

KINETON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO 2031

Made Version



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Kineton Neighbourhood Development Plan

Foreword

In 2003 the first Village Plan for Kineton was developed. It detailed the needs and aspirations of the Community and covered all areas of development; social, economic, environmental and structural. It created objectives for the Parish Council and, to some extent, had a limited influence over planning matters.

In 2011 the Parish Council identified the need to commence an update of that Plan. Shortly after that decision the Localism Act was enacted, bringing with it the opportunity to develop Neighbourhood Plans to run alongside the Core Strategy for the District. The associated legislation to support Neighbourhood Planning came into force in April 2012.

Resulting from this, Kineton Parish Council concluded that greater effort should be dedicated to the development of a Neighbourhood Plan, with work on an updated and relevant Village Plan to run in parallel.

This document is the culmination of hundreds of hours of research, consultation and refinement by a small team of dedicated and concerned residents of Kineton and Little Kineton. That team also successfully applied for grant funding to meet a significant proportion of the costs of producing this Plan.

As a result of their efforts the community will have established firm guidelines into the development of the village over the next 15 years. It is testament to those efforts that this is the first Neighbourhood Plan for a Main Rural Centre in the district of Stratford upon Avon.

Considerable thought has been applied to enable new development, whilst minimising harm to the character and structure of our community. The Plan demonstrates that we welcome new development and new people to our community. However the size, nature and location of new development needs to be carefully managed and controlled not only to protect those who already live in this wonderful village but also those who wish to share in the experience of living in a well-balanced, sustainable community.

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Acknowledgements

The following members of the community worked tirelessly and without reward during part, or all, of the Plan's development process:

Ken Priddis*	Rodney Melville OBE	Julian Hartless
Graeme Bassett	Sally Rogers	Beverley Wright

They were supported directly, or indirectly, by
Gina Lowe Clerk to Kineton Parish Council
Neil Pearce Avon Planning Services
Stratford District Council Planning Officers

The Parish Council is indebted to all those people for their efforts and this Neighbourhood Plan, and also thanks everyone who responded and commented upon its various drafts.

David Gosling
Chair, Kineton Parish Council
June 2016

*Ken Priddis acted as Chair of the Plan's development group and also served as a Parish Councillor throughout the whole period, from inception to referendum

Kineton Neighbourhood Development Plan

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Neighbourhood Development Plan aims to make Kineton (including Little Kineton) and the parish of Kineton an even better place to be, now and for future generations. The Plan will cover a 20 year time period and may be subject to review during the lifetime of it. It covers the period 2011 to 2031, the same as Stratford on Avon District Council's Core Strategy¹.
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Development Plan process enables communities to better shape the place they work and live, to inform how development takes place and help influence the type, quality and location of that development, ensuring that change brings with it local benefit.
- 1.3 The community of Kineton has a strong history of taking local decision making into its own hands. In 2003 the Kineton Village Plan² was ratified by the Parish Council and was one of the first in the country to be written. It set out a vision and action plan for how the parish wished to see itself develop.
- 1.4 Neighbourhood planning now provides an opportunity for the community to have a real say over local decision making, to achieve its long-standing goals through the planning system and address the challenges and opportunities facing the future vitality of the parish.
- 1.5 The Neighbourhood Development Plan is based on extensive research and influenced by robust engagement with the local community³. In the lead up to the referendum, decision makers should consider this to be an important reference point and give it weight as a material consideration in any development planning decisions. Once the Plan is made it will become part of the development plan for the area and will be an important consideration in the determination of planning applications as these must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan Vision for Kineton

- 1.6 As detailed in the Kineton Village Plan (2003) the community wants Kineton Parish to continue to thrive as a vibrant and distinctive village, to continue to respect and reflect the views of its community, to evolve and expand whilst retaining its unique and distinctive character and to provide an outstanding quality of life for current and future generations of residents.
- 1.7 The Parish Council will do this by:
- Encouraging a thriving and prosperous community that delivers a high quality of life for all its residents
 - Promoting a distinctive and flourishing local economy that exhibits vitality and dynamism
 - Supporting measured, proportionate, timely and sustainable development to meet local and strategic requirement

¹ Submitted to the Secretary of State on the 30th September 2014

² Currently being reviewed in parallel with the Kineton Neighbourhood Development Plan

³ Please refer to submitted Consultation Document

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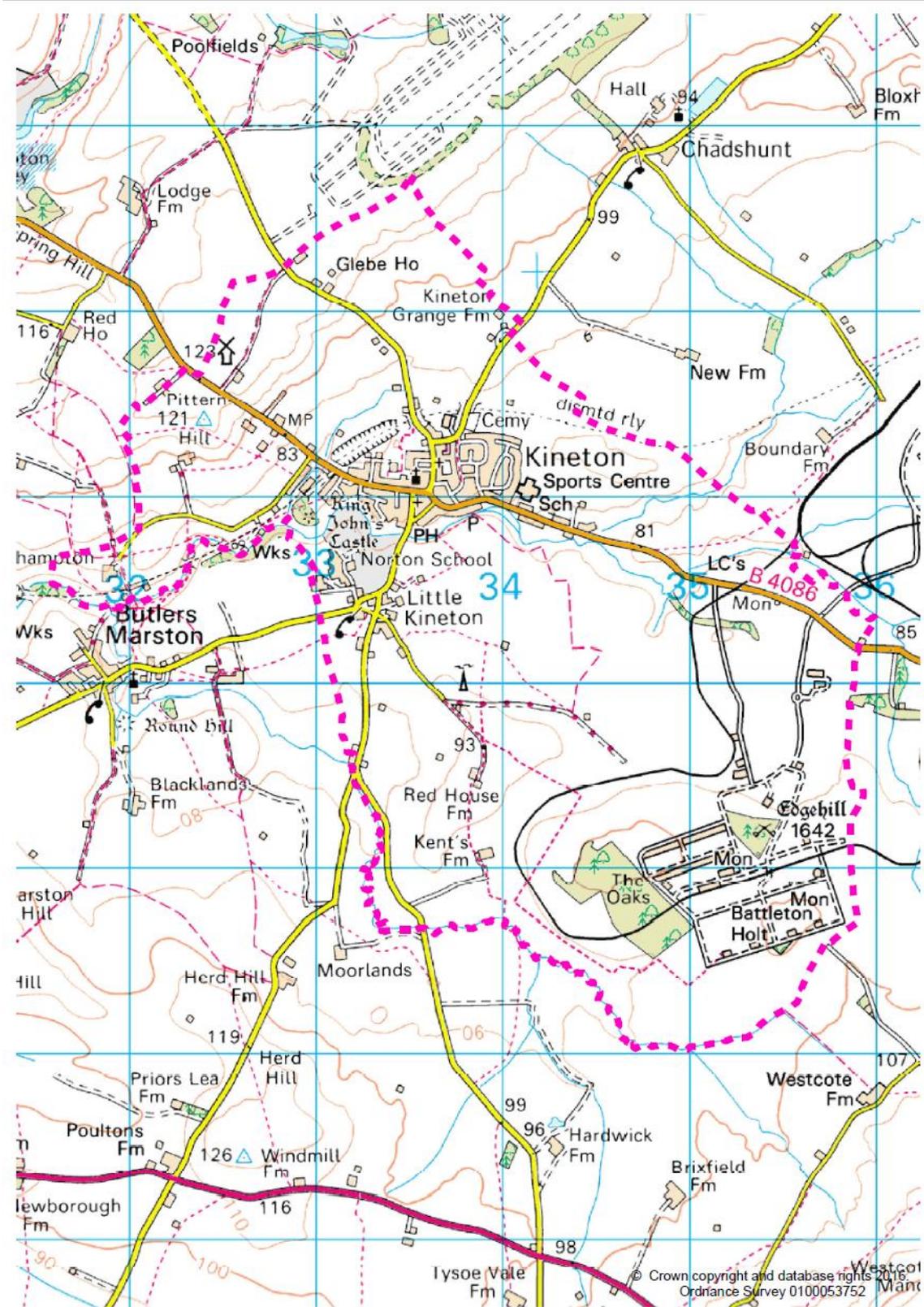
- Endorsing policies that have a positive effect on the environment, including those that remove or minimise flood risk, mitigate climate change and reduce our carbon footprint
- Maintaining the high quality natural environment with its protected wildlife interests

1.8 Objectives are:

- Delivery of a housing growth strategy that reflects both the needs of the Parish and wider area and is tailored to the context of Kineton Parish
- Sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting
- Sustaining and improving excellent local facilities particularly those in the village centre for existing and new residents
- Strengthening and supporting economic activity
- Seek on-going improvements to transport and parking, to utility infrastructure and to digital connectivity
- Prioritise local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth
- Protect greenspace, the landscape and support nature conservation
- Involve local people on an ongoing basis in the process of plan-making, monitoring and delivery of development



Kinton Neighbourhood Development Plan



Kinton Parish Boundary, defining the area covered by the Plan

2. The Neighbourhood Development Plan

2.1 A Neighbourhood Development Plan is a new element in the planning process, established under the Government's Localism Act. This became law in April 2012, and aims to give local people more say in the future of where they live. Once approved under the local referendum, this Neighbourhood Plan will be adopted by Stratford-on-Avon District Council (SDC) as the Plan will then become part of the development plan for the area and the determination of planning applications must then be made in accordance with the development plan unless other material considerations indicate otherwise. The Neighbourhood Plan will become part of the Development Plan alongside SDC's Core Strategy. For Kineton, this is a great opportunity for people living in the village to decide how the village should evolve in the years to 2031. The Plan contains the vision for Kineton that was developed through consultation with the village, and sets out clear planning policies to support this vision.

