

# WALKERN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2017–2033 Consultation Statement



SUBMISSION VERSION

# **Walkern Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation statement June 2017**

## **1. Introduction**

This consultation statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 in respect of the Walkern Parish Neighbourhood Plan (WPNP).

The legal basis of the Statement is provided by Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, which requires that a consultation statement should:

- Contain details of the people and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Explain how they were consulted
- Summarise the main issues and concerns that were raised
- Describe how those issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan.

## **2. Aims of consultation process**

Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group (WNPNG) embarked on the process of community consultation with the following aims:

- To engage all sections of the community in the opportunity to shape the future of Walkern Parish through the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan
- To strengthen the sense of community by ensuring the Plan was informed by the views of local people and stakeholders right from the beginning of the neighbourhood planning process
- To engage as many local people as possible in the neighbourhood planning process through a combination of traditional and online media, and public events
- To ensure that outcomes from key consultation events fed directly into policy amendments and improvements to the Plan.

### **3. Background to consultation**

Walkern Parish was one of the first parishes in the district of East Hertfordshire to commit to producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

At a meeting of Walkern Parish Council on May 6, 2014, residents and councilors discussed the need to meet the housing requirements that had been set out in the draft East Herts District Plan.

The Group recognised the opportunity to create a neighbourhood plan that would allow the local community to have a greater say in how Walkern Parish would continue to evolve and meet the needs of existing and future residents.

The Parish Council agreed that a residents' group - the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group (WNPG) - would be formed to prepare and develop a neighbourhood plan on its behalf, and with its support.

The decision to make the project resident-led was designed to empower the community and ensure membership of the group was open to all.

Several residents joined and left WNPG at various stages throughout the production of the Plan. The Group was supported by professional input from an experienced local neighbourhood planning consultant, Jacqueline Veater.

WNPG met for the first time on June 5, 2014, to decide how to take the project forward. The intention to develop a Neighbourhood Plan was publicised in the popular village magazine *The Walkern Journal* and on *Walkern.net*, a website for the Parish of Walkern (See **Appendix 1** for example excerpts of articles referring to the neighbourhood plan in the Walkern Journal and on Walkern.net.)

Walkern Parish Council submitted an application for the designation of their Neighbourhood Area to East Herts District Council (EHDC) on October 8, 2014. The Council's executive panel agreed the designation on January 6, 2015 (See **Appendix 2** for the Request for Area Designation for Walkern Neighbourhood Plan and EHDC committee report).

The consultation process included online and postal questionnaires, public open days and workshops, one-to-one meetings with landowners and social media discussion. Full details are provided in the next section.

### **4. People and organisations consulted**

In addition to parish residents, groups and organisations, businesses, statutory consultees and adjacent Parish Councils were consulted during the course of the neighbourhood plan process. A full spreadsheet of all consultees is contained in the **Appendix 8** to this report.

The WNPG engaged the following groups and organisations to help develop the Plan:

- John Pearson (for a moth list)
- River Beane Restoration Association on issues to do with the river
- Environment Agency: “Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea” information
- Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust who provided the WNPG with a wildlife survey
- Hertfordshire Community Development Agency to carry out a Housing Needs Survey

A community questionnaire was hand delivered to every household in Walkern Parish. Flyers publicising the public open days and workshops were also delivered to every household.

East Herts Council were kept apprised of the process of the Plan and provided helpful comments on draft policies.

## **5. Community consultation process**

### **Phase 1: Background research June 2014 - September 2014**

WNPG carried out research into available neighbourhood planning advice and best practice, and reviewed plans that had been delivered successfully. After studying EHDC’s draft district plan to ensure approaches were aligned, the Group identified six key policy areas:

- Housing
- Nature and the environment
- Community and leisure
- Local economy
- Transport
- Heritage

Members of WNPG collected photographic images of sites of interest, landmarks and environmental features from around Walkern Parish (see **Appendix 3** for examples of the photographic library). One member of the Group received training in geographic information systems (GIS) mapping software, enabling the WNPG to visualise key issues on large maps at subsequent community engagement events (see **Appendix 4** for map example at open day).

### **Phase 2: Community questionnaire October 2014 - December 2014**

WNPG designed a questionnaire to gather the community’s views on the local issues that mattered to them most. It was intended as a scoping



exercise to inform the development of the first draft of the Plan's vision and objectives. It also represented an excellent opportunity to explain the neighbourhood plan process to residents and secure their support.

The questionnaire included sections aimed specifically at under 18s and over 60s. A separate questionnaire was produced for local businesses. Local people contributed photographs of the village to illustrate the questionnaire.

The questionnaires were professionally printed and hand delivered, with the help of local volunteers, to every household and business in Walkern Parish on October 1, 2014. Residents were asked to return completed questionnaires to the village shop. Alternatively, they could complete it online, a web link for which was provided in the hard copy. The deadline for submissions was November 30 2014.

In addition to being posted through every letterbox, the questionnaire was advertised in the Walkern Journal, on Walkern.net, on the village notice boards, in the village shop and in the local café, the Brewery Tearooms.

A total of 231 completed questionnaires were returned. The Group analysed the results in December 2014. The completed questionnaires presented a broad picture of the local community's hopes, needs and concerns. This shaped the drafting of WNPG's vision statement and policy objectives (see separate documents *Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire* and *Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Business Questionnaire* available on the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan website).

### **Phase 3: Increasing online presence of WNPG January 2015 - March 2015**

In order to reach a wider audience, WNPG decided to set up a dedicated website and Facebook community page for the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan.

[www.walkernneighbourhoodplan.com](http://www.walkernneighbourhoodplan.com);  
[www.facebook.com/walkernneighbourhoodplan](https://www.facebook.com/walkernneighbourhoodplan).

The website included a 'subscribe to updates' box so news updates could be sent via email to people who signed up.

As part of the design process we encouraged local residents to send in photos that reflected what village life meant to them and a selection were used to illustrate the website. The existence of the website and Facebook page were highlighted via the Walkern Journal, Walkern.net and local campaign website Walkern Action.

