



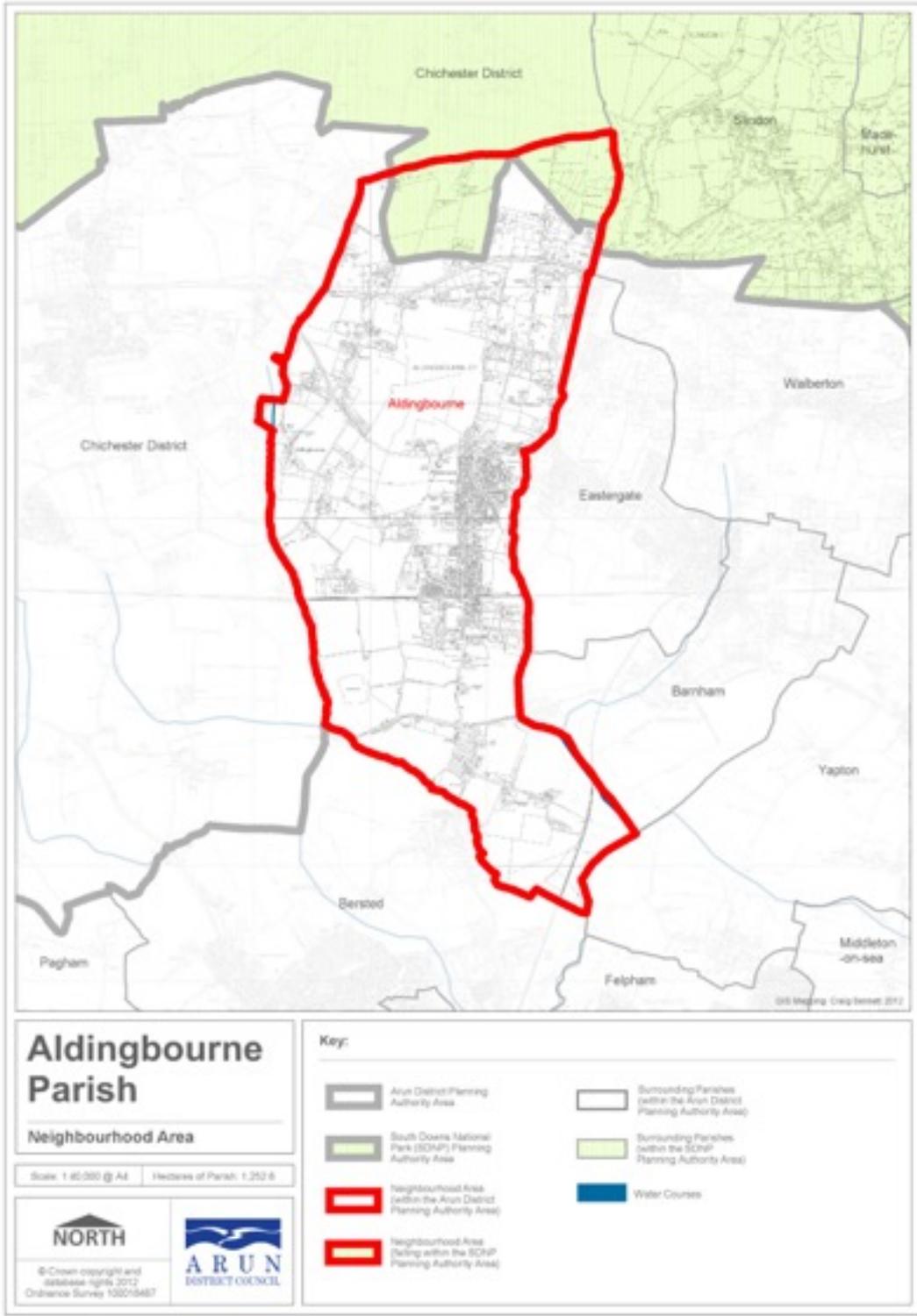
Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan 2014-2034

Basic Conditions Statement

Plan Period 2014-2034

Published April 2016

Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation - Plan A



1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement has been prepared by Aldingbourne Parish Council (“the Parish Council”) to accompany its submission to the local planning authority, Arun District Council (ADC), of the Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan (“the Neighbourhood Plan”) under Regulations 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”).
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Parish Council, a qualifying body, for the Neighbourhood Area covering the whole of the Parish of Aldingbourne, as designated by the Local Plan Sub- Committee of Arun District Council on 29 November 2012 (see Plan A).
- 1.3 The policies described in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to the development and use of land in the designated Neighbourhood Area. The plan period of the Neighbourhood Plan is from the 1st January 2014 to 31st March 2034 and it does not contain policies relating to excluded development in accordance with the Regulations.
- 1.4 The Statement addresses each of the four ‘basic conditions’ required of the Regulations and explains how the submitted Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act.
- 1.5 The Regulations state that a Neighbourhood Plan will be considered to have met the basic conditions if:
 - having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood development plan,
 - the making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,
 - the making of the neighbourhood development plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area),
 - the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Parish Council commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan in October 2011. The key drivers of that decision were:
 - the encouragement of ADC to towns and parishes in its district to prepare Neighbourhood Plans

