



Historic England

Planning Policy
Horsham District Council
Parkside
Chart Way
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 1RL

Our ref: PL00620519

Telephone: 01483 252028

neighbourhood.planning@horsham.gov.uk
by email only

18th May 2020

To whom it may concern:

Bramber Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version Consultation

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the submission version of the Bramber Neighbourhood Plan. Historic England is the government's adviser on planning for the historic environment, including the conservation of heritage assets and champion good design in historic places. As such we have limited our comment on the plan to those areas that fall within our remit and silence on other matters should not be taken as agreement. We hope our comments are of assistance to the examiner.

I am happy to confirm that, without prejudice to comments we may make on individual planning applications, we do not have any in-principle objections to the plan's proposals. As such, our comments are either focused on policies or elements that we wish to express our particular support for or areas where we feel that amendments to policy wording could better help to secure the steering group's objectives.

We are pleased to see that some of the changes we recommended in our Regulation 14 response have been incorporated into the submission plan. We welcome the reference in the Vision to heritage assets being 'conserved and enhanced with opportunities for it to be better understood and appreciated', however we are disappointed that the opportunity has not been taken to include a specific objective for the conservation and enhancement of the significance of heritage assets in the parish. We would still recommend considering the inclusion of a more directly worded objective such as "*To sustain and enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Areas and the significance of the heritage assets of Bramber Parish*"



Historic England, 4th Floor, Cannon Bridge House, 25 Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2YA
Telephone 020 7973 3700 Facsimile 020 7973 3001
HistoricEngland.org.uk



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and their settings” in order to ensure historic environment policies in the plan have a clear role in delivering the plan’s objectives.

We are pleased to see the redrafting of paragraphs 6.1 and 6.2 in response to our previous comments which now include a more thorough description of Bramber’s historical development and character, and we welcome the reference to the Historic Environment Records. We support the inclusion of more detailed descriptions of some prominent heritage assets within the built up areas such as Bramber Castle and St Mary’s House and Gardens, however in line with our previous advice we would still recommend a specific reference to all of the 17 listed buildings in the parish (four Grade I and 13 Grade II) and the Scheduled Monuments as individual heritage assets.

We welcome section 6.2 detailing the character of the development and identifying three distinct character areas in the parish which we consider to be consistent with paragraph 125 of the NPPF: “Design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics. Neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development.”

We support the inclusion of Policy B7 with the designation of Clays Field as a local Green Space, giving recognition of its significance and detailing its historical associations with Bramber Castle.

We are pleased to see the inclusion of Policy B9 which identifies locally significant views that contribute to the character and distinctive feel of Bramber Parish, and we welcome the additional information included in response to our previous comments.

I enclose our response to the Regulation 14 consultation for your reference.

We hope these comments are helpful. Should you wish to discuss any points within this letter, or if there are particular issues with the historic environment in Bramber, please to not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

[Redacted title]

[Redacted address line 1]

[Redacted address line 2]

cc:



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