

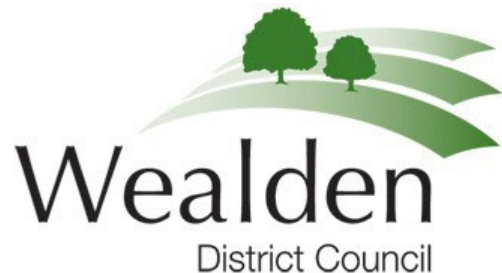
WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

Horam Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation

Consultation Response Form

Consultation Period

11 December 2023 – 6 February 2024



Introduction

Wealden District Council is publishing the Horam 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 Horam 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 Horam Neighbourhood Plan is open between **9am on Monday 11 December 2023 and 5pm on Tuesday 6 February 2024.**

The documents submitted by Horam Parish Council include:

- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Submission Version (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Basic Conditions Statement (Including Area Statement) (September 2023).
- Addendum to Basic Conditions Statement (November 2023)
- Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report Horam Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Regulation 14) (May 2023).
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Opinion Horam Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Regulation 14) (May 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Consultation Statement Volume 1: Summary (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Consultation Statement Volume 2: Initial Consultation (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Consultation Statement Volume 3: Consultation on Objectives (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Consultation Statement Volume 4: Policy Ideas (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Consultation Statement Volume 5a: Regulation 14 (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Consultation Statement Volume 5b: Appendix to Regulation 14 Consultation Report (WDC Comments and Response) (September 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan. Addendum to Consultation Statement: Consultees (November 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan. Addendum to Consultation Statement: Volume 5a (November 2023).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan 2023-2040. Equalities Impact Assessment (August 2023).
- Background Paper- Respecting and retaining the separate identities of settlements in Horam Parish (September 2023).
- Background Paper- Approach to identifying and protecting local heritage assets (September 2023).
- Background Paper- Landscape Character (September 2023).

- Background Paper- Important Views (September 2023).
- Background Paper- Water Management and Flood Risk (September 2023).
- Horam Parish Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidelines (September 2023).
- Horam Parish: Historic Overview, Character and Issues Statement (November 2021) v6.
- Horam Housing Needs Assessment (October 2022).
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan Housing Needs Assessment- Supplementary Note Regarding Housing Mix.
- Horam Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Assessment (September 2023).

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:

- Horam Parish Council, The Horam Centre, 3 Bank Buildings, High Street, Horam, TN21 0EH. Office open Tuesday 9.30am-12.30pm, Wednesday 9.30am-12.30pm, Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm, Friday 10am-1pm.
(office closed from 20 December up to and including 1 January 2024)
- Wealden District Council, Council Offices, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX. Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8.30am-5pm, Wednesday 9am -5pm.
(office closed from 25 December up to and including 1 January 2024).

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 your 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 on the Horam Neighbourhood Plan, you confirm your consent to the above and that you accept full responsibility for your comments.

Personal Details	Answer
Title	Mr
First Name	David
Last Name	Marlow
Job Title and Organisation (if relevant)	
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)	

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.

I am writing in support of the submitted Horam Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) as a whole.

I wish to make particular representations on the following:

Re. Vision and Objectives

I agree that these represent a well-balanced, community-led framework for guiding the policy scope and content of the HNP.

Re. Policy HCD1

I agree with the importance given to a landscape-led approach to development and change within the parish.

In particular, I agree with furthering the objectives of the AONB (now referred to as a 'National Landscape'), including through the careful control of development in its setting, which exhibits many of the same landscape characteristics as the AONB (as recognised by the quoted Landscape Character Assessments) even though not within the formally-designated area.

Re. Policy HCD2

Of course, it is right that resisting coalescence can be a legitimate objective of land use policy. Also, while the coalescence of settlements may not be a district-wide issue, it has clearly become one in recent years for Horam Parish.

Therefore, I agree both that the policy is an appropriate policy response to the importance residents attach to maintaining the distinct identities of the adjacent settlements and that it is necessary to give expression to this specific issue.

I note that, where circumstances warrant it, other neighbourhood plans also include similar policies. Some are included in the CPRE Guidance document 'What's special to you: Landscape Issues In Your Neighbourhood Plan'. These are presented in the context of addressing (where appropriate) the 'avoidance of coalescence between settlements'. (see <https://www.cpre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/CPREZLandscapeZZNeighbourhoodZPlanningZtextZonly.pdf>).

Re. Policy HCD3

The fairly tight valley through which the Waldron Ghyll flows is important not only to the topographical and visual setting of the parish's villages and hamlets, but as a landscape feature in itself.

I support the policy accordingly, as well as the emphasis given to both landscape and flood risk management within it.

Re. Policy HCD4

While there are innumerable views within the parish, the views highlighted show the main aspects that, together, well depict the landscape (including townscape) qualities of the parish.

Therefore, I support the policy, and note that it is flexibly drafted.

Re. Policy HCD5

I regard the parish-specific landscape and design assessment work undertaken by AECOM as a sound basis for the relevant policies in the HNP, as well as a suite of Design Guidelines in themselves.

I support the policy.

Re. Policy HHD1 and HHD2

These policies draw heavily on a bespoke housing need study carried out by AECOM's specialist team, and having regard to broader, district-wide work. It is evident that the local household characteristics are somewhat different from the district as a whole and justify slightly different priorities in terms of housing mix and approach to affordable housing.

I support these policies.

Re. Policy HCE4

The HNP identifies a number of areas to be designated as Local Green Spaces (LGS). For the most part, these are areas with an established recreation function, and management. The LGS designation, insofar as it is necessary to ensure their maintenance, can be presumed.

Two other areas are seen as being privately owned, albeit one is bisected by a popular public footpath and the other is also, if informally, crossed to access the Recreation Ground. However, I note that the PPG does not require that land is in public ownership or have public access, if they are valued in other ways. There appears to be strong reasons for these insofar as:

1) for the 'Field east of Rosemead Place' - Site (o), this is critical to the setting of Horam and Marle Green, highly visible (being elevated ground), the rurality of which is especially appreciated by people walking along the public footpath to and across the site, as well as from the AONB and from Laundry Lane. I realise that development of this site has been refused planning permission and an appeal is pending. At this point, it is considered that the weight should be given to the evidence (including public opinion) underpinning its retention as an important green space and it be retained in the HNP.

2) for 'Land adjoining the Village Hall/Recreation Ground, I note that although this site is not managed, it was set aside as 'informal open space' as part of the former Merrydown site redevelopment. Management was required by the permission (ref. WD/2011/2817/MAJ. It should be retained for the benefit of that development and, more importantly, for the benefit of the setting of the Recreation Ground and as a green break along the A267.

Finally, I note that, while it appears that the above sites are being considered for development, they are not essential for providing enough housing in the district, nor would they contribute to the sustainable development in the parish.

3. Examination Participation (please tick if appropriate)

☒

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)

☒

I would like to be notified of the local planning authority's decision on the adoption of the Horam 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-andperformance/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	David Marlow	6/2-24 Date
-----------	--------------	----------------

Please print name if submitting electronically