

Houghton Neighbourhood Plan

Regulation 16 Consultation Response Form

Please return your completed response form to Test Valley Borough Council via either:

- E-mail: Neighbourhoodplanning@testvalley.gov.uk **or**
- Post: Planning Policy, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.

The consultation starts on Monday 27 September and ends at Noon on Tuesday 9 November 2021

Please review the Data Protection section, and sign and date at the end of this response form.

Guidance Note:

This response form has two parts:

Part A – Contact Details and Future Notification

Please provide your personal contact details. If an agent is appointed to represent you, then they would need to provide their full contact details in addition to your Title, Name and Organisation (if applicable). This information is required to enable the Independent Examiner to contact you for further information if required during the examination of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Consultees can request to be notified once Test Valley Borough Council has decided to ‘make’ the Houghton Neighbourhood Plan, following the Independent Examination and referendum. This decision is the final statutory stage in adopting a Neighbourhood Plan. Please indicate whether or not you wish to be notified.

Part B – Your representation(s)

If you are responding using this form, please use a separate Part B form for each different part of the Plan that you respond to (for example, one form per document or per policy).

Please use the table to set out which document and which part of that document your comments relate to. If your comment is on a specific element please set this out in the table. Your comments should then be written in the box – please state if you have included any attachments as part of your comments.

Part A – Contact Details and Future Notification

Contact Details

	1. Personal Details (or Client Details if applicable)**	2. Agent's Details (if applicable)
Title*	Mr	
First name*	Kevin	
Last name*	Barwick	
Job title (where relevant)		
Organisation (where relevant)		
Address*	Houghton	
Postcode*	SO20 6LT	
Telephone Number		
Email Address		

*Please note: these sections must be completed.

**If an agent is appointed, please provide the client's Title, Name and Organisation.

Future Notification

Do you wish to be notified of Test Valley Borough Council's decision to 'make' the Houghton Neighbourhood Plan? (Please tick):

Yes:

No:

Part B – Representation

Please use a separate Part B form for each document/paragraph/policy that you are making representations about.

To which document does this representation relate?

(please **tick only one document per Response Form** and indicate the section / policy number / paragraph number to which your comments relate to)

Consultation Document	Tick	Section/ Policy/ Paragraph
Houghton Neighbourhood Plan	x	
Basic Conditions Statement		
Consultation Statement		
Designated Area Map		

Please write your comments in this box: (Continue on next page and attach an additional page at the back of your response if required)

I am writing to you in support of the Neighbourhood Development Plan that Houghton Parish Council has recently submitted for adoption. I do so based on my experience of living in this village since 2004. I am aware that my thoughts are shared by others who have already expressed their views well. So pulling on my review of the document, my experience of life in the village and drawing on the words of others, my reasons are best summarized as below:

1. 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 especially given that three orchards in recent years have been lost to developments with a fourth removing a green area.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. During my time living in Houghton some houses have been allowed to be built in the village, one being my own conversion of a bungalow and even with the number of new builds in recent years Houghton still has a distinctive character but 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. We have seen a number of large properties built in recent years that are not perhaps sympathetic to the character of the village yet there is a housing need, that is for smaller houses. To that end, I fully support what the NDP says in pages 16-22.

5. In terms of the character of the village and the importance of the conservation area and as others have commented upon I also support what the NDP states on pages 23-25. As others have commented before me it is not just the size and design of any development that concerns me 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). I wholeheartedly also support the points made about preserving and not blocking the important views listed on page 31.

6. To add to previous comments regarding the importance of preserving the local green spaces that we have left in Houghton I would like to add the following. These spaces have come under threat of development in recent years with the loss of copses/orchards the southern end of the village has now changed enormously by the building of a large number of houses in the past few years losing character as well as losing the green spaces. So 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.

7. We have not had a shop, bakery or school in the village since before I arrived in 2004 and we have a very limited bus service. We also have no mains drainage or gas in the village. Any further 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. I have observed that the traffic from, to and through the village is already significantly higher than it was when I moved here. With Cop26 very much in mind 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.

Data Protection

Data Protection: The comments you submit will be used to inform the Neighbourhood Plan process and will be held for the lifetime of the Neighbourhood Plan. Please note that your comments will **not** be treated as confidential and will be made available for public inspection. However, contact details will not be made public and will not be passed to external parties, apart from the Examiner, without permission. For further information on how we use your personal data please visit <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/gdpr>

Please tick the box to confirm you are happy for your comments to be used in this way Tick

Signed ...K BarwickDate ...8 November 2021.....

Please return the completed forms by: Email: Neighbourhoodplanning@testvalley.gov.uk Post: Neighbourhood Planning, Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ.	For more information: Telephone: 01264 368000 Website: www.testvalley.gov.uk .
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If you require any assistance in completing this form or require further information, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team.