2.2 This Neighbourhood Development Plan is in general conformity with the existing strategic local plan⁴, and takes account of Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Emerging Core Strategy (the Proposed Submission Version Core Strategy published in June 2014⁵). It looks for the village to develop through steady but moderate growth, meeting the housing needs of the community while at the same time preserving the landscape and heritage and considering the infrastructure needed to support development.

2.3 A Neighbourhood Plan must have appropriate regard to the National Planning Policy Framework (the NPPF) and related advice. The Stratford-on-Avon District Design Guide and the Landscape Sensitivity Study 2011 also provide essential guidance.

2.4 The area covered by the Neighbourhood Plan is the Parish of Kineton. On the 20th May 2013, Stratford-on-Avon District Council approved Kineton Parish Council as an appropriate qualifying body to submit a Neighbourhood Plan, and also approved the area to be covered by the Plan as the Parish of Kineton. A map of the parish with the boundary marked is shown on page 8.

⁴ Including associated saved policies

⁵ Subject to review following the Inspector's Interim Report published on the 19th of March 2015

Kineton Neighbourhood Development Plan



Photographs courtesy of David Beaumont and Graeme Basset

3 Kineton – History and Future

History

- 3.1 The first recorded mention of Kineton, spelt Cynton, is in a Saxon Charter of AD969. In 1227 it was granted a Market Charter and two years later, a Charter for Fairs. Kineton's role as an important administrative centre can be traced back to 1160 where, following the reorganisation of local government by Henry II, it gained an important role by being the centre of the Kineton Hundred.
- 3.2 Kineton's relationship with the English Civil War Battle of Edgehill in 1642 is well documented. Today the battlefield lies mostly within the restricted area of Defence Munitions (DM) Kineton (owned by the Ministry of Defence) although a monument commemorating the battle and those who died can be found on the Banbury Road, about a mile outside the village.
- 3.3 The village is located approximately 5 miles south east of Wellesbourne and 10 miles north east of Shipston-on-Stour. Located to the east and south east is the restricted area of DM Kineton. About 2 miles to the north is former RAF Gaydon, which is now a vehicle testing ground and motor vehicle research and development centre for Jaguar Landrover and Aston Martin.
- 3.4 By the time of the 2011 Census, the population of Kineton was about 2,300, an increase of nearly 16% since 1981. The number of dwellings has increased by 39% during that time and the village now comprises of about 1,000 dwellings.
- 3.5 Kineton has a small area of influence due to the relatively limited range of shops and services it provides. There are only a small number of villages close by which look to Kineton as their local service centre because Shipston and Wellesbourne exert a larger commercial and retail influence. The exception is in relation to secondary education as it has a High School which draws pupils over a wide area, from Wellesbourne to the west, Banbury to the south and Southam to the east.
- 3.6 It is not possible to give an accurate picture of travel to work patterns for the village of Kineton because the major employment source at the Gaydon Site is in Kineton Ward and skews the available data. However, the 2001 Census showed that 31% of its employed residents also work in the Ward, while 18% work in Warwick/Leamington and only 8% in Stratford upon Avon. The influence of the Gaydon Site is even more dominant in terms of where people live who work in Kineton Ward, with only 35% being resident in Stratford District.
- 3.7 The household survey⁶ carried out in 2008 for the Retail Study showed that Stratford upon Avon is used by 34% of residents in the Wellesbourne and Kineton area for their main food shopping compared to 25% who go to

⁶ Prepared by Colliers CRE June 2008 for Stratford-on-Avon District Council

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Leamington/Warwick and 8% to Wellesbourne. For non-food shopping the main destinations are Stratford upon Avon (45%), Leamington (18%) and Banbury (17%).

Future Development Issues

3.8 The River Dene is the main water course in the area although there are other unnamed tributaries. There is a significant risk of pluvial and fluvial flooding⁷ in the Dene Valley, putting property at risk in the village. Measures to improve the capacity of the river channel and reduce flooding commenced in 2014⁸. The ecological quality of the River Dene within the Kineton area has been categorised as poor⁹ primarily due to sewer overflows and road drainage. Plans to stop sewer discharges into the river are being taken by Severn Trent. There are significant capacity constraints at Kineton Wastewater Treatment Works¹⁰ and in the network at Kineton, the impact of any future growth upon the foul sewer system is expected to be addressed by Severn Trent following a detailed survey of their system.

3.9 Situated on the north bank of the River Dene is the site of the Scheduled Monument of King John's Castle¹¹. The site features the earthwork remains of a Motte and Bailey Castle which now is open to the public and forms important amenity open space. Additional amenity and recreational green space can be found within Little Kineton.

3.10 Kineton published a Village Plan in 2003. It encourages appropriate new employment opportunities and emphasises that infill and redevelopment proposals should be sensitive to the character of the area. The need for better facilities for children is identified. The retention of village shops and other services through the planning process is one of the key actions.

3.11 The capacity of transport infrastructure, including roads and public transport, is a key concern for Kineton. Heavy goods traffic which passes through Kineton is constrained at Gaydon, but the advisory signs appear to be ignored. Parking in the village is considered by many to be a problem. A parking survey will be undertaken to establish if this is fact or whether it is people saying they cannot park near enough to shops. Public Transport between Kineton and various towns is limited. It does not help people who need to get to work. Improvements in this area are to be considered.

⁷ Please refer to Environment Agency Surface Water Flood Map

⁸ Relevant landowners were contacted and reminded of their riparian duty to keep the watercourse clear. The outcome of this, and appropriate escalation to Warwickshire County Council, is subject to ongoing monitoring by the PC

⁹ Please refer to the 'Green Infrastructure Study' prepared for SDC by UE Associates of Cheltenham, August 2011 Page 55 Paragraph 9.1.3

¹⁰ Paragraph 6.5.9 SDC Proposed Submission Core Strategy – June 2014

¹¹ Classified as a 'Local Wildlife Site' on the 26th of September 2013

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- 3.12 The scale of sustainable development in Kineton, whilst needing to comply with final figures¹² determined by the Emerging SDC Core Strategy, should reflect the comparatively modest provision of shops and services. New development should consider the provision of appropriate pedestrian and cycle links to facilities and services. Appropriate opportunities should be taken to limit the impact of vehicles in the village, through the use of traffic management measures and improvements to pedestrian and cycle links, and to encourage accessibility to the rural areas through public transport links.
- 3.13 The Conservation Areas and historic character of Kineton and Little Kineton are important local features which offer distinctiveness. Infill and redevelopment proposals should be sensitive to this. The established role of the existing centre should be maintained. Particular attention needs to be given to enhancing the role of the village centre so that it provides an attractive focus of services, facilities and activities for the local community. The retention and provision of small-scale shopping and other commercial uses will be encouraged, along with projects to enhance its appearance.
- 3.14 There are significant constraints¹³ affecting large areas of land on the edge of the village. The southern edge is bordered by the Dene Valley but due to the steep valley is not adversely affected by flood risk in this immediate location. In addition, the Battle of Edgehill Historic Battlefield lies to the south and south east of the village.
- 3.15 The landscape surrounding Kineton is described as being highly sensitive to commercial development¹⁴ with areas of High Landscape sensitivity bounding the majority of the village to the north, south and east. There is no additional land for employment proposed in Kineton¹⁵, it is important to try and retain the already established industrial estates in the village and existing levels of employment in the area. In addition, within the surrounding rural areas employment proposals should seek to meet the needs of small businesses and support the continuing employment use of successful local employment sites, supporting the intensification of use within existing site boundaries where appropriate.
- 3.16 Development proposals and other initiatives and projects in and around Kineton will be expected to contribute to the achievement of the principles set out in the Plan where it is appropriate and reasonable to do so.

