How the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Conditions

Appendix B: How the Stonehouse Neighbourhood Plan meets the Basic Conditions having regard to National Policies and Advice Contained in Guidance Issued by the Secretary of State

Neighbourhood Plan Policies	National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance	How has the Neighbourhood Plan had regard to national policies and advice?
Policy AF1: Protecting community facilities	NPPF para. 28 *promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages* NPPF para. 70 *guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services*	Policy AF1 seeks to protect existing community facilities that have been identified during consultation as being highly valued by the community and essential if we are to remain sustainable.
Policy AF2: Additional community facilities	NPPF para. 70 *plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities* *ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable*	Policy AF2 supports the development of new and/or improved community facilities to ensure that local needs can be met in a suitable and sustainable manner.
Policy AF3: Town centre retail	NPPF Para 23 *Planning policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments*	Policy AF3 supports development that improves the attraction and vitality of the town centre in the interests of ensuring its long-term commercial viability.
Policy T1: Pedestrian routes	NPPF Para 75 *Planning policies should protect and enhance public rights of way and access* NPPF Para 69 *safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes* NPPF 109 *establishing coherent ecological networks*	Policy T1 protects existing rights of way and supports improvements to walking routes that provide safe, accessible and relevant routes that can also serve as wildlife corridors to extend the local ecological network.
Policy T2: New development and pedestrian links to the town centre	NPPF Para 35 *give priority to pedestrian and cycle movements* *create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians*	Policy T2 seeks to ensure that pedestrian routes, designed with accessibility and safety in mind and which link to the area's main community facilities are an integral part of new developments.
Policy T3: Design of off- road pedestrian and cycle routes	NPPF Para 35 *Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people.* *consider the needs of people with disabilities by all modes of transport*	Policy T3 requires any new or improved pedestrian or cycle route to be usable by people with mobility problems which will also serve as wildlife corridors.
Policy T4: Proximity of new development to facilities and services	NPPF Para 35 *Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people* NPPF Para 38 *Where practical, particularly within large-scale developments, key facilities such as primary schools and local shops should be located within walking distance of most properties*	Policy T4 emphasises the importance of encouraging residents and users of new developments not to travel by motor vehicle. It seeks to prioritise walking, cycling and public transport use in design considerations. It requires new community facilities and spaces to be located in easy walking distance.

Policy T5: Existing cycle routes	NPPF Para 35 *Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people* NPPF Para 75 *protect and enhance public rights of way and access*	Policy T5 resists the loss of existing cycle routes as a result of development. It also encourages the design of new routes that are usable by people with mobility problems, which will also serve as wildlife corridors.
Policy T6: New developments and cycle links to the town centre	NPPF Para 35 *create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians* *consider the needs of people with disabilities by all modes of transport*	Policy T6 requires new development to provide safe cycle routes where appropriate that link to the town centre and other community facilities. Off-road routes should be designed as wildlife corridors and be suitable for a range of users.
Policy T7: Cycle parking	NPPF Para 35 *Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people*	Policy T7 seeks to encourage cycling by protecting existing cycle parking facilities and encouraging the provision of new cycle parking areas at community facilities and transport nodes.
Policy T8: Improving key pedestrian and cycle links	NPPF Para 35 *Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people* NPPF Para 69*The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities*	Policy T8 specifies those pedestrian and cycling links that would help maximise the use of sustainable transport modes. It supports development to improve these links.
Policy T9: Railway stations	NPPF Para 35 *Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people*	Policy T9 supports improvements to the facilities at the Railway Station to encourage greater use of sustainable transport modes such as the railway.
Policy T10: Loss of parking capacity	NPPF Para 40 *seek to improve the quality of parking in town centres so that it is convenient, safe and secure*	Policy T10 protects the level of public car parking in the town centre in the interests of ensuring the town centre remains accessible and attractive.
Policy H1: Local needs housing (dwelling size and type)	NPPF Para 50 *plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community*	Policy H1 requires new housing development to respond to evidence of local need. It identifies the size and types of dwellings that are needed and would add to the variety of the housing stock.
Policy H2: Ease of access in new residential development	NPPF Para 69 *safe and accessible environments*	Policy H2 requires the layout of new housing development to accommodate the motor vehicle in a way that will maximise road safety and minimise congestion and visual intrusion.
Policy H3: Play areas in new residential developments	NPPF Para 69 *high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas* NPPF para. 70 *plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities*	Policy H3 emphasises the value of conveniently located local play areas on major new housing developments.
Policy EM1: Safeguarding Local Employment Sites (Use Classes B1, B2 and B8)	NPPF Para 21 *support existing business sectors, taking account of whether they are expanding or contracting* NPPF Para 28	Policy EM1 identifies and protects the key local employment areas in the area. It supports development on these sites that will improve business prospects and/or