## **Phase 4: Community consultation events**

### **April 2015 - June 2016**

#### Public open day - developing our vision and objectives April 18, 2015

The Group's first public meeting was held on Saturday 18 April 2015 at Walkern Sports & Community Centre.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to gather community feedback on WNPG's draft vision statement and objectives that would underpin the Plan. Other key objectives of the day included:

- Reminding local residents of what the neighbourhood planning process entails and its importance
- Providing the community with an update on the work of the Group
- Generating questions and discussion about the Plan
- Seeking offers of help from local volunteers to progress the plan
- Mapping the next stages in the process

Leaflets publicising the meeting were hand delivered to all 650 households in the Parish. The meeting was publicised on the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan website and Facebook page and the Walkern Action website and Facebook page.

An introductory presentation was given by WNPG's planning consultant, which explained the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan from a draft vision, through agreeing objectives, gathering evidence and considering alternative policies to be included in the plan (see Open Day Presentation Slides April 18 2015, **Appendix 5**).

More than 70 local residents took part, in addition to those organising the event and members of WNPG. Attendees were asked to take an active part in the event. This included ranking a draft set of Neighbourhood Plan objectives with sticky dots (see **Appendix 6**); adding 'leaves' to a pledge tree in order to offer WNPG specific support (see **Appendix 7**); and joining in roundtable discussions (facilitated by members of WNPG) on topics like housing, transport and community facilities.

A full meeting report, including the results of the ranking of the Neighbourhood Plan objectives was produced (see **Appendix 8**).

#### Community engagement at Walkern Fair, May 3, 2015

Walkern Fair is a popular annual event in the village and is well attended by families. Conscious of the need to increase engagement with this demographic, the WNPG set up a stand at the Fair (on Walkern sports field) and encouraged residents to view maps and the vision and objectives document, and ask questions. For the booking form, a photograph of the stall and the comments received on the stall see **Appendix 9**.

## Public open day - feedback on draft plan policies, 4pm - 9pm, June 9, 2016

The WNPG held a public exhibition at the Walkern Sports & Community Centre on June 9 to seek feedback on the draft policies that underpin the Plan (see **Appendix 10** for poster advertising event and **Appendix 11** for a display showing the feedback received so far). Open to the public for five hours, it ran alongside East Herts District Council's consultation on the Walkern Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal & Management Plan.

Maps of the Parish were blown up and used to illustrate key features of the Plan (e.g. location of designated local green spaces). Each of the Plan policies was printed on separate posters and attendees were asked to fill in comment forms for each policy (see **Appendix 12**) for photos of the event).

## **Phase Five: Statutory Consultation (Regulation 14) January to June 2017**

The Regulation 14 Draft Walkern Neighbourhood Plan consultation was launched on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and concluded on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017. The consultation was advertised in the Hertfordshire Mercury and through the Facebook site (see **Appendix 15**) as well as response forms being distributed to each household in the parish together with a summary of the plan. A public event was held in the Sports and Community Centre on the afternoon of Saturday 14 January 2017, to allow residents to look at paper copies of the documents, ask questions and gain help from the WNPG and our planning consultant on how to fill in the response form. Those attending found this very useful as a way to fill in the response forms.

In addition to the public consultation, notification of the consultation was sent to more than 70 addresses either posted, hand delivered or by email. These addresses included statutory consultees, adjacent parishes, local businesses and East Herts Council (see full list in **Appendix 18**).

Residents were encouraged to complete the form on-line if they were able to, but if they were not comfortable with this option, comments could be written on a paper copy of the form and dropped into a box in the general store in the High Street. Handwritten comments received were then transcribed into a spreadsheet.

A total of 45 respondents were recorded. Each respondent was given a WNPG reference number 1-45. These comprised:

- 38 Residents
- 2 Landowners
- 1 Local Group
- 4 Other Consultees

## **6. Selection of potential housing sites**

The initial community questionnaire and the first public open day highlighted a clear preference from local residents for Walkern's housing quota to be filled through several smaller sites spread across the village. Using the sites identified by East Herts District Council through its Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA), the WNPG contacted local landowners in March 2015 to inquire about future development plans. The Group ranked these SLAA sites according to a set of sustainability criteria. Some landowners expressed interest in development; some chose not to engage in the process.

However, this process was taking place at the same time as a planning application for a 98-home development (later reduced to 85) in Walkern was submitted to East Herts District Council.

The WNPG opposed the application on the basis that community consultation had flagged a preference for several smaller development sites and that the scale of the development was inappropriate for the village.

East Herts District Council refused planning permission. However, in February 2016 the Planning Inspectorate overturned the decision on appeal and permission was granted for up to 85 homes. This far exceeded Walkern's development requirements up to 2033, as specified by East Herts' Draft District Plan. It was decided that this single site would accommodate Walkern's housing development needs during the Neighbourhood Plan period.

The selection of housing sites was halted at this point.

## **7. Issues raised during consultation process - and how they were addressed in the Plan**

### **Community questionnaire**

The WNPG's initial household questionnaire produced some rich findings (see a summary of responses **Appendix 13**). The issues raised in residents' responses fundamentally shaped the vision and objectives, and the findings run right through the policies that underpin the Plan.

Respondents placed great value on Walkern's rural character and several of the Plan's objectives reflect the intention to preserve and enhance green space around the Parish and safeguard important vistas. Policies 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10 have particular relevance for the preservation and enhancement of Walkern's rural character.

Questionnaire responses highlighted a clear preference for development to occur in a few smaller sites spread evenly across the village, as opposed to one large development. This became one of the key objectives and



approaches were made to landowners to ascertain their appetite for development. However, we were forced to abandon this objective when the Planning Inspector awarded planning permission for up to 85 homes on Land South of Froghall Lane.

People had strong opinions on the type and mix of housing required in Walkern. Many highlighted the importance of providing new housing for older people living in the village who wished to downsize. A common theme was the need for affordable starter homes for young families and young people who would like to move out of their family homes but stay in the village. As a result the Parish Council contracted Community Development Action (CDA) Herts to carry out a survey of housing needs in October 2016 (see flyer for the consultation **Appendix 14**). Several people favoured two-storey homes over three-storey homes. These views are all reflected in Policy 8 - the framework for the development of Land South of Froghall Lane.

Concerns over Walkern's limited road infrastructure and traffic congestion at peak times were raised repeatedly. Policies 16 and 17 were designed to address these concerns.