¹² Following the adoption of the SDC Core Strategy, any change to projected numbers will be given careful consideration

¹³ Paragraph 4.4.5 SDC Proposed Submission Core Strategy June 2014

¹⁴ The Landscape Sensitivity Study 2011 (LSS) prepared by White Consultants for Stratford-on-Avon District Council included a LSS for Kineton.

¹⁵ Over and above that already in existence or secured through planning consents

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3.17 When considering development proposals and other initiatives relating to Kineton, significant weight will be given to the following core principles:

(a) Environmental

- Protect the area to the south of the existing settlement boundary, in order to preserve the River Dene and the open nature of the landscape in this area and maintain the 'green wedge' between Kineton and Little Kineton.
- Recognise and protect the importance of the King John's Castle site as an important multifunctional area for biodiversity, recreation and archaeological significance.
- Increase access to the River Dene Valley between Bridge Street and King John's Mound while also enhancing biodiversity in the area.
- Preserve the historic character of the Conservation Areas particularly that of the Market Square.
- Ensure that all new housing is adequately serviced and water quality in the Dean is not adversely affected¹⁶.

(b) Social

- Support the replacement or major refurbishment of Kineton High School, the improvement of access for transport and the improvement of onsite parking.
- Ensure appropriate play spaces for children and young people are provided to meet relevant guidelines.
- Create circular walking routes to the north of Kineton leading from within the settlement out into the wider countryside.
- Create additional cycle links that connect to established routes, including National Cycle, Network Route 48 and routes found to the north-west and south-east of the village.

(c) Economic

- Maintain the existing level of shops in the village centre and support the provision of new retail outlets.
- Promote the enhanced broadband speeds¹⁷ that are being installed in Kineton, thereby improving 'homeworking' and small business opportunities within the parish.

(d) Infrastructure

- Alleviate long term traffic issues.
- Alleviate the congestion caused by parking in the centre of the village.

¹⁶ Refer to Consultation response from Natural England dated 19th February 2015 (142103 Kineton NP)

¹⁷ Policy CS.25 Paragraph F SDC Proposed Submission Core Strategy June 2014

4 Kineton Vision Statement

4.1 Kineton will be a desirable place to live, being a sustainable rural community where people feel fully involved and supported in their work, life and play. The environment, community services, economic growth, cultural development and infrastructure of the neighbourhood will be valued, protected and enhanced for future generations.

Vision Statement - EDUCATION

4.2 To create a good or better quality of education and cultural developments within the schools, playgroups and other organisations, such as the library, clubs and societies, so that all people within the Kineton neighbourhood area can make the most of their work, life and play.

Vision Statement - HEALTH

4.3 Protect, sustain and improve the health facilities in the village to ensure that standards of medical care are good or better with the establishment of a health centre, a pharmacy and a rapid response team that can bring prompt emergency care to all people living in the neighbourhood area.

Vision Statement - HOUSING

4.4 The expansion of housing within Kineton would be in keeping with the rural character of the village. Any new housing would be in developments of an appropriate size and with an appropriate density of houses. The mix of housing to be built would be compatible with the economic and diverse social needs of Kineton and surrounding area. Provision would be required for 'green spaces' in and around the new properties and local stone/brick should be used in their construction. Inappropriate in-filling (i.e. development which does not comply with Policies D1-D10 of this Plan) within existing developments in the village should be avoided. The sustainability of any new development will be of critical importance and, given the recognised limitations of the current infrastructure, new housing developments must ensure adequate measures are in place to address additional pressures placed on village infrastructure.

Vision Statement - BUSINESS/SERVICES

4.5 The retention and consolidation of the existing businesses and services in the village will be essential for the sustainable development of Kineton. Encouragement of employment opportunities, including 'Homeworking', will be a key consideration in building a sustainable and viable future. The maintenance of a superfast broadband network will be essential. The current retail and service outlets should be supported and encouraged to develop. This would include the educational establishments and doctors' surgeries. An over-riding factor in any

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successful and sustainable development of businesses and services would be the resolution of traffic and parking issues within the village.

Vision Statement - CONSERVATION

4.6 The historic centre of Kineton retains a significant number of historic buildings, a high proportion of which are “listed”; the pattern and character define the village’s origin as a medieval market town. The importance of safeguarding this heritage was recognised in 1969 by the designation of the historic core as a Conservation Area [refer to Development Constraints Map]. The historic core of Little Kineton was designated as a Conservation Area in 1991 [refer to Development Constraints Map].

4.7 The character of each Conservation Area is very different. The Kineton Conservation Area is urban in character; its buildings fronting the principal streets and market square creating a sense of enclosure with few gaps or open spaces, apart from the centrally located churchyard. The character of Little Kineton, on the other hand, is open textured with old buildings in groups around a large Green.

4.8 The Neighbourhood Development Plan will continue to protect and, where possible, enhance the character of both Conservation Areas. It will seek to correct the deficiencies in the current designated areas by better protecting the setting of buildings within each Area. Where possible non-conforming treatments which would detract from the character of the Area [modern colour-stained fencing, concrete panels etc.] will be addressed through the consideration of planning applications.

4.9 The setting of the Conservation Areas should be protected by ensuring that development utilises the most appropriate materials and is of a sensitive scale and design which respects the existing character of the area. This will also assist in the preservation of the wider setting of the village. Important green spaces and areas of high landscape sensitivity will be protected.

Vision Statement - LEISURE

4.10 Leisure embraces a wide range of activities from sedentary hobbies to sport and fitness regimes. Kineton is fortunate to have a variety of leisure opportunities already in place. Soccer, cricket and bowls are played at Kineton Sports and Social Club; Kineton High School is a Specialist Sports College with playing fields, all weather floodlit pitch, gymnasium, tennis courts and outdoor swimming pool and Pittern Hill Stables has a large indoor riding school and cross-country course. Kineton is the home of the Warwickshire Hunt and has possibly the earliest purpose-built stables [1839] within the Little Kineton Conservation Area.

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4.11 Despite the existing provision of leisure facilities within the village, there is a strong desire to have more playing fields for junior football and mini football, and additional tennis courts. There is no safe defined area for skateboarding. The school facilities are not available to the general public during school hours and are not easily accessible out of hours. The Plan would seek to create easier public access to the sports facilities on the school's premises. Walking, with or without a dog, is almost certainly the most popular fitness activity and yet existing off road footpaths radiate from the village and are not joined up. The Neighbourhood Development Plan would seek to create more circular routes for pedestrians and create more cycle routes that connect with established routes.

Vision Statement - TOURISM

4.12 Kineton has an opportunity to improve its potential as a base for visitors to explore the surrounding areas of historic and cultural interest. Transport links by car are excellent [10 minutes from Junction 12 of the M40]. Stratford-upon-Avon and Warwick, both sites of international importance, are accessible in less than 30 minutes.

4.13 Closer to Kineton is Compton Verney, a Grade I listed country house which is the home of a nationally important art gallery. The English Heritage registered Edgehill Civil War battlefield, the boundary of which adjoins the south-eastern edge of the village lies to the east. The National Trust properties of Charlecote, Upton House and Farnborough are all within a 20 minute drive and the National Motor Museum at Gaydon is even closer.

4.14 Most tourists will continue to stay in Stratford upon Avon and Warwick and the lack of hotel accommodation in Kineton means that overnight stays are unlikely in any significant numbers. There is however a potential to encourage day visitors and more B-&-Bs would encourage overnight stays. For day visitors, additional cafés, tea-shops and/or restaurants need to be encouraged.

Vision Statement - TRANSPORT

4.15 Kineton should have an integrated and sustainable transport system serving the needs of the community. This will be delivered through working with the relevant authority to address public transport, parking, pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Vision Statement - INFRASTRUCTURE

4.16 Kineton should have utility infrastructure capable of sustaining new development and improving the condition for existing residents. The capacity of sewers and sewer treatment works should be increased to ensure it has capacity for the future including the separation of surface water and highway drainage from the foul network. Kineton should have a high quality communication infrastructure to

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enable more homeworking and reduce the need to travel. Kineton will work closely and with determination with appropriate authorities to divert most traffic from the village centre.

5 Neighbourhood Plan: Policies

5.1 Housing

Strategic Objective

- 5.1.1 To meet the economic, social and environmental needs of Kineton and its contribution to the overall housing requirements of the district through sustainable growth.

Policy H1 – Housing Development and Supply

The Plan designates settlement boundaries¹⁸ for Kineton and Little Kineton and these are shown on the map entitled “Settlement Boundaries for Kineton and Little Kineton”. Within these settlement boundaries the development and reuse of land and buildings for housing will generally be supported.

In the Plan period the provision of a minimum of 200 dwellings is supported to meet the District’s overall housing supply up to 2031.

