

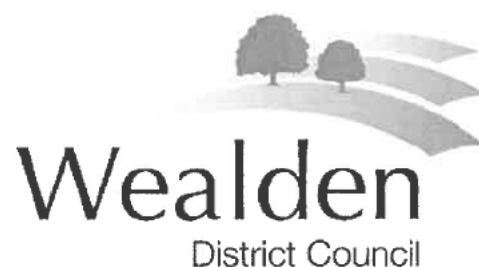
WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation

Consultation Response Form

Consultation Period

25 September 2023 – 13 November 2023



Introduction

Wealden District Council is publishing the Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan for consultation in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The purpose of this consultation response form is for you to make your comments on the draft Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan.

Under Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), we are required to undertake a minimum six week consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan. This will be the last opportunity to comment on the Plan before it is submitted for independent examination. The consultation on the Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan is open between **9am on Monday 25th September 2023 and 5pm on Monday 13th November 2023**.

The documents submitted by Ninfield Parish Council include:

- Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan 2022-2039. Submission Draft Plan: Regulation 16 (August 2023).
- Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan Appendices 2022-2039
- Basic Conditions Statement and Equalities Impact Assessment. Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan 2022-2039. Consultation Statement (August 2023).
- Sustainability Appraisal of Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan 2022-2039. Local Green Spaces Report (January 2023).
- Design Guide for Ninfield. (January 2023).
- Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan. Village Character Assessment and Heritage (Spring 2021).
- A Landscape Study of Ninfield (February 2023).
- Ninfield Neighbourhood Development Plan. Results of Survey Questionnaire-March-April 2021.
- Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2039. Draft State of the Parish Report (August 2022).
- Ninfield Parish Map.
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report. Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Regulation 14) (May 2022).
- Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report. Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Regulation 14) (May 2022).

Viewing the Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting documents are available to view on the following website;

<https://consult.wealden.gov.uk/kse>

Printed copies of the Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting documents can be viewed at the following locations:

- The Ninfield Stores, Lower Street, Ninfield, TN33 9EA (Open Monday to Saturday 7am-6pm, Sunday 7am- 2pm).
- The Community Café, Methodist Hall, Church Lane, Ninfield, TN33 9JW (Every Friday Morning 10am to 11.30am).
- Sparke Pavilion, The Recreation Ground, Church Lane, Ninfield, TN33 9JW (By appointment with the Parish Clerk clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk or 07725 843505).
- Methodist Hall, Church Lane, Ninfield, TN33 9JW (Saturday 7th October 2pm-5pm).
- The Village Market Memorial Hall, Bexhill Road, Ninfield, TN33 9EE (Saturday 21st October 9.30am- 12pm).
- Wealden District Council, Council Offices, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX (Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8.30am-5pm, Wednesday 9am -5pm).

How to Comment on the Neighbourhood Plan

- By post: print and complete this form and send it to Planning Policy, Wealden District Council, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX
- By email: complete this form and send it to Nplans@wealden.gov.uk

You can make comments on any of the information submitted for the consultation. Please make it clear which document you are commenting upon alongside the paragraph/page number. Your comments should address whether the Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions. These are outlined in the Regulation 16 Guidance Notes.

Queries

If you have any queries relating to the consultation or submitting your comments, please contact the Planning Policy Team on (01892 602008) or email Nplans@wealden.gov.uk

If you or somebody you know, would like this form in large print, braille, audio tape/CD or in another language, please let us know.

1. Personal Details

For any comments to be considered you must at least provide your name and address (this can be an email address). Representations cannot be treated in confidence and copies of all representations, along with your name or organisation, will be made publicly available on the Council's website (in due course) and sent to the Examiner. However, the Council will not publish your personal contact information such as telephone numbers, email or private addresses. By submitting your views you confirm your consent to the above and that you accept full responsibility for your comments.

