



## ENGLISH HERITAGE

EAST MIDLANDS

BY EMAIL: [amunro@wellingborough.gov.uk](mailto:amunro@wellingborough.gov.uk)

Our Ref: HD/P/5329/01

Your Ref:

Telephone: 01604 735450

For the attention of Alex Munro

28<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Dear Mr Munro,

### **NOTIFICATION OF PUBLICITY OF THE EARLS BARTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN UNDER REGULATION 16 OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2012**

Thank you for your letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 inviting representations on the final submission version of the Earls Barton Neighbourhood Plan along with all accompanying documentation required under Regulation 15.

English Heritage previously commented on the consultation draft of the Earls Barton neighbourhood Plan in our letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 to James Wilson of the Earls Barton Neighbourhood Plan Development Group. Our general comments remain as per our letter of 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

Turning to our specific comments regarding the plan, we note that the Objective on Design has been changed to read as follows:

*Protect, conserve and enhance the natural, built and historic environment, including key landscapes, natural resources, areas of natural habitat or nature conservation value and both designated and non-designated heritage assets and promote high quality design in all new developments.*

This change, in response to previous comments, is welcomed.

We note that the Environmental & Design Policy EB.D1 now has additional wording as follows:

*Demonstrably protect, conserve and enhance the setting and views of All Saints Church and its Saxon tower as well as other designated and non-designated heritage assets;*

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This change, in response to previous comments is welcomed. However, in line with our previous comments, we wish to see this section of the policy preceded by text as follows:

*demonstrably protect, conserve and enhance the local character of the surrounding area reinforcing local distinctiveness, drawing on the characterisation of the village and its environment set out in the Earls Barton Conservation Area Appraisal and the Northamptonshire Current Landscape Character Assessment wherever relevant;*

English Heritage notes, that in response to our previous comments, parts of the Conservation Area boundaries are shown on the additional Village Centre Inset at Fig 4. We wish to see the entirety of the Conservation Area boundaries shown on both Figs 3 & 4.

We note that Policy EB.GD1 and EB.D1 now both make reference to local character to provide a consistent terminology between policies in the plan in response to our previous comments. This change is welcomed.

At 6.4, the Justification for the Environmental & Design Policy now refers to the Local List of Heritage Assets Supplementary Planning Document adopted in October 2013 by the Borough Council of Wellingborough. This change, in response to our previous comments, is welcomed. There is a typo in the second sentence of the justification; *principle* is used, when *principal* should be used.

We note that the Justification now includes, within discussion of the character of Earls Barton, references to both designated and non-designated heritage assets. In the case of Earls Barton these include the listed buildings, scheduled monument and conservation area, and areas such as New Barton, which have a particular character resulting from the historic influence of the Boot and Shoe industry. These changes in response to our previous comments are welcomed.

The first paragraph of the Justification section should be amended to read:

*The Parish Council will explore the potential to add additional non-designated heritage assets in the plan area to the Local List of Heritage Assets, where appropriate, in collaboration with the Borough Council.*

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any of these comments.

Yours sincerely

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