Explanation

- 5.1.2 This policy will allow a level of development to be permitted which contributes to the overall housing requirements of the district¹⁹.
- 5.1.3 The housing figure is informed by the District Council’s study of the capacity of villages to accommodate growth which takes account of national and district planning policies, physical, environmental and landscape constraints and location in relation to employment, public transport and key community facilities.
- 5.1.4 The Constraints Map illustrates a number of constraints to development in the Neighbourhood Area. This has been used to inform the location of four allocations for residential development. Large scale²⁰ greenfield development which could harm the landscape and the special environment of Kineton will not normally be acceptable. However, in order to accommodate the level of housing need required in the Neighbourhood Area, three greenfield sites have been identified. The other site is currently unused.
- 5.1.5 This Plan supports the conclusion of the Draft Core Strategy²¹ that larger numbers of new dwellings cannot be accommodated within the village without substantial harm to the existing infrastructure and services. In addition, more than moderate growth would prejudice the achievement of sustainable development, including using resources wisely and moving to a low carbon

¹⁸ Settlement Boundary throughout this Plan has the same meaning as Built-up Area Boundary as used within SDC’s Core Strategy

¹⁹ Refer to Housing Trajectory Table - Core Strategy Proposed Submission Version (June 2014)

²⁰ As defined in the 2010 Order

²¹ Paragraph 6.5.12 SDC Proposed Submission Core Strategy June 2014

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economy, as specified by the National Planning Policy Framework in paragraph 7.

- 5.1.6 In addition to the housing allocations outlined in this Plan, small windfall developments on land within the Settlement Boundaries will provide for its housing needs without significant damage to its character. This pattern of gradual and piecemeal development will ensure new dwellings contribute to the attractive appearance and character of Kineton and its sense of community.

Policy H2 – Use of Brownfield Land

Any proposals for the redevelopment of brownfield land to create new homes will be supported subject to the following criteria:

- a) The new use would be compatible with the surrounding uses;
- b) Any remedial works to remove contaminants are satisfactorily dealt with; and
- c) The proposal would lead to an enhancement in the character and appearance of the site and would not result in the loss of any land of high environmental value.

Explanation

- 5.1.7 It would be contrary to the principles of sustainable development to allow more homes on greenfield sites than would be necessary to meet identified housing need. The development of greenfield land is not supported by parish residents unless it can be clearly demonstrated that there is no available brownfield land, existing buildings suitable for conversion or infill plots within the existing village envelope. This policy supports the use of land which enhances the local environment by reusing sometimes unsightly and neglected land while protecting greenfield sites which are of value to the community and contribute to the appearance, and in some areas the character of the village. This policy does not promote a change of use of buildings and land in active business use.
- 5.1.8 It is recognised that in order to achieve affordable housing to meet the needs of people with a specific local connection, it may be necessary to accept development of land not available for open market housing which consequently attracts a lower land value, provided such land is in a sustainable location, not of high environmental value, and which will not have a harmful impact on the countryside.
- 5.1.9 Brownfield or previously developed lands are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF. It specifically excludes garden land and agricultural land. There is no presumption that the whole of any such sites would be suitable for development. This would need to be proven through the planning application process.

Policy H3 – Affordable Housing

This Neighbourhood Development Plan supports the provision of affordable housing on qualifying sites in accordance with the provisions of the Core Strategy.

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Affordable housing will be secured in perpetuity through planning obligations or other appropriate mechanisms. The criteria for local occupancy are set out in the Housing Needs Survey 2013.

Proposals which do not contribute appropriate levels and tenures of affordable housing will not generally be supported.

Explanation

5.1.10 Policy H3 recognises that as the parish is in an area where the price of open market housing is high, some households will be unable to buy open market homes if they wish to stay local to their parish, family or community links. The parish based Housing Needs Survey that was carried out in October 2013 identified 9 households with a specific housing need for accommodation rented from a housing association, and a need for 7 dwellings available for sale at affordable prices.

5.1.11 A Section 106 legal agreement will ensure that the dwellings are available in perpetuity for those in need of local affordable housing. The availability of affordable housing, whether as shared equity or rental, will be restricted to individuals with local connections firstly and then through a cascade approach.

Policy H4 – Use of Garden Land

No development of garden land will be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that proposals:

- Preserve or enhance the character of the area;
- Do not introduce an inappropriate form of development which is at odds with the existing settlement pattern;
- Preserve the amenities of neighbouring properties;
- Provide satisfactory arrangements for access and off road parking.

Explanation

5.1.12 Development within the garden of existing houses can lead to inappropriate development with regard to neighbouring properties and poor means of access. Unless an adequate land area is available or can be assembled and demonstrated to be accessible and sustainable, without causing detrimental harm to the amenity of neighbouring dwellings or to the character of the area, then development will be resisted.

Policy H5 – Housing Mix

Developments of 10 or more units should meet the housing mix, including size and type, and tenure requirements identified by up to date evidence informed by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment, local Housing Needs Surveys or other sources of evidence. Consideration should be given to changing demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community.

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Explanation

- 5.1.13 While the Coventry and Warwickshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) - November 2013 is the latest assessment, it covers the wider Housing Market Area within which Stratford-on-Avon district lies and does not deal with the market at the detailed level as required by this Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 5.1.14 A poor mix of housing tenure (especially if replicated over a number of developments) can result in an imbalanced social mix across the Neighbourhood Area, with the potential for a concentration of social exclusion and deprivation in the long term.
- 5.1.15 It is important to ensure that different tenures are integrated throughout the layout and for that reason integration will be strongly encouraged and concentrations of tenure discouraged, particularly in areas of poorer environmental quality.
- 5.1.16 Figures from the 2001 Census and 2011 Census indicate that the proportion of the population of Kineton over the age of 60 has increased from 22% to 28.9%. Of this group those over the age of 80 has increased by 30.8%
- 5.1.17 Within the housing mix it is important that facilities appropriate to the needs of an aging population are provided, to support wherever possible independent living and quality of life.
- 5.1.18 Whilst smaller scale developments of less than 10 units are not covered by Policy H5, encouragement will be given to those schemes which contribute to meeting tenure needs.

Policy H6 – Safeguarded Land

This Plan supports the safeguarding of land at the following locations as shown on the Site Allocations and Safeguarded Land Map for potential future residential-led development:

- H6a – Land west of Southam Road
- H6b – Land east of Lighthorne Road

The above sites will only be released during the plan period if it can be demonstrated through the submission of evidence that there is an identified housing need for their early release.

Development on these sites will be expected to comply with all the following requirements subject to a rigorous viability assessment:

- a) A high quality design;
- b) A high quality landscape led layout which takes account of the sensitive landscape in which the site is located;
- c) A sensitive external lighting scheme designed to minimise light pollution;
- d) Safe access and egress from the local highway network;
- e) Use of a high quality pallet of external materials which have regard to the sensitive rural location; and
- f) Green travel measures are provided throughout the lifetime of the development including enhanced links with existing public transport.

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Explanation

- 5.1.19 Stratford-on-Avon District Council is currently preparing its Core Strategy which will govern the spatial vision for new housing in the district up to 2031.
- 5.1.20 The Inspector instructed the District Council to undertake more work on certain aspects of the Core Strategy thereby halting its progress towards adoption. The overall housing figure for the district is expected to rise but at the time of writing this Plan the increase is unknown. Equally, the proportion of any increase which will be allocated to Kineton as a Main Rural Centre is unknown.
- 5.1.21 It is for this reason that this Plan has identified 2 potential sites as 'Safeguarded Land' which will be protected from development until such times as a specific, evidence based need for housing arises.

5.2 Jobs

Strategic Objective

5.2.1 One of the three roles in achieving sustainable development is the economic role (NPPF, paragraph 7). Contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure is pivotal to achieving this role.

5.2.2 This Neighbourhood Development Plan seeks to provide the local policy framework to deliver this role by encouraging opportunities for the development of local employment and preserving what local employment opportunities there are.

Policy J1 –Employment Sites

In the interests of developing a sustainable community and in the light of a rapidly increasing population, proposals for new employment sites which support the growth of local employment will be encouraged.

Proposals for the change of use or redevelopment of land or premises identified for or currently in employment use will not be permitted unless:

- a) There is a sufficient supply of sites for a range of employment uses to meet both immediate and longer term requirements over the Plan period; or
- b) The applicant can demonstrate that the site/premises is no longer capable of meeting employment needs or where there is no reasonable prospect of the site being used for employment uses; or
- c) Development of the site for other appropriate uses will facilitate the relocation of an existing business to a more suitable site; or
- d) Unacceptable environmental problems are associated with the current use of the site and the proposal will remove them; or
- e) The site is located in the village centre and the proposed use will contribute to the vitality and viability of the centre or forms part of a regeneration project

Where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for the allocated employment use, planning applications for alternative uses will be treated on their merits having regard to market signals and the relative need for different land uses to support sustainable local communities.

Explanation

5.2.3 Where local employment can be increased without adverse impact on infrastructure, landscape or amenity, this will benefit the environment by reducing car travel outside the village and offer employment opportunities across all age groups.

Policy J2 – Home Working

All new dwellings are encouraged to provide space to support home-working, with flexible space adaptable to a home office, and where appropriate incorporate cabling to support broadband.

Proposals for small scale mixed use development (new build or conversion), comprising of workspace and living space will be supported subject to the following criteria:

- a) Suitable independent access to both uses;
- b) An appropriate level of off road parking to serve both uses;
- c) Independent service facilities (e.g. kitchen, toilet etc.) for the workspace which do not rely on the living space;
- d) Be in locations which are reasonably accessible to local service facilities and amenities without the use of private motorised transport ;
- e) In the case of conversions, the building should be of a permanent and substantial construction, structurally sound and capable of conversion without major rebuilding or extension;
- f) Layout and design ensures that residential and work uses can operate without conflict; and
- g) Secure arrangements in place via a planning condition, to tie the two elements together to prevent future separation

Explanation

5.2.4 Already, a significant number of parish residents are self-employed or work from home. This Plan aims to encourage this. Self-employment helps the viability of the local economy and home working reduces outward commuting and unnecessary private car journeys. Mixed use schemes where an occupier can work and live within the same planning unit has the benefit of removing the necessity to travel to work and therefore such schemes are a relatively sustainable form of development that would otherwise not be supported in rural locations.

5.3 Design

Strategic Objective

5.3.1 Paragraph 58 of the National Planning Policy Framework states that Neighbourhood Development Plans “...should develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area”.

5.3.2 This Plan seeks to achieve this objective through the implementation of the following policies.

Policy D1 – Design and Character

All development in rural areas should be well designed and inclusive, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness.

Developments that do not demonstrate high standards of design will be resisted.

Explanation

5.3.3 Whilst individual design is often a subjective matter, how a development functions, the creation of an interesting and diverse development and making sure it is clear and logical provides a solid foundation for creating a strong sense of place.

Policy D2 – Responding to Local Character

All development proposals must demonstrate how local character has been taken into account during the conception and evolution of a design in accordance with the following principles:

- a) Be compatible with the distinctive character of the area, respecting the local settlement pattern, building styles and materials whilst taking a positive approach to innovative, contemporary designs that are sensitive to their setting. Existing open green spaces within the settlement should be retained where they make an important contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the area;
- b) Be of a density and scale that is in keeping with the character of the surrounding development and landscape;
- c) Preserve or enhance heritage assets including listed buildings and the designated Conservation Areas;
- d) Protect, or enhance landscape and biodiversity by incorporating landscaping consistent with Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines;
- e) Key features of views to and from higher slopes, skylines and across the wider landscape can continue to be enjoyed;
- f) Have regard to the impact on tranquillity, including dark skies;
- g) Not increase the likelihood of surface water flooding within the village or exacerbate foul drainage capacity problems; and
- h) Be preceded by an appropriate archaeological survey to ascertain the implications of development on below ground heritage assets.

Proposals that do not positively contribute to local character will be resisted.

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Explanation

- 5.3.4 It is important to ensure that local character is preserved and where appropriate enhanced. New development that is at odds with a distinctive local character can be harmful so will be resisted.
- 5.3.5 The purpose of this policy is to manage development so that the most appropriate design is found for the site having regard to local character to ensure that all developments are of high quality and reflect the character of the areas around them in spatial layout, scale, materials, design and landscape terms.
- 5.3.6 New developments which protect the character of the historic built environment and improve the quality of life through good design which is in sympathy with the special character of the area will be looked upon favourably.
- 5.3.7 The preservation of local distinctiveness and character requires that the appropriate density for new housing should in every case result in a development that is in character with the local surrounding area. It is also important that future development should ensure that the mass of building relates proportionally to the plot size.
- 5.3.8 Noise and activity arising from developments in the countryside together with lighting can have an adverse effect on tranquillity and dark skies. CPRE has issued a Statement on Tranquillity and Dark Skies with the objective of maintaining or improving the existing level of tranquillity. The recommendations within this statement are endorsed by this Plan.
- 5.3.9 This policy is not intended to impose a particular architectural style or stifle innovation, originality or innovative design through unsubstantiated requirements to conform to certain development forms or styles.

Policy D3 - Use of Design Codes and Master Planning

All proposals for large-scale development (10 or more dwellings or 1,000 sqm or more of non-residential floor space) will be expected to demonstrate design rationale through the appropriate use of design codes (SDC District Design Guide April 2001) and master planning.

All large-scale housing developments should be accompanied by a master plan (for outline applications) or a contextual plan (for detailed applications) which demonstrates how the development integrates into the existing community by encouraging social cohesion and how it delivers the necessary infrastructure to support the development. The master plan/contextual plan should include consideration of existing or proposed developments in the area to enable a holistic approach to be developed wherever possible. The plan must include consideration of means to mitigate the additional demand that the development would place on the highway system, and on services such as schools and medical facilities, as well as the need to provide public open space and environmental improvements.

Development will not be supported if detrimental impacts on existing village/Neighbourhood Area infrastructure are found.

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Explanation

5.3.10 It is important to the residents that all future development is of high quality and reflects the character of these areas in spatial layout, scale, materials, design and landscape.

5.3.11 A design code is a set of illustrated design rules and requirements, which instruct and advise on the physical development of a site or area. The graphic and written components of the code are detailed and precise, and build upon a design vision such as a master plan or other design and development framework for a site or area. It serves as a quality benchmark for the whole development, but need not be overly prescriptive.

5.3.12 Use of the Design Guide will also be encouraged for smaller scale developments particularly where there is a particular sensitivity affecting the site.

Policy D4 – Replacement Dwellings

Proposals for replacement dwellings must respect the character and appearance of the locality. Particular importance is placed on sensitive sites such as those within conservation areas or affecting the setting of listed buildings.

Replacement dwellings must be of an appropriate scale so as not to be too dominant (e.g. overbearing on neighbouring uses / properties or the street scene) or adversely affect the amenity of neighbouring uses.

Proposals will be expected to demonstrate that protected species will not be harmed as a result of the proposals.

This policy will only apply to lawful dwellings and does not apply to caravans or mobile homes.

Explanation

5.3.13 This policy is designed to facilitate the renewal of the existing housing stock with appropriate replacements. It is not intended to overly restrict people's freedom and expression of interest in design and layout. In this respect, all new replacement dwellings will be expected to enhance design and create a more sustainable living environment in the longer term.

Policy D5 - Designing Out Crime

All development proposals will be expected, where necessary, to demonstrate how the design has been influenced by the need to plan positively to reduce crime and the fear of crime and how this will be achieved.

Proposals which fail to satisfactorily create a safe and secure environment will not be supported.

The advice of a Police Architectural Liaison representative should be sought for all developments of 10 or more dwellings.

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Explanation

5.3.14 The Government places great importance on creating safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion (paragraph 58 of the National Planning Policy Framework). There are many recommendations on how to design out crime.

5.3.15 CABE's comprehensive 'Safer Places' paper identifies seven key characteristics that create a safe community. All development proposals will be expected, where necessary, to demonstrate how these characteristics have been incorporated into the proposed design.

- 1) Access and movement: places with well-defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security
- 2) Structure: places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict
- 3) Surveillance: places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked
- 4) Ownership: places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility and community
- 5) Physical protection: places that include necessary, well-designed security features
- 6) Activity: places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times
- 7) Management and maintenance: places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and the future.

Policy D6 – Reuse of Buildings

The conversion of redundant buildings built of traditional materials and of architectural merit to housing, permanent business space or residential tourist accommodation will be accepted provided the development:

- a) Does not have an unacceptable impact on the visual and landscape amenity of the area, particularly conservation areas and listed buildings;
- b) Does not have an unacceptable impact on neighbours' amenity;
- c) Does not cause harm to nature conservation interests;
- d) Benefits from a safe and convenient access to the site or a satisfactory access can be created;
- e) The building is genuinely capable of being converted without significant modification, rebuilding (including foundations and walls) or extension; and
- f) Ancillary and/or proposed outbuildings and boundary treatments are in keeping with the character and setting of the original building.

Such applications will be expected to demonstrate compliance with the above criteria through the submission of supporting documentation such as ecological surveys and structural engineer's surveys.

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Explanation

5.3.16 If sensitively converted the reuse of redundant buildings can have a positive impact on the amenity of the area and create a sustainable form of development without any additional harm to the landscape.

5.3.17 The reuse of redundant agricultural buildings can also be of benefit to the sustainability of farms and other rural businesses particularly when creating ongoing revenue through holiday lettings.