- a keenness of the Parish Council to manage local development
 - local community concern at the level of new development being imposed on the parish.
- 2.2 The Parish Council formed a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (“the Steering Group”) comprising a number of Councillors and lay members.
- 2.3 The Committee was delegated authority by the Parish Council to make decisions on the Neighbourhood Plan as the project reached specific approval milestones, i.e. publishing:
- the Draft Neighbourhood Plan
 - the Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan (and its Regulation 14 Schedule), and
 - the Submission Neighbourhood Plan
- 2.4 The Parish Council have worked with officers of ADC during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. The positioning of the Neighbourhood Plan in respect of the emerging development plan, which proposes to establish a clear policy framework for neighbourhood plans, has been difficult. The most recent published full version of the emerging plan is that of October 2014 which has reached Examination, although this is currently suspended.
- 2.5 A number of saved policies of the 2003 Local Plan continue to provide a valid policy framework for the Neighbourhood Plan and these have been referenced alongside each proposed policy.
- 2.6 For the most, the plan has deliberately avoided containing policies that may duplicate the many saved and emerging development policies that are, and will be, material considerations in determining future planning applications. This has allowed the Neighbourhood Plan to focus on a relatively small number of policies.
- 2.7 In October 2015 the Independent Examiner rejected the Aldingbourne NP and the Parish Council have worked to amend the Plan to meet the requirements set out by the Examiner as well as reflecting the aspirations of the community.

3. Conformity with National Planning Policy

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with regard to national policies as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and is mindful of the draft National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) in respect of formulating Neighbourhood Plans.
- 3.2 Compliance with the key objectives of the NPPF ensures that the Neighbourhood Plan promotes Sustainable Development.
- 3.3 The Aldingbourne NDP has regard to relevant policies within the NPPF in relation to:

- Building a strong, competitive economy
- Ensuring the vitality of town centres
- Promoting sustainable transport
- Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes
- Requiring good design
- Promoting healthy communities
- Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
- Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
- Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

Building a strong, competitive economy

3.3 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that aim to build a strong, competitive economy:

EE1: Supporting existing employment and retail
EE2: Retention of employment land
EE3: Support for new commercial uses
EE4: Local shopping facilities
EE5: Improving signage
EE6: Sustainable recreational and tourism activities
EE7: Rural buildings
EE8: Communications infrastructure
EE9: Sustainable commercial and employment buildings
LC9 : Site for camping/touring caravans

3.4 These policies meet the NPPF's aims by supporting and seeking to promote existing businesses and allowing for additional new services.

Ensuring the vitality of town centres

3.5 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that aim to ensure the economic vitality of Aldingbourne.

EE4: Local Shopping Facilities
H7: Development in the vicinity of businesses

- 3.6 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by seeking to retain the primary retail areas so important to community life and by recognising the importance that tourism plays in that vitality.

Promoting sustainable transport

- 3.7 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that aim to promote sustainable transport.

GA1: Promoting sustainable movement
GA2: Footpath and cycle path network
GA3: Parking and new development
GA4: Woodgate Crossing
GA5: Traffic Management
GA6: Quiet Lanes

- 3.8 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by seeking to ensure that the transport system is balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes giving people a choice about how they travel.

Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes

- 3.9 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that aim to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes:

EH1: Built up Area Boundary
H2: Housing mix
H6: Windfall sites

- 3.10 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by seeking to allocate land for the provision of a mixture of new homes.

Requiring good design

- 3.11 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that aim to ensure that design is of a high quality:

H1: Quality of design
H8: Outdoor Space
H9: Attention to Detail

- 3.12 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by seeking to ensure that new development responds to the local character of the built and natural environment

Promoting healthy communities

3.13 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that promote a healthy community:

LC1: Support independent living
LC2: Healthcare facilities
LC3: Provision of buildings for community use
LC4: Provision of allotments/community orchards
LC6: Designation of Local Green Spaces
LC7: Local Open Space

3.14 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by recognising the challenges posed by an ageing population and providing opportunities to increase health care and leisure opportunities for all.

Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

3.15 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that seek to meet the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change:

EH2 : Green Infrastructure and Ecosystem Services
EH4 : Protection of watercourses
EH5 : Surface water management
EH7 : Renewable energy

3.16 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by recognising the need to deal with flooding both from the land and sea and also the need to improve the energy and water efficiency of buildings.

