

---

**To:** Planning Policy South  
**Subject:** RE: Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan

**From:** Bill Symonds  
**Sent:** 21 March 2019 10:58  
**To:** Planning Policy South <[Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan

Dear Sirs,

having attended the majority of the public meetings on this subject I would like to add my support to the Parish Council's view that the updated report DOES NOT require any modifications to the plan  
During this protacted process I have come to have complete faith in the P.C. and it's team with the decisions they have come to as being the very best options for the village.

Yours faithfully  
W. Symonds

---

**To:** Planning Policy South  
**Subject:** RE: Reviewed Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan - update

**From:** Lloyd Sweet, Robert  
**Sent:** 03 May 2019 17:01  
**To:** Planning Policy South <[Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Reviewed Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan - update

To whom it may concern

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the updated environmental report for the Long Wittenham Neighbourhood plan. We have previously commented on the neighbourhood plan at the regulation 16 consultation, including setting out our concerns with regard to the allocation of land at Didcot Road for development due to the potential impact on remains of archaeological interest. The presence of remains in the area has been demonstrated on land just north of the site through recent archaeological evaluation undertaken to inform planning application P16/S1124/O, which demonstrated that the large Anglo-Saxon cemetery site excavated at Saxon Heath (west of Didcot Road, Historic Environment Record Number 2850) extends to the east of the road in addition to the crop mark evidence of an extensive archaeological site which is well recorded and has been investigated through archaeological excavation by Oxford University archaeology department as reported in the Journal South Midlands Archaeology Vol. 47, page 81 [http://www.archaeologyuk.org/cbasn/index.htm\\_files/SMA%202017.pdf](http://www.archaeologyuk.org/cbasn/index.htm_files/SMA%202017.pdf).

The extensive area of crop marks is illustrated in Figure 6 of the Archaeological desk based archaeological assessment accompanying planning application P16/S1124/O, which can be viewed at [http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/dynamic\\_serve.jsp?ID=1051485934&CODE=8CEDAB575CEB7344519C2BEAAC47208C](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/dynamic_serve.jsp?ID=1051485934&CODE=8CEDAB575CEB7344519C2BEAAC47208C). It should be born in mind that crop marks reveal only a portion of the subsurface distribution of archaeological remains and that, for example, they are not a reliable guide to the distribution of grave cuts in cemetery areas. As such we feel the environmental reports statement on the presence of archaeological remains in the area of the proposed allocation site (which refers only to the historic map reference to the Anglo-Saxon cemetery, rather than the more detailed record provided by the Historic Environment Record) is incomplete and does not provide a reliable means of considering the potential impact of the proposed development.

We are also concerned that the Environmental Report's assessment of the preferred options impact for archaeology is overly reliant on higher level policy to provide protection of the archaeological remains where the policy creates a presumption in favour of development without clear consideration of whether other policies may make this unacceptable (as described in footnote 6 of the National Planning Policy Framework). It states at 9.23 that appropriate archaeological assessment is undertaken prior to the allocation of the site. but in the next paragraph, without this assessment having been undertaken, states that the development of the site is unlikely to result in any significant negative effects. We would contend that this is not adequately established and that, a situation is likely to occur where the potential harm of (or negative effects) of development to the historic environment) will have to considered and either avoided or, potentially considered with regard to the public benefits of the scheme that could not otherwise be delivered. In this circumstance it would have been more acceptable if this had been given professional consideration at the plan making stage in order to provide an informed policy approach to provide clarity for applicants and decision maker .

We partly agree with the conclusion of the Environmental Report at 9.25 that further archaeological research should be required as an element of the allocation policy as a prior requirement for submission of a planning application (or Neighbourhood Development Order), but feel that this should be more clearly identified as 'investigation' rather than simply assessment. Nevertheless we feel that the SEA does not provide a sufficient assessment of the implications of this site allocation on the archaeological resource and the alternative impact of other options.

We hope these comments on the environmental report as updated are of assistance to the examiner, but would be pleased to answer queries relating to them if necessary.