A number of respondents felt it was important to enhance Walkern's recreation facilities and stressed the crucial role that many of the village's assets such as the pubs, shop and post office play in village life. These points are reflected in Policies 18, 19 and 20.

### **First public open day**

A full report on the first public open day, held on April 18, 2015, can be found in **Appendix 8**.

The vision developed by the WNPG was thought to be 'good' to 'excellent' with no queries, concerns or objections.

The results of the workshop exercises replicated the results of the initial questionnaire. The most popular objectives concerned open spaces and public access, protection of the River Beane, the identification of several small housing sites rather than just one site, the protection of local landscape character and biodiversity, and phasing new development to limit impact on village infrastructure.

With public feedback strengthening the questionnaire findings, the WNPG felt it had a strong evidence base on which to form its plan policies.

### **Second public open day**

Details of the feedback received from June 2016 Public Open Day on each of the Plan policies and, where relevant, how the policies changed as a result is presented in **Appendix 16**.

A Policy Process Map identifying policies and evidence was compiled and this has been updated to take into account changes made in the Submission draft of the plan. The process involved looking at options on how best to achieve the objectives and the evidence that the policies were needed. This table presented in **Appendix 17**. The first policy in the plan POLICY 1 Sustainable Development relates to the achievement of all of the objectives and is the thread that links the policies together.

### **Consultation on the Regulation 14 draft of the Plan**

Three spreadsheets were produced containing the comments received to the Regulation 14 Consultation and are attached below (see **Appendix 19**). Each spreadsheet details the WNPg's response to the comments and the subsequent changes that have been made to the Submission Draft Walkern Neighbourhood Plan. The comments of residents are on a separate page spreadsheet to the other consultees. It transpired that more comments were received on Policy 8 Land South of Froghall Lane, than any other policy. The comments from both residents and other consultees are compiled on a separate spreadsheet specifically for Policy 8.

### **8. Other issues raised during consultation process - the Project List**

As a result of the consultation exercises, ideas and suggestions were made for improvements to facilities and services in the Parish. These have been captured in a 'Project List' of diverse projects. Grant funding through schemes such as Biffa and the Heritage Lottery Fund and funding from new developments (S106 and New Homes Bonus etc.) will be directed to projects that will benefit the greatest number of residents and businesses. These projects will be complimentary to and implemented in parallel with, the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan to achieve the objectives set out in section 3. The Project List is attached as **Appendix 20**.

# Appendix

## List of Appendices

<b>Appendix 1</b>	Excerpts from the Walkern Journal and Walkern.net
<b>Appendix 2</b>	Request for Area Designation for Walkern Neighbourhood Plan
<b>Appendix 3</b>	Images of the Parish collected by residents
<b>Appendix 4</b>	Example of map displayed at open day
<b>Appendix 5</b>	Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Open Day Presentation Slides April 2015
<b>Appendix 6</b>	Ranking Objectives at Open Day April 2015
<b>Appendix 7</b>	Pledge Tree from Open Day April 2015
<b>Appendix 8</b>	Report of Open Day April 2015
<b>Appendix 9</b>	Booking form, photograph and comments from Walkern Fair May 2015
<b>Appendix 10</b>	Poster used to advertise the June 2015 Public Meeting
<b>Appendix 11</b>	Display of feedback at June 2016 Public Meeting
<b>Appendix 12</b>	Photographs of June 2016 Public Meeting
<b>Appendix 13</b>	Summary of Questionnaire Responses
<b>Appendix 14</b>	CDA Herts Housing Needs Survey Flyer
<b>Appendix 15</b>	Publicity for Regulation 14 Consultation
<b>Appendix 16</b>	Feedback on policies June 2016 Public Meeting
<b>Appendix 17</b>	Policy Map Identifying Policy Options and Evidence
<b>Appendix 18</b>	Spreadsheet of Consultees for Regulation 14 Consultation
<b>Appendix 19</b>	Responses from Regulation 14 Consultation
<b>Appendix 20</b>	Project List

# **Appendix 1**

## **Excepts from Walkern Journal June 2014**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at the best attended Parish Council meeting for a very, very long time, the Chairman, Steve Jenner, invited comment from the floor about the impact on the village of the widely publicised East Herts Draft District Plan.

It is clear that, assuming the plan becomes law, Walkern will have to find space for 47 new homes. Whilst this cannot be changed it may be possible for the village to have some say in the planning. To do this a Neighbourhood Plan would have to be produced, voted for by at least 51% of the electorate and finally, if approved by the appropriate authority, will become law and planning decisions will be passed from East Herts District to your Parish Council.

This very complex task is simply too large to be carried out by a volunteer Parish Council with a maximum of seven members at full strength, so, following a lively debate about various aspects the Chairman asked for volunteers from the floor.

A fantastic initial response was received with nearly half the room putting their names forward to help in some way, typing, legalities etc. etc. The Parish Council decided there was therefore sufficient support to take this project forward.

A meeting of the willing volunteers will be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June 7.03 pm at the WSCC to find the best way forward. Once a date has been decided it will be posted on the Council notice board just outside the Village stores. If you would like to help and get involved but are not able to make the meeting please just contact the Parish Clerk, Heidi Broady on 07971 726424.

## **Except from Walkern Journal May 2015**

### **Walkern Parish Council minutes**

#### **Neighbourhood Plan - update**

A grant of £2,100 has been received from the CDA which will go towards Jacqueline Veater's fees for advising the WNP. The EHDC draft plan does not look like being ratified before the end of the year, the group is still waiting for an authorised list of SLAA sites and a task group has been set up to identify sites not currently shown. The parish as a whole and not just the village has been accepted as our designated area for the Neighbourhood Plan. The group will be holding a stall at the Walkern Fair on 4th May 2015 and requested permission to set up a web site. Cllr Alexander commented "as the web site will be in the name of Walkern Parish Council, the Council needs to look at all the information first but that it makes sense to have everything on one site". Cllr Alexander will be the contact.

Posted on September 17, 2014 by Dave Standing — No Comments ↓

# Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Update

August 2014

Pauline Kellett

Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group met for the third time in August.

