



**Horsham  
District  
Council**

## Representation Form

### Ashington Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2031

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) - Regulation 16

#### Ashington Neighbourhood Development Plan

*In light of recent announcements regarding COVID-19 Horsham District Council has reviewed its protocols regarding the consultation process for neighbourhood plans, a number of which were published for public consultation shortly before the government imposed the nationwide lockdown.*

*In order to continue to progress neighbourhood plans, we have made a decision to restart with the consultation process with measures we feel are in accordance to the government guidelines.*

Ashington Parish Council has prepared a Neighbourhood Development Plan (ANP). The Plan sets out a vision for the future of the parish and planning policies which will be used to determine planning applications locally. In accordance with Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended), the ANP and associated documents will go out to consultation:

**Wednesday 17 June to Wednesday 12 August 2020** for 8 weeks inviting representations on the draft submission plan, basic conditions statement, consultation statement and the full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Copies of the ANP Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents are available to view on the Horsham District Council's website:

<https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planningpolicy/planning-policy/currentconsultations>

Documents will not be made available in deposit locations due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. If local residents have difficulty in engaging online we have provided a telephone number and email address below. Members of the public are encouraged to leave their details for an officer to contact them back if they need further information.

Email: [neighbourhood.planning@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.planning@horsham.gov.uk) – [SAS@southdowns.gov.uk](mailto:SAS@southdowns.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01403 215398

**All comments must be received by Midnight on Wednesday 12 August 2020**

**There are a number of ways to make your comments:**

1. Please use the above web address above to make your representation online ; or
2. Complete this form and email it to: [neighbourhood.planning@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.planning@horsham.gov.uk) ; or
3. Print this form and post it to: Neighbourhood Planning Officer, Horsham Council, Parkside, Chart Way, North Street, Horsham, RH12 1RL

All comments will be publicly available, and identifiable by name and (where applicable) organisation. Please note that any other personal information provided will be processed by

Horsham District Council in line the Data Protection Act 1998 and General Data Protection Regulations. Horsham District Council will process your details in relation to this preparation of this document only. For further information please see the Council's privacy policy: <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/privacy-policy>

### **How to use this form**

Please complete Part A in full, in order for your representation to be taken into account at the Neighbourhood Plan examination.

Please complete Part B overleaf, identifying which paragraph your comment relates to by completing the appropriate box.

<b>PART A</b>	<b>Your Details</b>
Full Name	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Telephone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Organisation (if applicable)	
Position (if applicable)	
Date	10.08.2020

### **PART B**

To which part in the plan does your representation relate?

Paragraph Number:		Policy Reference:	
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Do you support, oppose, or wish to comment on this plan? (Please tick one answer)

Support

Support with Modifications

Object

Comment

**Please give details of your reasons for support/opposition, or make other comments here:**

**General comments:**

Initial residents survey indicated that a high proportion of residents live in Ashington because they like living in a rural village. The spatial strategy of the Parish Council was to maintain the rural nature of the village with a focus on development within the existing built up boundary. The selection of sites 5 and 6 goes completely against this strategy, both being currently undeveloped rural land. Other sites were put forward closer to existing transport links that would have much less of an impact on the rural nature of the village and which would provide better access to transport and retail facilities.

The choice of sites 5 and 6 means that the whole of the village will feel the impact of the development because access to those sites has to be through the village. Development of other local villages would appear to have tried to minimise the impact on existing residents. The plans put forward in ANP do the opposite.

**Transport Assessment:**

A transport assessment was carried out between 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 to record the volume of traffic that would use the new junction that would be required where Church Lane, Church Close and Foster Lane meet. The monitoring device was set up to the south of the existing junction and therefore only recorded vehicle movement in and out of Church Close. Volumes of traffic using Church Lane and Foster Lane have not been recorded but to get an accurate view of the traffic using the junction the monitoring point should have been to the east of the junction on Church Lane.

The 21 houses in Church Close generated an average of 75 vehicles movements each day. Church Lane also provides access to Foster Lane, Willard Way and Covert Mead where there are approximately 50 houses. Using a similar rate per house this would represent 178 vehicle movements daily. Church Lane also provides access to the Church, school and community centre as well as a route through to the north of the village via The Sands. The transport survey completed gives a totally unrealistic view of the number of vehicles that already use this junction.

The transport survey also indicates that the slightly staggered nature of the junction means it is not possible to create a junction that will give priority to the route carrying most traffic. This will result in the junction having a build up of traffic at peak times making walking close to the junction hazardous. A high proportion of children walking to school use the pavements alongside this junction.

Monitoring traffic on Church Lane would also have shown the speed of traffic using this road. Access roads to housing developments have higher speeds because they are seen as less residential.

As the profile of residents in Church Lane has changed there has been an increase in parking on the road especially at the junction with Morleys where it is not unusual for 8 cars to be parked on the northern side of Church Lane this makes it difficult for traffic to flow along Church Lane.

**Construction traffic access:**

Neither Church Lane or Rectory Lane have been designed for heavy vehicles. Both have narrow sections due to parked cars and on both roads there have been issues of subsidence by the traffic calming road bumps. Heavy construction traffic using these roads is going to cause further damage to the road and potentially to houses along those roads from the increased vibrations.

**Infrastructure:**

Whilst Southern Water have been consulted there does not appear to be plans to upgrade the infrastructure for water or sewage. There is regularly issues with sewage at the western end of Church Lane with drainage lorries having to unblock the drains along Church Lane

and in the past week residents have received two communications from Southern Water advising that at times of high usage their treatment plants are unable to treat the required volume of water.

**What improvements or modifications would you suggest?**

Alternative sites have been put forward that would minimise the impact on the existing village because they do not require traffic to travel through the village for access. These alternative sites also provide easy access to existing transport links (A24) and will have less of an impact on the rural nature of the village, leaving an area of unspoilt agricultural land unaffected.

(Continue on separate sheet if necessary)

If you have additional representations feel free to include additional pages. Please make sure any additional pages are clearly labelled/ addressed or attached.

Do you wish to be notified of the local planning authority's decision under Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Plan (General) Regulations 2012 in relation to the Ashington Neighbourhood Development plan?

Please tick here if you wish to be notified: