

## **Verification Sub Group – April / May 2017**

### **Renewable Energy, Environment, Open Spaces & Public Rights Of Way.**

**Sub Group Meeting – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – Black Horse.**

**Present.** Tom Johnson, John Ward & Clive Stretton.

#### **Renewable Energy:**

V7 NP Pre Submission Page 12 -Wind Energy

2.16 One of the key factors determining the acceptability or otherwise of wind turbines is their potential impacts on the local landscape – this is due to their height and the movement they introduce into the landscape (i.e. rotating blades). The assessment found that the landscapes in Hinckley and Bosworth have a moderate/moderate high sensitivity to large scale turbines.

-Not clear what this means.

*Action – John to ask Colin about the term ‘Assessment’*

2.17 National planning policy allows local people to have the final say on wind farm applications. In our 2016 Questionnaire Survey, over half of respondents were against wind turbines and/or wind farms.

- Only 28% in favour.

*Action – Suggestion to include more statistics in the NP Pre-Submission Document.*

#### **Microgeneration Technologies**

2.20 Many microgeneration technologies projects, such as solar photovoltaic panels, ground source and air source heat pumps are often permitted development which means they do not require planning permission providing certain limits and conditions are met. **65% of survey** respondents supported solar panels on the roofs of homes and other buildings.

*Action – Should read ‘Solar Panels were supported by 65%.....*

#### **Flooding:**

OK – Covered ‘in depth’ at previous Steering Meetings

#### **Street Lighting:**

There appears to be no mention of Street Lighting in V7 NP Pre Submission.

*Action – Suggestion of including in the ‘Design’ section.*

#### **Open Spaces:**

*Action – Check terminology -Are Local Green Spaces the same as Open Spaces?*

Clive working on Planit-X Local Green Spaces Criteria for each of the Open Spaces and Open Spaces identified in the Questionnaire data.

#### **Leisure Activities:**

The Sub Groups Report (January 2017) – RCC report – OK  
However, appears to be no mention of Leisure Activities in the V7 NP Pre Submission  
*Action – Should cycling be mentioned contributing to Tourism.*

**Rural Characteristics:**

*Action - Include Statistics from the questionnaire to strengthen V7 NP Pre Submission Rural Characteristics statement.*

*Action - Wildlife to be included in a policy.*

**Public Rights of Way:**

V7 NP Pre Submission Page 11 –Access to the Countryside

2.8 Sheepy Parish has an extensive network of recreational routes. These routes have been developed by Leicestershire County Council, working with local partners, over the last 30 years.  
*Action – Add – ‘to enhance the tourism trade in the area’.*

2.9 A good number of public footpaths link the parish’s settlements. Our 2016 survey demonstrated that all the footpaths were considered important by local people.  
*Action – Add – ‘Some of which are walked daily by a significant number of people’.*

Policy S2: Public Rights of Way network

Development should protect the Rights of Way and wherever possible create new links to the network.

*Action – Should be a stronger statement.*

Policy S3: Landscape Character and Locally Important Views

Development should be located and designed in a way that is sensitive to its landscape. Development should safeguard and, where possible, enhance the following important views and vistas (as shown on the Policies Map):

*Action- Should be a stronger statement, including changing ‘should’ to ‘must’.*

**Young Persons Questionnaire:**

The summary covers the RCC report.

*Action- There needs to be a paragraph acknowledging the Young Person’s Questionnaire and indicating that their opinions were reflected and incorporated in the Adults Questionnaire data.*