Personal Details	Answer
Title	Mr
First Name	John
Last Name	McSweeney
Job Title and Organisation (if relevant)	Bloomfields Chartered Town Planners
Address	
Postcode	
Contact telephone number	
Email address	
Interest in the area (for example are you a resident, business owner or do you work in the proposed neighbourhood area)	Agent on behalf of land owner.

2. Comments on the Neighbourhood Plan

Please use the space below to tell us your comments on the Neighbourhood Plan and / or supporting documents. It would be helpful if you can provide reasons and evidence for your comments. Please use additional sheets if necessary.

We submit this formal response to the Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan (NNP) Regulation 16 Consultation, specifically in connection with land within Ms. M Godden's ownership, which remains drafted to form part of Local Green Space allocation site LG3, labeled as 'Church Wood and Fields'. The land within Ms Godden's ownership is shown in APPENDIX 1 to this response.

It is important to note that Ms Godden was unaware that the Parish Council had progressed the NNP to Regulation 16 stage and has had no dialogue with or been contacted by the Parish Council following the previous representations lodged in regard to the NNP Regulation 14 Consultation.

We remain of the view that the land within Ms Godden's ownership does not fulfil the relevant criteria for inclusion as a Local Green Space (as part of site LG3) and in this regard we attach at APPENDIX 2, the initial response in full (Regulation 14 Consultation). However, we wish to comment in further detail below as to why the land within Ms Godden's ownership specially should be omitted from LG3.

It is acknowledged that Church Wood which forms part of the wider LG3 site, is ancient woodland and in this regard is a valuable natural asset. Furthermore, that the adjoining fields (Upper and Lower Church Fields) between the woodland and public right of way (NIN/4/1) and St Mary the Virgin Church, which have well-used historic routes adjacent to and/or through, help to form part of the setting to both the woodland and the listed Church, as well as providing longer landscape views towards the South Down. Consequently, their inclusion as Local Green Space has merit. However, the land within Ms Godden's ownership is private agricultural land, which is, and will continue to be used for agricultural practices. Moreover, this private agricultural land has no direct public access, and in this regard we cannot understand why this has been taken forward as part of site allocation LG3 by the Parish Council.

Reference has been made to other larger LGS in some other NDPs, (for example, a 50 hectare LGS in nearby Crowhurst). Whilst this is noted, the parcel of land in the Crowhurst NDP is a nature reserve and consequently has high richness of wildlife and the full inclusion of the Nature Reserve is logical. The same level of wildlife richness cannot be attributed to Ms Godden's land or the wider draft LG3 site.

In light of the above comments, and the initial Regulation 14 response, the land specifically within Ms Godden's ownership does not fulfil any of the relevant criteria for inclusion as Local Open Space and the land indicated within APPENDIX 1 should be omitted from LG3.

3. Examination Participation (please tick if appropriate)

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I would like to attend the examination in public, should it be deemed necessary by the appointed examiner.

4. Notification of Adoption (please tick if appropriate)

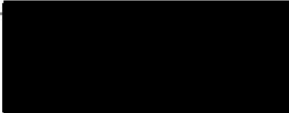
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I would like to be notified of the local planning authority's decision on the adoption of the Ninfield Neighbourhood Plan (under Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012(as amended)

Data Protection Statement

Wealden District Council is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and will only use and store your personal data in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2021 and Data Protection Act 2018. We are required to collect and hold your personal information as part of the consultation process in formulating the Neighbourhood Plan. All comments will be publicly available and identifiable by name and (where applicable) organisation. We will not disclose your personal data to any third parties, unless we need to do so to provide a service to you or we are legally required to do so. We may share your personal data with other Council departments in order to provide the service you have requested.

Our Privacy Policy sets out how we collect, use and securely hold your data and can be viewed at: <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/transparency-spending-and-performance/data-protection/privacy-policy/> and our planning policy privacy notice at: <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/transparency-spending-and-performance/data-protection/privacy-policy/>

Signature		31.10.2023 Date
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Please print name if submitting electronically