



EAST HAGBOURNE
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN -
2018 to 2033

Plan Made - April 2019
- Draft 2023 Update

**Statement assessing the significance of the changes
proposed to the existing NDP.**

East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Plan 2023 Update

Modification Statement

This statement has been prepared to respond to Regulation 17(e)(ii) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and describes the extent of the changes proposed to the NDP. We believe these changes are material modifications which do not change the nature of the plan

The East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan was formally 'made' by South Oxfordshire District Council on 11th April 2019, since when it has formed part of that council's development plan.

East Hagbourne Parish Council and its Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have prepared an update to the Plan, which is now submitted for Reg 14 consultation. Changes to the Plan have been made in three areas:

Appendix 11 presents a new "Design Guide and Codes". This has been prepared for us by AECOM and is based both on national criteria and on an understanding of our local village character. It supports, in particular, **Policy VC3** which calls on development to retain our smaller village character and promote good design, providing detailed guidance on how this can be achieved..

Existing **Policy E2** requires that development proposals should respect the natural environment and protect and enhance biodiversity. This objective is reinforced by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which calls for local wildlife-rich habitats to be identified, mapped and safeguarded. We have responded to this through a new **Appendix 12**, which is a "Strategy for People and Nature". It maps what we know about wildlife at a local level in East Hagbourne parish and gives recommendations for how our wildlife assets can be safeguarded and enhanced. The additional information has allowed us to complement **Policy E2** with two new policies - **E2a** on Wildlife Buffers and **E2b** on Enhancing Wildlife Habitat which give more specific guidance on how biodiversity can be protected and enhanced.

The existing plan includes designation of six Local Green Spaces and identification of five other spaces as assets of local distinctiveness and of special importance to the community. In this 2023 update changes have been made to expand the area of one of our Local Green Spaces (Paddocks along Bakers Lane) in **Policy E1** and **Appendix 3**, and to add the small green spaces at Rymans Crescent and Windsor Crescent as "Assets of Local Distinctiveness" in **Policy VC4**.

There are many detail wording changes in the main report to respond to the latest NPPF (a new version was issued in 2021) and the Local Plan (SODC's Local Plan 2035 is now published and there is a Joint South & Vale plan in preparation). While these do not significantly change the objectives, they do require a lot of detail edits to reference the correct policy numbers and statements.

Conclusion

The changes proposed do not change the nature of the neighbourhood development plan - the Vision and Objectives remain unchanged and the Policies remain broadly the same, with new references to the two new Appendices where appropriate. The two new appendices strengthen and clarify the application of the policies. Both of these contain elements allowing our Plan to more clearly respond to environmental issues. The two new policies, E2a and E2b complement and expand the existing policy E2.

We therefore consider that the changes proposed constitute material modifications which do not change the nature of the NDP and would require examination but not a referendum.

Prepared by East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, 16 March 2023