Please note the name of the group is now agreed as above and will be used in all documentation in the future.

Contact has been made with the East Herts Planning Office and a planning officer has been able to provide support and advice, and will continue to do so as long as it is needed. This has already proved to be very helpful.

The outstanding action is to get the actual Neighbourhood Plan area agreed and an application is being submitted to request that the actual Parish Boundary be the Neighbourhood Plan area ? seems rather obvious but we have to be particular.

Investigations are also underway to see what funding can be found to assist with the costs of producing our plan. Grants are available and will be applied for accordingly.

The group is also requesting that East Herts District Council undertake a Housing Needs Survey in Walkern. This will involve a questionnaire being sent to every household in the village. We are not sure when this might take place but it will provide very useful information as to the current housing requirements of Walkern residents and important background information for the Plan. We would really appreciate as many people as possible completing and returning the questionnaire when it drops through your letterboxes.

Communication with all residents and businesses in Walkern is critical in order to keep people updated on progress but also for gathering ideas, information and people's thoughts and views. As well as regular articles in the Walkern Journal, notices will go up on the noticeboards and posts will be put on the Walkern website ? [www.walkern.net](http://www.walkern.net)

The next meeting for the Neighbourhood Plan Group is scheduled for 18th September.

## Neighbourhood Planning Group

Posted on October 31, 2014 by Dave Standing — No Comments ↓

Walkern Neighbourhood Planning Group (WNPg)

### MISSION STATEMENT

Walkern people planning for the future of our community  
by building on our history and preserving our  
unique village character

## Appendix 2

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### WALKERN PARISH COUNCIL Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group

8<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Secretary: Sally Roberts  
28 Froggall Lane  
Walkern  
Herts SG2 7PH

Email: [sally.a.roberts.walkern@gmail.com](mailto:sally.a.roberts.walkern@gmail.com)

Kevin Steptoe  
Planning and Building Control  
East Herts Council  
Walfields  
Peggs Lane  
Hertford SG13 8EQ

By email only

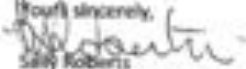
Dear Sirs,

#### APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

Walkern Parish Council and its Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group, as a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011), hereby requests that the village of Walkern as defined by its parish boundary and outlined in black on the enclosed map, be designated as a Neighbourhood Area as specified in Schedule 9 61G of the Localism Act 2011.

The Parish Council and its Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group considers this an appropriate area for designating as a Neighbourhood Area for the following reasons:-

- The boundaries represent existing and well established boundaries.
- This complies with the guidance given in Interim Neighbourhood Planning Guidance Note (East Herts Council, December 2011) that "the expectation in East Herts is that neighbourhood areas will follow parish boundaries".

Yours sincerely,  


Sally Roberts  
Secretary for Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group  
On behalf of Walkern Parish Council



## EAST HERTS COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE – 6 JANUARY 2015

### REPORT BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR PLANNING POLICY AND TRANSPORT

#### REQUEST FOR AREA DESIGNATION FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING: WALKERN PARISH

WARD(S) AFFECTED: Walkern

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#### **Purpose/Summary of Report**

- **To enable the consideration of an application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area.**

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION FOR EXECUTIVE:</u> that:</b>	
<b>(A)</b>	<b>the application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area, submitted by Walkern Parish Council, be supported.</b>

#### 1.0 Background

1.1 Walkern Parish Council (WPC) submitted an application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area to the Council on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Agreement to the designation of a Neighbourhood Area is required by the Council as Local Planning Authority (LPA) before a Neighbourhood Plan can be formulated.

1.2 The application was made in the form of a letter from WPC with an attached plan setting the area to which the application relates. The letter and plan form **Essential Reference Paper B** to this report.

## 2.0 Consultation

- 2.1 The Council has undertaken the appropriate consultation with regard to the application submission. Following the consultation, no comments have been received.

## 3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 Two main areas of consideration to be taken into account when determining an application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area are set out in Schedule 9 of the Localism Act 2011. One of these is that the authority determining the application must have regard to the desirability of maintaining the existing boundaries of neighbourhood plan areas already designated.
- 3.2 No weight needs to be given to this consideration in this case as no other Neighbourhood Areas are currently designated in the Walkern parish area.
- 3.3 The other area of consideration is the desirability of designating the whole of the area of a parish council as the Neighbourhood Area.
- 3.4 In this case, the area proposed covers the entire parish area, a known and existing boundary which does not conflict with neighbouring parish boundaries.
- 3.5 At the current stage of the emerging District Plan it is considered suitable to bring the neighbourhood plan forward for approval.

## 4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 Neighbourhood planning is now an integral part of the planning system with legislative backing through the Localism Act. The LPA is charged with determining applications for the designation of Neighbourhood Areas. In this case, designation of a parish area for neighbourhood planning purposes.

