

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF THE BURTON JOYCE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:
Christopher Collison BA(Hons) MBA MRTPI MIED MCFI IHBC

To Burton Joyce Parish Council and Gedling Borough Council by email

Dated 24 September 2018

Dear All

Burton Joyce Neighbourhood Development Plan Independent Examination

Further to my initial statement of 23 August 2018 I am writing to provide an update of my progress in undertaking the Independent Examination of the Burton Joyce Neighbourhood Development Plan. I should be grateful if the Borough Council could publish this update on its website.

1. Regulation 16 Representations

The Borough Council has sent me a copy of all representations received before the publicity period closed at 5.00pm on 14 September 2018. In line with good practice the Borough Council has published the representations received on its website.

I provided an opportunity for Burton Joyce Parish Council to comment on the representations of other parties. I placed no obligation on the Parish Council to offer any comments but this opportunity can prove helpful where representations of other parties include matters that have not been raised earlier in the plan preparation process. The Parish Council should submit any comments to me no later than 28 September 2018. Any Parish Council comments should be published on the Borough Council website. Parish Council comments must not include new evidence.

2. Independence of the Examiner

From my review of the Plan documents and the Regulation 16 representations it would appear that there are no conflicts of interest that would call into question my independent status. I will keep that matter under review throughout the examination.

3. Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening

In response to a point of clarification raised in my initial statement of 23 August 2018 I have today received from the Borough Council an Addendum to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report dated 24 September 2018. The report concludes "It is therefore concluded, in consultation with Natural England, that this addendum should be published confirming that the HRA Screening should not be reviewed and that the

conclusions of the HRA Screening are indicative. The reasons for this conclusion are set out in section 2 and section 3 of this addendum”.

I considered providing a six-week consultation period to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the Addendum to the SEA and HRA Screening Report but do not consider this necessary. I reached this conclusion on the basis of the contents of the SEA and HRA Screening Report dated 3 May 2018; and the contents of the Addendum to the SEA and HRA Screening Report including the Borough Council response, proposed action, and consultation and conclusion. I had also noted the Borough Council published on its website my initial statement of 23 August 2018 in which I set out my request for clarification regarding HRA, and the Borough Council has today stated an intention to publish the Addendum Screening Report on its website. I am also making it clear now that interested parties may comment on the Addendum Screening Report by sending any observations to the Borough Council no later than 9 October 2018, for onward transmission to me. Any interested party that requires a longer period to comment on the Addendum Screening Report should make such request in writing to the Borough Council no later than 9 October 2018 stating their reasons for the request.

4. Confidential draft report for fact checking

When outstanding matters are concluded I intend to send a confidential draft of my report to Gedling Borough Council and Burton Joyce Parish Council to allow an opportunity to check whether there are any factual errors. This will not be an opportunity for any further representations to be made. The draft report must remain confidential to the Borough and Parish Councils as it may be subject to correction. I should be grateful if both the Parish Council and the Borough Council could confirm they wish to take up this opportunity to undertake a fact check of my draft report on the terms stated.

5. Procedural matters

I would be pleased to address any questions relating to the examination process that Gedling Borough Council or Burton Joyce Parish Council may have.

I would be grateful if both Gedling Borough Council and Burton Joyce Parish Council could confirm receipt of this email.

Regards

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