

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY GROUP UPDATE

October 2020

The Consultation period has closed, and comments are posted on HDCs web site.

We are typically not asked or given the opportunity to respond.

HDC have appointed an Examiner who has undertaken an initial review of our plan and determined that it is fit to proceed to full examination. He has however asked a number of questions. This included our response to 95 comments from a combination of Gladman's, Deloitte and HDC. We had two weeks to respond.

This was a huge amount of unexpected work in a very short time frame. I would like to thank John, Martin, Allan and Mark Ward for their support in completing this, I believe to a very high standard.

The Examiner is now undertaking his review. The outcome of this is either:

Not made i.e. There are very fundamental issues with the Plan, and it is not deemed suitable, or

Approved subject to our making changes. These can often run to dozens of changes.

In order to reflect the views of council and residents we have pushed the plan to the limits of what is acceptable so it will be interesting to see what happens!!!

Further Update

Since writing the above we have received the Examiners Fact Check report which includes the following management summary:

Main Findings - Executive Summary

From my examination of the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan (the Plan) and its supporting documentation including the representations made, I have concluded that subject to the policy modifications set out in this report, the Plan meets the Basic Conditions.

I have also concluded that:

- *The Plan has been prepared and submitted for examination by a qualifying body – Buckden Parish Council;*
- *The Plan has been prepared for an area properly designated – the Buckden Neighbourhood Area as shown on the map on Page 9 of the Plan;*
- *The Plan specifies the period to which it is to take effect – 2020 - 2036; and*
- *The policies relate to the development and use of land for a designated neighbourhood area.*

I recommend that the Plan, once modified, proceeds to referendum on the basis that it has met all the relevant legal requirements.

I have considered whether the referendum area should extend beyond the designated area to which the Plan relates and have concluded that it should not.

We are currently reviewing the modifications he has requested although we cannot challenge them. However overall this is very good news!!!!