## 5.0 Implications/Consultations

- 5.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

### Background Papers

None

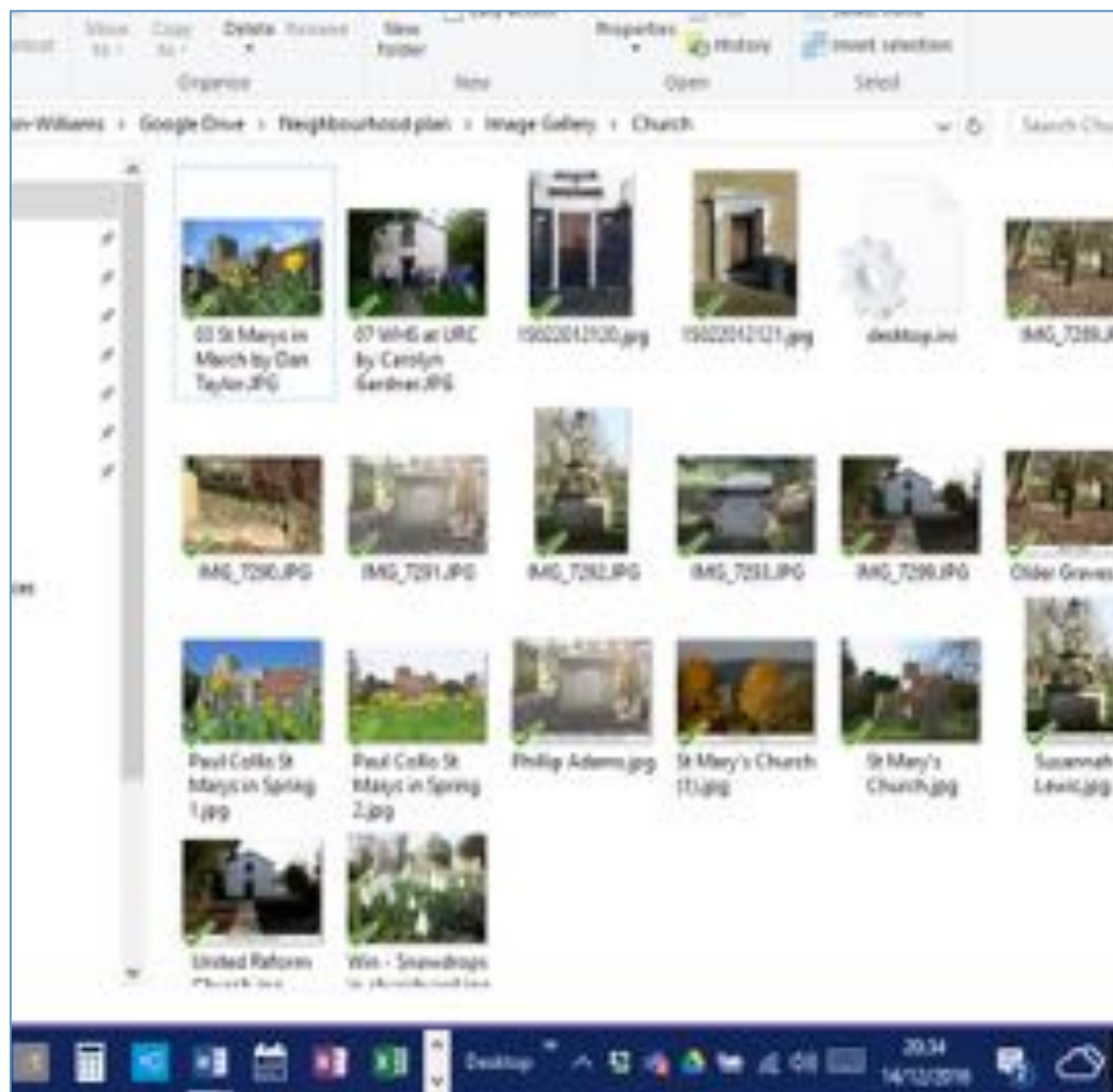
Contact Member: Cllr M Carver, Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Transport  
[mike.carver@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:mike.carver@eastherts.gov.uk)

Contact Officer: Kevin Steptoe, Head of Planning and Building Control, Ext 1407  
[kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.steptoe@eastherts.gov.uk)

Report Author: Isabelle Haddow – Planning Officer, Planning Policy  
[isabelle.haddow@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:isabelle.haddow@eastherts.gov.uk)

## Appendix 3

Examples of collected photographic images of sites of interest, landmarks and environmental features from around Walkern Parish .



Example of map displayed at open day



## Appendix 5

Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Open Day Presentation Slides April 18 2015

# WALKERN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

2016 – 2031

Jacqueline Veater



## DRAFT VISION

The Walkern Neighbourhood Plan will shape the **evolution** of the village of Walkern over the next 15 years by meeting the aspirations and **needs** of the local community. We are committed to preserving Walkern's **historic character** and strong **rural identity** by ensuring that development in the parish is **sustainable**, protects valued **natural features**, strengthens a **sense of community** and enhances **wellbeing** of new and existing residents. We want to make sure Walkern remains a **great place to live**.



## Process: From **Vision** to **Topics**

evolution → Development

needs → Economy

historic character → Heritage

rural identity → Design

sustainable → Environmental Quality

natural features → Natural Environment

sense of Community → Cohesion

wellbeing → Community Facilities

great place to live → Housing

## Process: From **Topics** to **Objectives**

Housing



**Objective 1:** Identify several small housing sites to satisfy the need for new homes in Walkern up to 2031, as required by the East Herts District Plan.

**Objective 2:** Ensure the mix, size and type of new housing meets local needs, including a sufficient supply of affordable housing and preferential access to some new homes for people with a strong local connection.

## Process: From Objectives to Policies

**Objective 1:** Identify several small housing sites to satisfy the need for new homes in Walkern up to 2031, as required by the East Herts District Plan.



**Policy i:** Develop site A for housing

**Policy ii:** Develop site B for housing

**Policy iii:** Develop site C for housing

## Process: From Policies to Evidence

Each policy must be backed up by **evidence**.

**Policy i:** Develop site A for housing



**Evidence =**

Is there a need in the village for new homes?

