

## CONSULTATION RESPONSES TO WIRKSWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

2.1 During the statutory publicity period for the Wirksworth Neighbourhood Plan a total of 22 representations were received from 16 individual and organisations. The representations made set out the following comments:

- Support for land identified for housing in the Wirksworth Neighbourhood Plan, ie land at Haarlem Mill; Stafford House; Chequers Farm, Millers Green.
- Proposals contained within the Wirksworth Neighbourhood Plan should ensure that they have fulfilled the obligations under the Public Sector Equalities Duty as set out in the Equality Act 2010
- It is important that the Neighbourhood Plan reflects national policy for sport and ensures that proposals comply with National Planning Policy.
- Reference to viability and open book provisions should be deleted from Policy NP5, and the phasing of Zero Carbon made mandatory
- Policy NP4 – Not convinced that second homes are a bad thing – in older properties they can retain architectural detail rather than having inappropriate extensions; concern also about manipulation of the system where second homes become primary residences.
- The support for shared spaces is a significant concern for those with visual impairments particularly because of the unique design features they incorporate. These design features are considered to significantly increase risk to those with visual impairments of pedestrian vehicular conflict.
- Support from Natural England for Policies NP1 & NP2 which aim to protect and improve the character of the settlement and the surrounding landscape and natural assets.
- Suggested that an additional sentence should be added to Policy NP16 to ensure that development proposals relating to renewable energy should not result in significant harm to landscape character, biodiversity or geodiversity interests.
- Account should be taken of the potential that the Wellspring Church project could have in terms of providing additional community facilities in the town.
- Proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan unlikely to have any impact upon the Strategic Road Network.
- Support the mixed use allocation for the land at Middleton Road however the vision for the site from the landowner not the same as set out in the Neighbourhood Plan – objection raised to Appendix 2 on the basis that it is overly restrictive by setting in essence a design code for the site – a preference is given for the submission of a comprehensive master plan at the appropriate time, rather than adherence to the requirements in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Concerns about impact on viability as a result of Policy NP4, and would not be acceptable to any bank or other lending institution.
- Objection to designation of land as Community Open Space at Middleton Road – land still in operational use by the landowner, and therefore premature to designate land in advance of knowing its future status.
- Strategic Land Use and Access plan submitted to illustrate development potential for Middleton Road site to be redeveloped – which runs contrary to the design guidance set out in the plan.
- Suggested amendment to Para4.3.5 to ensure that recent provision of hockey pitches is taken into account.
- Need for cycle route from Old Lane car park to Eco Centre to be shown on proposals map to assist with funding opportunities to implementation by DCC

- Plan supported – team has got as near as possible to what the town wants
- Welcome the intention to provide more homes that can be afforded and with good standards of insulation.