Yours faithfully

Robert Lloyd-Sweet

Robert Lloyd-Sweet  
Historic Places Advisor (South East England)  
Historic England | London and South East | Floor 4 The Atrium, Cannon Bridge House, 25 Dowgate Hill, London, EC4R 2YA  
Mobile: 07825 907288

Responses to the publicity period will be forwarded to the independent examiner. This will include comments, names and contact details and is required by Part 5, Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Neighbourhood Planning) Regulations 2012. We have received assurance that the data will be kept securely and not used for any other purpose.



We are the public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment, from beaches and battlefields to parks and pie shops.

Follow us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) Sign up to our [newsletter](#)

This e-mail (and any attachments) is confidential and may contain personal views which are not the views of Historic England unless specifically stated. If you have received it in error, please delete it from your system and notify the sender immediately. Do not use, copy or disclose the information in any way nor act in reliance on it. Any information sent to Historic England may become publicly available. We respect your privacy and the use of your information. Please read our full [privacy policy](#) for more information.

---

**To:** Planning Policy South  
**Subject:** RE: Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan!!!!!!

-----Original Message-----

From:  
Sent: 21 March 2019 13:50  
To: Planning Policy South <Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk>  
Subject: Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan!!!!!!

Dear Sirs.,

Having read an e.mail, re the Community Hub.,proposed for Long Wittenham, I am absolutely staggered that it proposes to enable space for 40 -45 dwellings, WHAT?, surely they cannot be serious, I had no idea that new dwellings were part of the 'Hub', surely that cannot happen,with so many many new builds getting ever nearer to the Village,its already enveloping the place and its surroundings, with the never ending expansion of Didcot. I sincerely hope that no such permission will be granted,. I have been lucky enough to live in Little Wittenham since 1968,during which time I have seen quite a few changes, I would hate to think that Long Wittenham will soon be part of Didcot which its getting nearer and nearer, I ask you please dont grant plans to finish it off completely, if so, yet another Village would "bite the dust", where will it end? what with South Oxfordshire proposing to build on the Green Belt it will all be a death knell for the whole area.

I hope you understand,but I think there are more than enough houses being built,if it keeps going like it is,we will finish up havening to have a Human Cull and that would be very difficult. Seeing as I am now an octogenarian I would probably draw the short straw for that.!!

I am,  
yours sincerely,  
Mrs.Hilary V.E.Dowse.,  
the record, I was born and bred in Oxfordshire.) .

.(Just for

---

**To:** Planning Policy South  
**Subject:** RE: 2019-05-03 277341 Reviewed Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan - update

**From:** Sweet-Escott, Eleanor <[Eleanor.Sweet-Escott@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Eleanor.Sweet-Escott@naturalengland.org.uk)>  
**Sent:** 01 May 2019 11:15  
**To:** Planning Policy South <[Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Planning.Policy@southoxon.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: 2019-05-03 277341 Reviewed Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan - update

Dear Jessica Wilmshurst,

Thank you for your consultation on the Long Wittenham Neighbourhood Plan.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where our interests would be affected by the proposals made.

Natural England has no comment to make on the changes to the Environmental Report and the Non-technical summary. We do however wish to reiterate our previous representations on this Neighbourhood Plan, and please note that this advice applies equally and fully to these changes.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by return email.

Kind Regards,

**Eleanor Sweet-Escott**

Lead Adviser

Sustainable Development

Thames Team

07827 312290

<https://www.gov.uk/natural-england>

**We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.**

**Natural England offers two chargeable services – The Discretionary Advice Service ([DAS](#)) provides pre-application, pre-determination and post-consent advice on proposals to developers and consultants as well as pre-licensing species advice and pre-assent and consent advice. The Pre-submission Screening Service ([PSS](#)) provides advice for protected species mitigation licence applications.**

**These services help applicants take appropriate account of environmental considerations at an early stage of project development, reduce uncertainty, reduce the risk of delay and added cost at a later stage, whilst securing good results for the natural environment.**