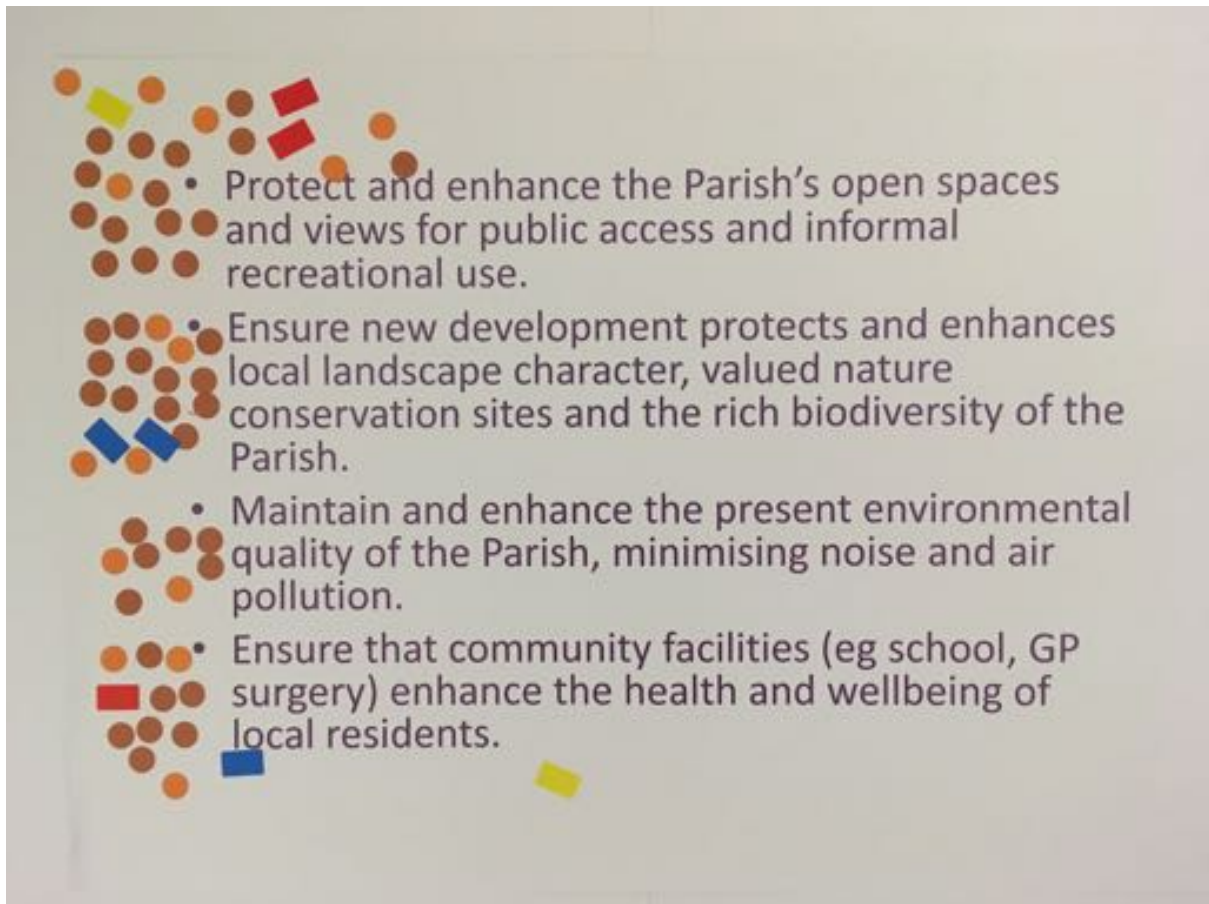
What type of new homes are needed?

Is the site suitable for new housing?

Is the landowner interested in developing it?

## Appendix 6

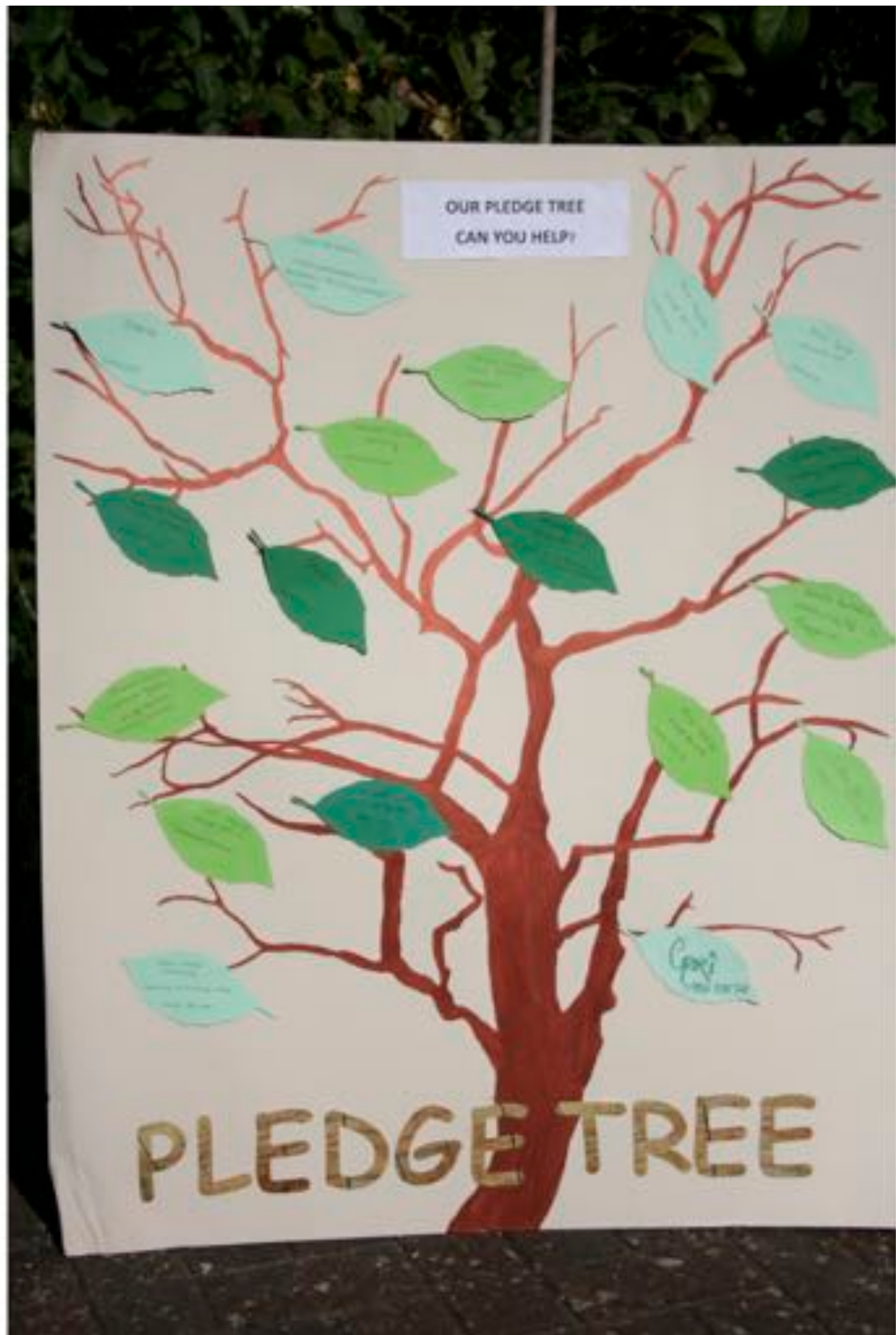
### Ranking Objectives at Open Day April 2015