	support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well-designed new buildings	increase the availability of employment opportunities.
Policy EM2: Resisting loss of employment space outside of designated employment sites	NPPF Para 28 *support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas* NPPF Para 37 *aim for a balance of land uses within their area so that people can be encouraged to minimise journey lengths for employment*	Policy EM2 protects employment space outside of the designated employment areas in the interests of maintaining local services and employment opportunities.
Policy EM3: Supporting small and medium sized business	NPPF Para 21 *…..plan positively for the location, promotion and expansion of clusters or networks of knowledge driven, creative or high technology industries* NPPF Para 28 *support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas*	Policy EM3 supports the growth of new local businesses throughout the area if they do not have an adverse effect on the local neighbourhood.
Policy EM4: Connectivity and infrastructure	NPPF Para 20 *plan proactively to meet the development needs of business and support an economy fit for the 21st century* NPPF Para 43 *support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband*	Policy EM4 supports the continuing development of digital communication so that the whole community gains maximum benefit.
Policy ENV1: Maintaining and protecting the natural environment	NPPF Para 109 *minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible* NPPF Para 117 *promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations*	Policy ENV1 requires development proposals to recognise the possible impact on the local ecology and ensure that the impact it has is minimised and wherever possible enhanced.
Policy ENV2: Green infrastructure network	NPPF Para 61 *planning policies and decisions should address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment* NPPF Para 109 *establishing coherent ecological networks*	Policy ENV2 identifies the green and blue infrastructure of the area and encourage development proposals to recognise its value and help maintain and/or enhance it.
Policy ENV3: Local Green Space	NPPF para. 70 *guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services* NPPF para. 76 *identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them*	Policy ENV3 identifies those local green spaces that meet the criteria and which the community has agreed, through consultation, are important and worthy of protection.
Policy ENV4: Protecting the heritage assets of Stonehouse	NPPF Para 126 *a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment*	Policy ENV4 puts in place a policy to ensure that a heritage asset is treated with due respect and any development proposals conform to established local guidelines.

Policy ENV5: Protecting and Enhancing the Stroudwater Canal	NPPF Para 28 *support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside* NPPF Para 109 *minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible*	Policy ENV5 supports development that will improve the commercial and leisure use of the Stroudwater Canal if it does not adversely affect the ecological value of the Canal or land alongside it.
Policy ENV6: Protecting views and vistas	NPPF Para 58 *develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area* NPPF Para 64 *Permission should be refused for development of poor design that fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions.* NPPF Para 109 *protecting and enhancing valued landscapes*	Policy ENV6 identifies those views and vistas, which contribute significantly to the character of the area, that should be not be adversely affected by new development.
Policy ENV7: High quality design	NPPF Para 57 *plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development* NPPF Para 58 *develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area* NPPF Para 61 *planning policies and decisions should address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment.*	Policy ENV7 emphasises the importance of design. It requires development proposals to be guided by the locally adopted design guides and statements. It also sets several design criteria that development proposals should take into account.
Policy ENV8: Provision of outdoor amenity space in new developments	NPPF Para 57 *plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development, including individual buildings, public and private spaces and wider area development schemes* NPPF Para 58 *develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area*	Policy ENV8 requires new residential development to provide adequate space including private gardens, storage and amenity areas. It also sets several design criteria that development proposals should take into account.
Policy ENV9: Allotments	NPPF Para 69 *facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities* NPPF Para 70 *plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities*	Policy ENV9 supports the provision of allotments and community horticulture areas on suitable sites. In the interests of furthering a healthy, inclusive community.

NPPG Paragraph No. & Reference	NP Guidance from DCLG	How we have responded:
002 Reference ID: 41-002-20140306	*Local communities can choose to: set planning policies through a neighbourhood plan that is used in determining planning applications.*	Stonehouse Town Council decided to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan in July 2013. It wished to put in place local planning policies to address economic issues such as employment opportunities, housing need and infrastructure requirements (facilities and services) to meet the future needs of the community. Design and character of development and its relationship with are also important.
003 Reference ID: 41-003-20140306	*Neighbourhood planning provides the opportunity for communities to set out a positive vision for how they want their community to develop over the next ten, fifteen, twenty years in ways that meet identified local need and make sense for local people. They can put in place planning policies that will help deliver that vision or grant planning permission for the development they want to see.*	The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group has followed a sequential process that considered the local evidence of issues, needs and opportunities before developing an overall community vision for the future of Stonehouse. This vison has been translated into a set of aims and objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan.
047 Reference ID: 41-047-20140306	*A qualifying body should be inclusive and open in the preparation of its neighbourhood plan and ensure that the wider community:* • *is kept fully informed of what is being proposed* • *is able to make their views known throughout the process* • *has opportunities to be actively involved in shaping the emerging neighbourhood plan* • *is made aware of how their views have informed the draft neighbourhood plan*	The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group has carried out a series of consultations with the community to ensure that local people have been given every opportunity to participate in the neighbourhood planning process. A website has kept people informed and updates included in the Town Council's quarterly newsletter hand delivered to all households in Parish. For further details see Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation Statement.
051 Reference ID: 41-051-20150209	*a draft neighbourhood plan proposal must be assessed to determine whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects.*	A screening opinion was requested from Stroud DC, which issued a statement on 1st June 2016 and a determination on 18 November 2016 which concluded that the Plan was unlikely to have any significant effects on the environment, and therefore a Strategic Environmental Assessment was not required nor any requirement for further assessment under the Habitat Regulations