Plan 6	A clearer map would be helpful
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	HTN6	<i>4.provides for any impacts to be satisfactorily mitigated by a landscaping scheme which is itself acceptable. Acceptable to whom?</i>
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	HTN9	<i>of biodiversity value.'</i> The majority of land will have a biodiversity value, whether it be a high or a low value . How will this be measured?
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Para 7.25	Bullet 1 - ' <i>of biodiversity value.'</i> The majority of land will have a biodiversity value, whether it be a high or a low value . How will this be measured? Bullet 6 - ' <u>designated and non designated heritage assets</u> ' Add designated and non designated to the text for clarity.
Test Valley Borough Council	Comment	Appendix B	This could be removed a it has been superseded by the national design model, which applicants should now take into account.