## Appendix 7

Pledge Tree from Open Day April 2015



**Appendix 8**  
**Report from the First Public Meeting Open Day, April 2015**



**Report of Walkern Neighbourhood Plan  
First Public Meeting**

**Saturday 18 April 2015 11:00**  
**Walkern Sports & Community Centre**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The first public meeting of the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group (WNPg) was held on Saturday 18 April 2015 at Walkern Sports & Community Centre.
- 1.2 The purpose of the meeting was to bring the community up to date with neighbourhood planning in Walkern. This included:
  - A reminder on the process of neighbourhood planning
  - An update on the work of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
  - Generating questions and discussion about the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan
  - Receiving offers of help with the work of progressing the plan
  - Mapping the next stages in the process
- 1.3 Leaflets publicising the meeting were delivered to 650 households in the parish and the meeting was posted on the website and advertised on the Facebook page. Attendance at the meeting was outstanding with over 70 local residents taking part in addition to those organising the event and members of WNPg. However, the age profile was predominantly adults.
- 1.4 The meeting began promptly at 11:00 and finished at approximately 12:45. The meeting agenda is attached at Appendix A. A comprehensive photographic record was taken and attendees were asked to make themselves known if they objected to photographs in which they appeared, being published (no one objected).
- 1.5 Michele Rist (a member of WNPg) introduced the meeting. This included: outlining how important the neighbourhood plan would be for the parish; the process that would be followed through to residents being able to vote in a referendum for the plan; describing some of the work the group, such as, the survey that had been distributed and analysed, the website that had been set up, and discussions with landowners about potential housing sites; introducing the planning consultant Jacqueline Veater.
- 1.6 Jacqueline Veater gave a PowerPoint presentation (slides attached at Appendix B). She described how and why the whole of the Parish of Walkern had been designated as the neighbourhood plan area, gave some highlights of the results of the questionnaire, and explained how the plan would be formed starting with the draft vision statement. Key words from the vision had been picked out as the main topics for the plan to cover. For each topic there would be at least one objective. These objectives would be realised through detailed policies in the plan. All the policies must be backed up by evidence of the need for planning control. Examples were given throughout.
- 1.7 Attendees were reminded how they could keep up to date on the progress of the plan by visiting the website regularly, 'liking' the Facebook page, and the reading the Walkern Journal. Finally, Jacqueline asked attendees to take an active part in the rest of the meeting. This included indicating with sticky dots which objectives were particularly



important; adding leaves to the pledge tree with specific offers of assistance; joining in discussions around tables, and listening to the feedback on each issue.

- 1.8 All tables would be discussing the vision, the issue of housing in the village, and one other from transport, housing sites and leisure and community facilities. Prompts were provided for facilitators on each table.
- 1.9 A comprehensive question and answer session brought out many other points of interest.

## **2 Feedback from discussion topics**

### **2.1 Vision**

The vision was thought to be good to excellent with no queries, concerns or objections.

### **2.2 Transport**

- a) Cycleway/footpath built behind retained hedging along field boundary, to retain rural character and feel, from Stevenage to Walkern. This would avoid walking on a dangerous road where frequent accidents occur. [Note: one resident said Groundwork through Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) had looked at this option. Action: to check with HCC why this had not gone ahead and if it could be resurrected.]
- b) Traffic calming measures such as sleeping policeman in Moors Ley/ Aubries (as children play outside) plus 20 MPH speed limits through village and in housing areas. Consider speed limit reductions, chicanes or other options to slow down vehicles and reduce accidents on Stevenage Road in addition to note above.
- c) Future housing development should avoid increasing chronic on-street parking congestion already suffered by providing plenty of off-street car parking (at least 2 car spaces per home). Householders should be discouraged from parking on the road when they have facilities for off-street parking. New roads should be designed to prevent on-street parking with narrow access roads like Glebe View and Finches Farm.
- d) Additional parking bays in existing developments to alleviate parking congestion issues for residents e.g. in Moors Ley and on street parking e.g. in Yew Tree Close.
- e) Bus service is currently insufficient for the village so must be improved by covering a longer day to facilitate return journeys to work and school. But decline in use of existing service so difficult to argue extension of service. A community bus properly financed and with cheap fares could have a dual use with schools.
- f) The stone bridge at the southern entrance to the village is single track on a blind bend and prone to accidents. If the village is to expand this should be widened (in-keeping with the style of the bridge) or traffic calmed to reduce accidents and improve through traffic to Watton at Stone the nearest rail link.

- g) Congestion in the High Street could be eased with passing bays on both sides and/or priority controlled chicanes and/or a 20mph limit, and/or double yellow lines to reduce the number of parked cars. However, parked cars create their own calming effect.
- h) A bypass of the High Street could be considered. However, this option could encourage further housing development and other unwelcome outcomes, such as, the loss of shops and businesses in the High Street who rely on passing trade.
- i) Central car parking to relieve High Street congestion, suggested current recreation ground near Walkern Stores would be a good area. Did not want to remove or limit play facilities for children but divide land up to create parking. Alternative play facilities could be provided elsewhere.
- j) Smaller developments outside the village could ease further congestion in the High Street but narrow roads to hamlets e.g. Clay End would need increased capacity with new passing bays.
- k) Concern both about locally generated traffic and additional traffic passing through from e.g. the expansion of Buntingford and other villages. Most people of the view that this would not be self-regulatory (i.e. heavy traffic would not deter people from driving through Walkern).
- l) Issue of HGV's passing through the village because using Satellite Navigation instead of staying on main roads. Request weight restriction from HCC.
- m) One-way system on Totts Lane and Winters Lane could avoid congestion.
- n) Improve/create pavements on both sides of the High Street to improve pedestrian access
- o) The school could have a drop-off within the site.

## **2.3 Housing**

- a) There were mixed views on housing styles. The style of Glebe View fits in with the character of the village. Yew Tree Close was a good example of adequate provision of off-street parking. Some liked the affordable housing at Rookery Close, others thought 3 stories was too high (multi-storey homes are not in character with the village). The Finches End development included too many big houses.
- b) Tenure of housing should be mixed to avoid alienation/isolation. More homes for rent and other forms of affordable housing are needed, as well as some sheltered accommodation so that elderly residents could stay in the village.
- c) Size of housing should be mixed to provide more choice and should include one and

two-bedroomed started homes for local young people, and some bungalows (although it is noted that they take up a lot of land) and apartments. Need to redress the balance of executive homes, which seem to be the choice of developers.