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

3.17 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that seek to conserve and enhance the natural environment:

EH2 : Green Infrastructure and Ecosystem Services
EH6 : Protection of trees and hedgerows
EH12: Flint Walls
EH10: Unlit village status
LC6 : Designation of Local Green Spaces

- 3.18 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by recognising the importance of green and open spaces to the wellbeing and vitality of the parish and the important role such places have in the biodiversity of the area.

Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

- 3.19 The Aldingbourne NDP sets out the following policies that seek to conserve and enhance the historic environment:

EH8: Buildings and Structures of Character

EH9: Conservation Areas and Areas of Special Character

- 3.20 These policies meet the aims of the NPPF by recognising that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource. Aldingbourne has two Conservation Areas and a number of Listed Buildings. Part of the vision for Aldingbourne is to "... be a distinctive, vital and thriving community where its identity, heritage and aspirations for the future are valued, protected and promoted."

The policies set out in this plan aim to achieve this.

4. General conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area.

- 4.1 The 2003 Local Plan ('2003 AALP' in Table C below) could not, of course, have anticipated the existence of the Localism Act almost a decade later and so made no provision for translating generic planning policy into a distinct parish-based plan. However, the Neighbourhood Plan policies are in general conformity with the strategic intent of the 2003 Plan and its specific policies. We have also taken into consideration the policies of the emerging ADC Local Plan Summer 2013.

Arun District Council has determined that a full Sustainability Appraisal is not required but the sustainability attributes of each policy are important to the parish and have therefore been assessed using the following criteria.

Policy Title	2003 ADC Policy Reference	Social	Economic	Environmental
EH1: Built Up Area Boundary	GEN2	0	0	+
EH2: Green Infrastructure Corridor and Ecosystem services	Policy Area 10, GEN27	+	0	+
EH3: Agricultural Land	Policy Area 12	0	+	+
EH4: Protection of watercourses	GEN23, 26	+	+	+
EH5: Surface Water Management	GEN9	+	+	+
EH6: Protection of trees and hedgerows	GEN28	+	0	+
EH7: Renewable Energy	GEN21	+	+	+
EH8: Buildings and structures of character	GEN22	0	0	+
EH9: Conservation Areas and Areas of Special Character	AREA1,2	0	0	+
EH10: Unlit village status	GEN33	+	0	+
EH11: Flint Walls	GEN22	0	0	+
GA1: Promoting sustainable movement	GEN15,16	+	+	+
GA2: Footpath and cycle path network	GEN15,16	+	+	+
GA3: Parking and new development	GEN12	+	+	+
GA4: Woodgate crossing	GEN4	+	+	+
GA5: Traffic Management	GEN15,16	+	0	+
GA6: Quiet Lanes	GEN15,16	+	0	+
LC1: Support independent living	DEV20, 21	+	0	0
LC2: Healthcare facilities	GEN8	+	+	0
LC3: Recreation facilities	GEN8	+	+	+
LC4: Provision of allotments	Policy Area 6	+	0	+

LC5: Assets of Community Value	NPPF	+	+	0
LC6: Local Green Spaces	Policy Area 5	+	0	+
LC7: School facilities	GEN8	+	+	0
EE1: Supporting employment	DEV27	+	+	0
EE2: Retention of employment land	DEV27	+	+	0
EE3: Support for new commercial uses	DEV27	+	+	0
EE4: Local shopping facilities	DEV30	+	+	0
EE5: Improving signage	GEN15,16	+	+	+
EE6 Recreational and tourism activities	DEV34	+	+	0
EE7: Rural Buildings	DEV1,2	0	+	0
EE8: Communications Infrastructure	DEV41	+	+	0
EE9: Sustainable commercial buildings	GEN7	+	+	+
H1: Quality of Design	GEN7	+	0	0
H2: Housing Mix	GEN7	+	+	0
H3: Housing density	GEN7	+	+	+
H4: Affordable Housing		+	+	0
H5: Local Connection		+	0	+
H6: Windfall sites	GEN7	+	+	0
H7: Development in the vicinity of businesses	DEV27	+	+	0
H8: Outdoor space	GEN20	+	0	+
H9: Attention to detail	GEN7	+	0	0

Sustainability Attributes Key: + = positive; 0 = neutral; - = negative

5. Compatibility with EU Legislation

- 5.1 The Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Plan has regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights and complies with the Human Rights Act.
- 5.2 Arun District Council has determined that in their opinion this plan meets the basic condition of not breaching, and otherwise being compatible with EU and Human Rights obligations.

5.3 The Aldingbourne Neighbourhood Plan area is not in close proximity to any European designated nature sites so does not require an Appropriate Assessment under the EU Habitats Regulations.