Policy D7 – Environmental Sustainability

New developments of 10 or more dwellings and major commercial development will be expected to provide and incorporate sustainable drainage systems unless it is demonstrated that this would be inappropriate.

Explanation

5.3.18 Any features, including solar panels and heat pumps, must be designed to avoid harm to the appearance of the building and the street scene. If a building is listed or within the conservation area then equipment specifically designed and sited to meet the conservation / listed buildings criteria will be required.

5.3.19 It is important that in all cases steps are taken to minimise any noise from equipment in order to protect neighbours' amenity.

5.3.20 All parking and driveway areas will be designed with permeable surfaces to reduce surface water run-off.

Policy D8 – Provision for Parking, Pedestrians and Cyclists

All new development must include adequate provision for off-road parking for residents and visitors. Additionally, dwellings must provide secure storage space for cycles.

Non-residential developments must provide adequate parking in accordance with the County Council's adopted standards.

New developments, where appropriate, should take any available opportunities to provide new, or enhance existing, accessible and safe pedestrian and cycle routes from the development to the village centre and schools.

Explanation

5.3.21 The Census confirms a very high level of vehicle ownership in Kineton. This reflects the lack of public transport adequate to support routine travel to work outside the village. Parking outside schools at pick up and drop off times causes congestion, blocks roads and affects pedestrian movements. Measures to reduce this by providing improved pedestrian and cycle routes is essential. Furthermore, on-street parking hinders shop deliveries and the Post Office sorting office traffic. Measures to improve pedestrian access to the village shops are also essential.

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Policy D9 – Use of Land and Buildings

All development proposals must demonstrate an effective and efficient use of land. The effective use of land can assist in delivering sustainable development through bringing empty properties back into use.

The built-up areas should appear to emerge gradually from the surrounding countryside, with higher density and building heights located towards the village centre, and lower density and building heights on the periphery of the built-up area boundaries to help integrate new development and to reflect the site's setting and reinforce local distinctiveness, but a site by site approach would be encouraged.

Explanation

5.3.22 Paragraph 47 of the National Planning Policy Framework encourages a local approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances.

5.3.23 While there is no rigid design density set for the Neighbourhood Area, in all cases development will be expected to respond to local character. Higher densities close to the village centre where there is a high level of accessibility may be acceptable whereas lower densities will be more appropriate on the periphery of the village.

5.3.24 The heights of new buildings should have regard to the context of the individual site and the surrounding area. Building heights may increase nearer the village centre but in contrast, heights should be lower towards the edge of the village to assist in the assimilation of new development into the surrounding countryside/landscape.

5.3.25 High quality design will enhance amenity through housing density levels that also secure adequate external space, dwelling mix, privacy and sunlight and daylight to meet the requirements of future occupiers.

Policy D10 – Designated Heritage Assets

Proposals which cause harm to the special historic or architectural fabric and interest of listed buildings and scheduled monuments and their settings will be resisted.

Proposals, including changes of use, which enable the appropriate and sensitive repair and reuse of listed buildings, will be supported.

All proposals must preserve the important physical fabric, appearance, scale and settings of listed buildings and scheduled monuments.

Development which would harm or fail to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Neighbourhood Area's two conservation areas will be resisted. This includes development outside the boundary of each Conservation Area which, by virtue of its design, scale or materials would nevertheless have an effect on the character and setting of each area.

Any development within or immediately adjacent to the registered battlefield site should be designed to have a satisfactory impact on the battlefield in terms of design, scale and materials and of views across the battlefield from Kineton and Little Kineton.

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Explanation

- 5.3.26 The preservation of valuable heritage assets is of paramount importance to this Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 5.3.27 The Kineton and Little Kineton Conservation Areas are specifically defined and protected because of their special architectural and historic character and interest. Great weight should be placed on the need to preserve or enhance the conservation areas, including the preservation of green spaces, boundary walls, trees, hedges and fences and other features which contribute positively to the character and setting of each area.
- 5.3.28 The Battle of Edgehill 1642 was the first significant battle of the Civil War. It is of national historic and landscape significance and is included on the Battlefields Register prepared by English Heritage. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to protect these significant heritage assets.

5.4 Environment

Strategic Objective

5.4.1 To seek opportunities for landscape, recreational and ecological gain whilst minimising the environmental impact of new development. This will be achieved through the following principles:

- Protecting and enhancing the village's green spaces;
- Protecting, enhancing and conserving the landscape and views;
- Protecting and enhancing the historic environment of the settlement of Kineton Village and the Parish;
- Conserving and enhancing biodiversity;
- Preserving high quality agricultural land;
- Reducing harm to the environment by seeking to minimise pollution; and
- Locating development in order to avoid increasing pollution from traffic congestion.

5.4.2 The natural beauty of the area around the settlement of Kineton is derived from the geology, vegetation and historic land use.

5.4.3 The policies in the Kineton Neighbourhood Development Plan conform to the National Planning Policy Framework, which states that planning should contribute to, protect and enhance the natural environment. This includes protecting valued landscapes, geological conservation interests, minimising impacts on biodiversity, providing net gains in biodiversity where possible and establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures. Reference has been made to reports from the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE) concerning the countryside especially regarding tranquillity and dark skies policy.

5.4.4 The National Planning Policy Framework defines the environmental dimension of sustainability as “contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.”

5.4.5 These principles are adopted and form part of the evidence base of this Plan. Features of the natural environment are shown on both the Development Constraints and Valued Landscapes Maps.

Policy E1 – Agricultural Land

Development of the best and most versatile agricultural land (defined as land in grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification) will normally be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that significant development of agricultural land is necessary and no other land of a poorer agricultural quality is available.

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Explanation

- 5.4.6 Agricultural land is an essential part of the landscape of Kineton as well as providing local employment and food security for the nation. In addition the beauty of the landscape around Kineton consists of the combination of hills and agricultural land. In many fields adjoining the settlement, the ancient pattern of ridge and furrow is well preserved. This historic landscape feature is greatly valued and should be protected.

Policy E2 – Landscapes, Vistas and Skylines

Development proposals must ensure that key features of the views identified on the plan titled 'Valued Landscapes' can continue to be enjoyed including distinct buildings, heritage assets, areas of landscape and the juxtaposition of village edges and the open countryside.

Large scale proposals should submit a landscape and visual assessment to help demonstrate this.

Explanation

- 5.4.7 Communication masts, pylons, wind turbines, or other structures such as solar panel farms which are highly visible will not be encouraged if they would have an adverse impact on the character of the landscape and the built environment of the settlement. Highly visible skyline building of houses will not be encouraged.
- 5.4.8 Preservation of the unbroken skylines of the surrounding hills to the northwest, north, east and south is an important objective in any new development. Skyline housing on original footprints (old farms etc.) will be required to comply with original sight lines, and other new skyline structures will not be encouraged.
- 5.4.9 Important aspects of the Kineton landscape can be seen in areas such as the land between Kineton and Little Kineton from Bridge Street to King John's Mound; the battle field site to the south of Banbury Road; the land along the banks of the River Dene from Banbury Road to King John's Mound; the land to the north of Glosters Green alongside the old railway line between the Southam Road and Lighthorne Road; the land to the north of the Banbury Road between the Kineton High School and Walton Fields.
- 5.4.10 The Landscape Sensitivity Study 2011 indicates that any development to the north of the new housing estate (Walton Fields) would affect the way in which the settlement edge is stepped and well below the minor ridge top. Any development in this area would be significantly challenged by this constraint.
- 5.4.11 The green areas of land deep within the settlement and on the edge of the settlement boundary, as shown on the Valued Landscapes Map, are important features of Kineton and characterise the village. These pieces of open land bring the countryside close, and afford views across fields to

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the skyline formed by the surrounding hills to the northwest, north, east and south of the settlement. They should enable an excellent system of paths to give residents and visitors easy access to the countryside. They act as wildlife habitats and wildlife corridors.

Policy E3 – Minimising Pollution

Development proposals which would give, or potentially give, rise to pollution because of its type or its location will only be supported if they are accompanied by evidence that demonstrates any harmful impacts particularly arising from noise, light or traffic generation, including details of any measures to be taken to deal with the anticipated impacts of the proposal, are satisfactory.

Proposals which would give rise to unacceptable levels of air, light, noise or water pollution will be resisted.

Explanation

5.4.12 Paragraph 120 of the NPPF clearly sets out, in broad terms, that pollution is a material planning consideration. Pollution can and does have detrimental impacts on the environment and human health. In the absence of a robust plan policy, both the quality of life of local residents and the ecology of the area would be compromised.

5.4.13 This Neighbourhood Development Plan is particularly concerned with light pollution and the impact of development on the tranquillity of the Neighbourhood Area.

