

Comments

Main Modifications to the Local Plan (18/02/19 to 01/04/19)

Comment by	Beachamwell Parish Council (Mr Philip Spencer - 1207000)
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Response Date	29/03/19 18:06
Consultation Point	Policy HOU 05 - Small Villages and Hamlets Outside of Settlement Boundaries (View)
Status	Processed
Submission Type	Web
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To which proposed Main Modification does your representation relate? Please state the relevant reference number that you are commenting on from the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications e.g. MM1

Policy HOU 05, Paragraphs 2 and 3

**Do you consider the proposed modification is:
(please mark the appropriate box)**

If you consider the proposed Main Modification to be UNSOUND, please identify which test of soundness your representation relates to? . Is it consistent with national policy?

Please give us details as to why you think the Local Plan with proposed modifications is NOT legally compliant or sound?

Paragraph 2 The amendment is vague and imprecise, whereas the previous version had the merit of giving clear guidance, making it clear that any development should be of small scale only. The proposed wording is contrary to Paragraph 16(d) of the National Planning Policy Framework, which says that Local Plans "should contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous, so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals."

Paragraph 3 Whilst making planning consent dependent on the local parish council is probably a step too far in passing over control of development from the local planning authority, nevertheless the principle of local community involvement in planning decisions is a good one. It is a mistake to remove this aspect of community approval and benefit completely from HOU 05. especially when Policy HOU 04, which deals with larger, but still rural, village settlements, includes exactly this provision, as detailed at Paragraphs 3.22 and 3.23 where applicants for planning permission have to demonstrate community benefit and local support for their plans. It is inconsistent and unfair not to give the same benefit via HOU 05 to communities living in smaller villages.

Please set out what changes you consider necessary to make the proposed main modifications to the Local Plan legally compliant or sound.

Would you like to be notified of future stages of the Local Plan? No

How would you like to be notified?