5.4.14 The Neighbourhood Development Plan will follow the recommendations of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (CPRE) to minimise noise generation.

5.4.15 The CPRE has stated “The tranquillity of the English countryside is one of its most important qualities. Tranquillity is important for our mental and physical well-being. It improves our quality of life. It is also critical to rural economies because it’s one of the main reasons why people head out of towns and cities to ‘get away from it all’. But getting away from it all is becoming harder and harder to do. Aircraft, cars, roads and building developments are all eroding the tranquillity that means so much to all of us.”

5.4.16 The roads through the centre of Kineton produce significant noise and air pollution, and new developments should not generate significant additional traffic. The bowl shape of the Dene Valley makes the village particularly vulnerable to reverberating sound which is transferred to other residential areas.

Policy E4 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation

Development proposals relating to the production of renewable energy will be supported providing they can be satisfactorily integrated into the character and appearance of the village and its environs.

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Proposals which fail to preserve or enhance the established character and appearance of the local area will be resisted.

Explanation

5.4.17 The benefits of renewable energy generation through processes such as biomass, ground source and air source heat pumps, hydroelectric, wind and thermal capture are all well-documented. This Neighbourhood Development Plan seeks to encourage rather than stifle opportunities to establish the generation of renewal energy in appropriate locations where the benefits of such projects clearly outweigh any harm.

Policy E5 – Flooding and Surface Water Drainage Systems

Development should not increase flood risk. Planning applications for development within the Plan area must be accompanied by a site-specific flood risk assessment in line with the requirements of national policy and advice, but may also be required on a site by site basis based on locally available evidence. All proposals must demonstrate that flood risk will not be increased elsewhere and that the proposed development is appropriately flood resilient and resistant.

Information accompanying the application should demonstrate how any mitigation measures will be satisfactorily integrated into the design and layout of the development.

The use of sustainable urban drainage systems and permeable surfaces will be encouraged where appropriate.

Development within Flood Zones 1 and 2 must demonstrate that it will not reduce the capacity and capability of the functional flood plain. Water compatible uses within Flood Zone 3 may be acceptable in certain circumstances but other forms of development will be strictly resisted.

All development proposals must incorporate suitable and sustainable means of drainage. Where site conditions are proven to be unsuitable, an alternative drainage solution will need to be agreed by the council and the relevant water authority. The re-use and recycling of water within developments will be encouraged.

Proposals which do not satisfactorily demonstrate secure arrangements for the prevention of fluvial and pluvial flooding will not be supported.

Explanation

5.4.18 The Liassic clay bowl which underlies Kineton is likely to respond particularly badly to climate change. The clay bakes into an impermeable surface across which the increased rainfall will flow rapidly without percolating into the top soil. The rapid sheet wash will flow into the River Dene causing flash flooding in some areas, in addition to the identified flood risk areas next to the River Dene.

5.4.19 Unless carefully sited and constructed, new housing and related hard surfaces will inevitably tend to exacerbate the flooding problems.

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Riverside vegetation should be protected as important natural habitat adding to the biodiversity of the village.

5.4.20 This policy aims to ensure that development does not make this unsatisfactory situation worse by requiring that appropriate mitigation measures are in place in a timely manner. Consideration should be given to the retention of land which can be used to slow down the flow of surface water and the creation of appropriate SUDS features.

5.4.21 Flood risk management is the responsibility of the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority (Warwickshire County Council). In the future, developers will be required to meet the national and local guidelines for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS). An explanation of Sustainable Drainage Systems is given in Appendix 4.

Policy E6 – Trees and Hedgerows

Development should retain and protect existing trees and hedgerows which are important for their historic, visual or biodiversity value unless the need for, and the benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh any loss. Where it is not possible or feasible to retain such trees or hedgerows in these circumstances replacement trees or hedgerows of an equivalent or better standard will be required in an appropriate location on the site.

All new developments should incorporate the planting of appropriate native trees and hedges in their plans.

Large-scale developments will need to demonstrate they have been landscape led in order to avoid retrofitting of poor quality or token landscaping

Explanation

5.4.22 New developments must not cramp the root run of established trees or require lopping to a degree that would materially hinder the future growth of the tree. Established hedgerows should be preserved unless there are exceptional reasons justifying their removal.

5.4.23 Trees in the conservation area are legally protected. Historically significant fragments of ancient hedgerow still exist within or close to the settlement which should be protected and enhanced to preserve biodiversity in the village. Hedgerows are important wildlife corridors connecting pastures around the settlement. They are significant features in the landscape, an important element in views largely unaltered for centuries.

5.4.24 Large-scale developments refer to 10 or more dwellings or 1,000 sqm or more of non-residential floor space.

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Policy E7 – Foul Drainage and Water Supply

All development proposals must demonstrate that there are or will be adequate water supply and water treatment facilities in place to serve the whole development.

Proposals that would result in an unacceptable risk to the quality and / or quantity of a water body or water bodies will not be permitted.

Proposals to expedite the improvement and upgrade the existing foul drainage network and its separation from the surface water / highway drainage systems within the village will be supported. All developments will be expected to demonstrate that there are suitable and satisfactory arrangements in place to deal with foul water.

Explanation

- 5.4.25 Local planning authorities have a general responsibility not to compromise the achievement of United Kingdom compliance with the Water Framework Directive (WFD42) (Directive 2000/60/EC). All surface water bodies need to achieve “good ecological status” by 2015. The Localism Act 2011 enables the UK government to require local authorities to pay if their inaction resulted in a failure to meet WFD requirements. The Localism Act 2011 also requires local planning authorities to co-operate on cross-boundary planning issues including the provision of water supply infrastructure, water quality, water supply and enhancement of the natural environment.
- 5.4.26 The effective management of waste water is considered critical in the pursuit of sustainable development and communities. It reduces the impact flooding can have on the community, maintains water quality and quantity and helps to enhance local amenity and biodiversity through the provision of green infrastructure.
- 5.4.27 Effective water management also reduces the movement of water and sewage thereby reducing energy requirements. The Parish Council will continue to work with Warwickshire County Council as lead local flood authority, the District Council, the Environment Agency and Severn Trent Water to achieve compliance with the WFD and aim to provide sufficient water to meet local needs.
- 5.4.28 All new developments should not exacerbate the already unsatisfactory foul water drainage system in Kineton which, for the majority of existing dwellings, is already at capacity and causes occasional unpleasant and unhygienic overflows.

Policy E8 – Biodiversity

Development should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity wherever possible. Existing ecological networks should be retained and new ecological habitats and networks are particularly encouraged. Measures to improve landscape quality, scenic beauty and tranquillity and to reduce light pollution are encouraged.

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Explanation

5.4.29 A Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) could provide a neighbourhood level response to the Government's National Action Plans for threatened habitats species and would sit alongside Warwickshire County Council's LBAP, which is currently under review.

5.4.30 A LBAP would contribute to national targets wherever these are relevant to the neighbourhood area but also could set local targets.

5.5 Infrastructure

Strategic Objective

5.5.1 Infrastructure is needed to support development and to help ensure that development can be delivered in a sustainable way. In addition to ensuring that proper account is taken of existing resource limitations and the capacity of existing services it is necessary to ensure that any additional infrastructure needed to enable development is delivered in a sustainable and viable way is considered.

Policy IN1 - Community Facilities

Existing community facilities play an important role in maintaining a strong, healthy and vibrant community. The loss of existing community facilities will be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that the facility is no longer viable or that the facility is no longer in active use and has no prospect of being brought back into use.

Proposals which enhance and improve existing community facilities will be supported.

New community facilities will be encouraged providing they are compatible with existing neighbouring uses.

Explanation

5.5.2 There is a presumption in favour of retaining existing community facilities which support a strong, healthy, vibrant and cohesive community. Such facilities will be protected from inappropriate forms of development which may cause harm either directly or indirectly through new development, redevelopment or changes of use.

5.5.3 Community venues such as leisure facilities, libraries, meeting rooms and civic buildings play a particularly important role in bringing together the community and preventing social isolation. This is especially important in vulnerable groups such as the elderly.

5.5.4 Examples of community facilities include shops and local businesses, community halls and churches, education, health centres and dispensaries, children's play areas and playing fields.

Policy IN2 - Encouraging Safe Use of Public Routes

As appropriate, development must demonstrate how walking and cycling opportunities have been prioritised. The Neighbourhood Area has a wealth of public routes which should be protected, enhanced, expanded and positively utilised in all new development. Proposals which either adversely affect existing walking and cycling routes or fail to encourage appropriate new walking and cycling opportunities will be resisted.

Kineton Neighbourhood Development Plan

Explanation

- 5.5.5 In order to encourage walking and cycling, new development must play its part in creating new recreational paths and safe cycle routes. Paths and routes should be direct, functional and link to the existing extensive network of rights of way within the Neighbourhood Area. This Plan is fully supportive of the work of Sustrans within the Neighbourhood Area.
- 5.5.6 Public routes include rivers, footpaths, bridleways and cycle ways. Public routes are an intrinsic component of what defines sustainable development.
- 5.5.7 Public routes should be protected and where possible enhanced and improved. New development should demonstrate how it utilises public routes to achieve sustainability. No new development should reduce the amenity currently enjoyed by the 'public route users' either physically or visually.

Policy IN3 - Protecting and Enhancing Green Open Spaces

Green open spaces will be protected and enhanced in order to ensure a suitable quantum and quality of recreational space is available for the residents of, and visitors to, the Neighbourhood Area.

Explanation

- 5.5.8 The minimum ratio of green space to population as set out in the Draft Core Strategy should be applied to all new developments in such a way as to correct any shortfall across the parish within the next 10 years, and to comply with Natural England's Greenspace Standard recommendations.
- 5.5.9 Safeguarding green open spaces within the Settlement Area will ensure the delivery of a green corridor along both sides of these important arterial public routes.
- 5.5.10 In accordance with paragraph 76 of the National Planning Policy Framework local communities through their neighbourhood plans can identify for special protection green areas of particular importance. By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances.
- 5.5.11 The green areas identified in the Development Constraints Map are considered important spaces within the Settlement Area worthy of such protection.

Policy IN4 – Highway Safety and Transport

All new development will be expected to demonstrate that:

- a) The safety of all roads users will not be compromised;
- b) There will be no demonstrable adverse impact on the capacity and operation of the local highway network;
- c) There is adequate off road parking to serve the development;
- d) There is safe access, egress and appropriate visibility to serve the development; and

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- e) Existing on-street parking problems are not exacerbated by the development.

Proposals which fail to demonstrate the above will not be supported.

In recognition of existing on-street parking problems in the village centre, any proposals which seek to increase the opportunity for off-road parking in or adjacent to the village centre will be supported.

Explanation

5.5.12 Kineton has for many years been impacted by a confluence of vehicle routes that, in the opinion of the Parish Council, has caused serious visible vehicular congestion²² and safety issues²³. There are five primary vehicle routes that lead into Kineton Parish. Two of these routes require passing over former old narrow railway bridges. The width restrictions caused by these bridges is a major safety concern to the Parish.

5.5.13 There also exists within the settlement a variety of narrow roads with one major route having an acute 90 degree angle turn.

5.5.14 Traffic problems are further exacerbated by substantial on-street parking by residents. There is little or no off street parking and there is limited opportunity to create new additional spaces away from the village streets. The width of the roads in the village centre with on-street parking already creates issues for vehicles both delivering and passing through.

5.5.15 One unique major problem faced by Kineton is the number of school coaches from Kineton High School which pass through the centre of the village twice a day throughout the school term with each bus undertaking four passages through the village daily. When this is multiplied by the average number of coaches (12) the impact of the coaches is substantial and creates major congestion.

5.5.16 Any new development should recognise the increase in vehicles attempting to negotiate the narrow restricted current road infrastructure. Routes to and from both secondary and primary schools require improved road infrastructure and provision should be required for adequate footpaths and cycle ways.

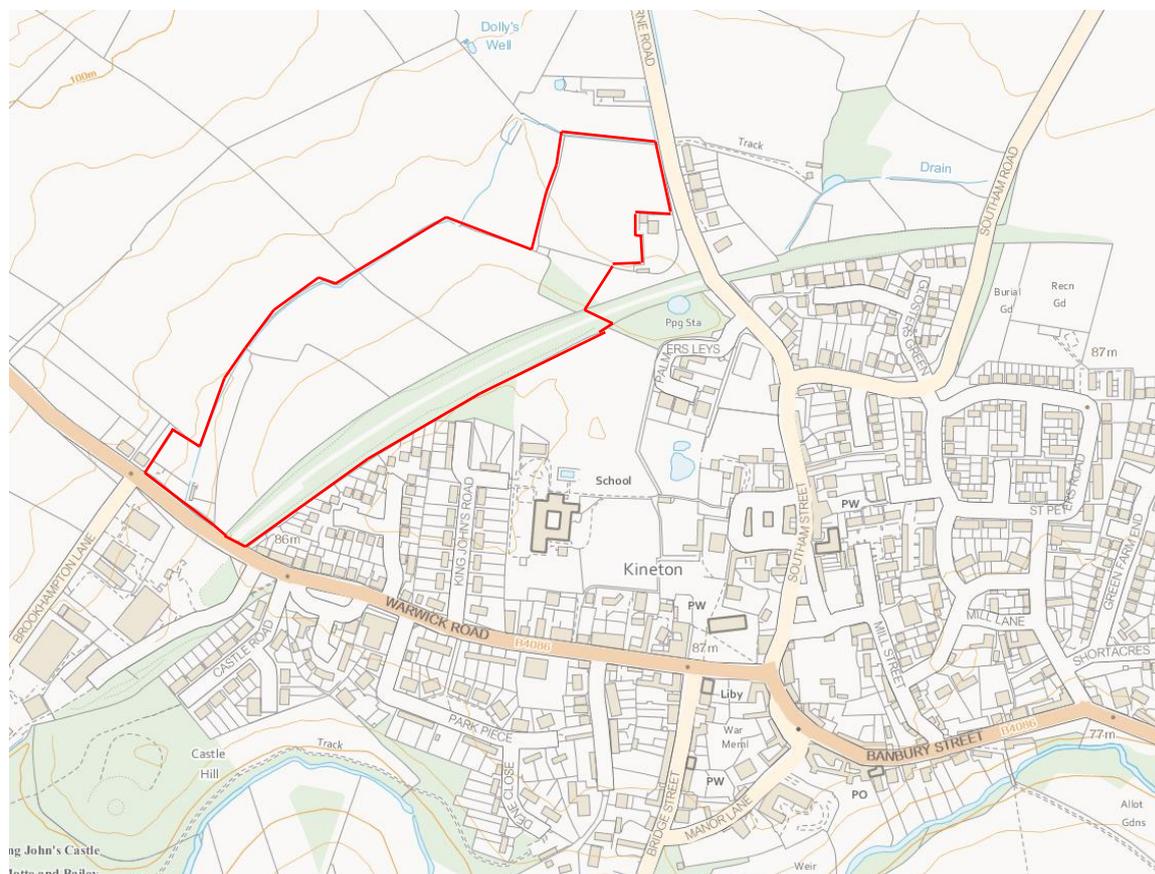
²² The interpretation of congestion is found in the DCLG 'Guidance on Transport Assessments 2007'

²³ Four personal injury accidents recorded: WCC collision data November 2011 – October 2014

5.6 Site Specific Policies

Strategic Objective

Kineton is designated as a Main Rural Centre in the Draft Core Strategy. As a Main Rural Centre, Kineton will play its part in meeting housing needs for the local area and the district. In order to achieve this role, the Neighbourhood Development Plan will provide for approximately 200²⁴ dwellings within the period of the Plan.



Policy SSB1 – Housing Allocation, Land to the north of Warwick Road shown as Site 1 on the Site Allocations and Safeguarded Land Map

Residential development for approximately 78 dwellings will only be permitted on this site subject to compliance of the following identified site specific criterion:

The existing railway cutting to the southern boundary of the allocated site will remain as a landscaped buffer zone in order to preserve the setting of this sensitive aspect of the site and assist in assimilating the development into the natural environment.

²⁴ Safeguarded sites have been identified in the event that this number changes as a result of the Planning Inspector's final report on the SDC Core Strategy. At February 2016 consented or completed developments in the Plan period represents 129 dwellings.



Policy SSB2 – Housing Allocation, Land to the south of Banbury Road shown as Site 2 on the Site Allocations and Safeguarded Land Map

Residential development for approximately 8 dwellings.



Policy SSB3 – Housing Allocation, Land to the north east of Little Kineton shown as Site 3 on the Site Allocations and Safeguarded Land Map

Residential development for approximately 10 dwellings will only be permitted on this site subject to compliance of the following identified site specific criteria:

- a) A landscaped buffer zone along the eastern and southern boundaries of the allocated site in order to preserve the setting of this sensitive aspect of the site and assist in assimilating the development into the natural environment; and
- b) Development will not be permitted to extend onto the registered battlefield site.



Policy SSB4 – Housing Allocation, Land adjacent to Walnut House, Little Kineton shown as Site 4 on the Site Allocations and Safeguarded Land Map

Residential development for approximately 10 dwellings will only be permitted on this site subject to compliance of the following identified site specific criterion:

A landscaped buffer zone along the western and southern boundary of the allocated site in order to preserve the setting of this sensitive aspect of the site and assist in assimilating the development into the natural environment.