- d) The location of homes for the elderly should be carefully chosen. The one-bed bungalows at the end of Moors Ley are a long walk from the bus stop, shops and other village facilities.
- e) More than one off-street parking space per house should be provided, see c) above under Transport.
- f) Homes build for the elderly or local people should stay as such.
- g) New development should not be built on the flood plain. [New housing development should include Sustainable Urban Drainage schemes (SUDs) to minimise additional surface water run-off.]
- h) New development should be eco-friendly and self-sustaining

## **2.4 Development sites**

Potential development sites in the village were discussed. The following comments were made:

- a) Development off the High street would create more traffic congestion.
- b) Site next to the gallery is unsuitable.
- c) Public places should be protected if they are not already e.g. The Bockings (the single-track road running along the River Beane).
- d) Infill sites are preferred.
- e) No green belt should be built on.
- f) There is a concern about wildlife.
- g) Flood plain of river should be protected.

A comment was also received about the increasing frequency of planes flying over the village.

## **2.5 Leisure and Community**

- a) The playground could be updated and a picnic area incorporated within it. [Note: children drew pictures of the play equipment they would like in the play area.]

- b) Encourage better use of the green space around the village including creating picnic spots rather than just using the play area.
- c) Tennis courts and a bowling green were requested
- d) The extension of St Mary's church graveyard is being considered

## **2.6 The Pledge Tree**

Offers made on the pledge tree are available in a separate document

## **2.7 Names and contact details**

35 names with contact details were collected and are available in a separate document

## **3 Conclusion**

- The event was a resounding success with over 70 residents attending
- A separate engagement exercise is necessary to bring businesses into the process
- The age profile lacked young people so they should also be engaged separately through the school and village clubs.
- A greater understanding of the process involved in producing the neighbourhood plan has been gained
- The results of the discussion will guide the structure of the neighbourhood plan and inform the content of some of the policy sections
- Residents were enthusiastic and keen to be involved in a further public meeting/debate

## **Appendix A**

### **Agenda**

#### **Public Meeting 11:00 Saturday 18 April 2015**

Time	Item	Responsible
11.00	Start – allow people to settle.	
11.05	Welcome/Introduction – outline of meeting and what we will be looking at.	Michele
11.10	Update – WNPG progress to date and work still left to do.	Jacqueline
11.20	Q&A – a few questions from the floor – explain purpose of the discussion group.	All
11.30	Group Discussions – WNPG to sit at tables and facilitate discussion on four key areas (each table to have two areas): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transport</li><li>• Types of Housing</li><li>• Possible sites in the village</li><li>• Village Amenities/Rural Life</li></ul>	WNPG
12.15	Feedback – Ideas from tables are posted around the room – all can then add further comments on areas that their tables may not have discussed.	All
12.30	Wash-up – Advise audience of key points captured. Deal with other points raised.	WNPG
12.45	Pledge Tree – Involve the village, ask for those to pledge help in areas of skill, i.e. web design, photography, legal, computer expertise, etc.	Michele

## **Appendix B**

[The PowerPoint presentation used at the meeting originally attached as a PDF.]

## **Appendix C**

### **Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Draft Objectives 18.04.15**

The table below lists the draft objective displayed at the first public meeting on 18 April 2015. See below for an explanation of the results.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Identify several small housing sites to satisfy the need for new homes in Walkern up to 2031, as required by the East Herts District Plan.	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>
Locate and phase new development to minimise the impact on the already limited road infrastructure in the village so traffic congestion is not exacerbated.	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>
Ensure the mix, size and type of new housing meets local needs, including a sufficient supply of affordable housing and preferential access to some new homes for people with a strong local connection.	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>
Require new development to be of high quality design, built to a high sustainability standard and to be sympathetic to, and improve, the look and feel of the parish.	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>
Ensure the design and location of new developments are resilient to the effects of climate change and flooding.	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>
Protect and enhance the village conservation area and its setting, and listed and locally listed buildings.	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
Preserve and enhance public transport services to and from the village for residents who do not have use of a car, and encourage walking and cycling.	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>
Protect and enhance the Parish's open spaces and views for public access and informal recreational use.	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>
Ensure new development protects and enhances local landscape character, valued nature conservation sites and the rich biodiversity of the Parish.	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>
Maintain and enhance the present environmental quality of the Parish, minimising noise and air pollution.	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>
Ensure that community facilities (e.g. school, GP surgery) enhance the health and wellbeing of local residents.	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>
Ensure the village has indoor and outdoor recreational facilities that meet the needs of young children, teenagers and adults, and strengthen the sense of community.	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>
Promote existing community groups and encourage the formation of new groups to support community cohesion.	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>
Support existing businesses, creative industries and home working, and encourage new local employment opportunities for residents.	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>
Ensure the River Beane, the rare chalk stream that runs through Walkern is preserved and protected from over-abstraction.	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>	

Note: Votes were indicated by sticky dots. The objectives are ranked in order of popularity.



The results of this exercise replicate the results of the initial questionnaire. The most popular objectives concerned open spaces and public access, protection of the River Beane, the identification of several small housing sites rather than just one site, the protection of local landscape character and biodiversity, and phasing new development to limit impact on village infrastructure.

The least popular objective about supporting local businesses is probably the result of there being very few local businesses present. This may be explained by businesses not being available on a Saturday morning, or the lack of publicity targeted at businesses or possibly the fact that businesses have not so far engaged in the process. Whatever the reason, WNPG believes that businesses are important in the Parish and the lack of engagement needs to be addressed (ACTION point for discussion with WNPG).



There was a good response to this exercise and the same technique should be used again at future meetings.

## Appendix 9

### Booking form and photograph of stall at the Walkern Fair May 2015



**Walkern Fair on 2015**  
**Sunday May 3rd**  
**Let's get Mediaeval!**  
**Charity Stall/Side Show booking Form**

Name of Organisation: WALKERN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP  
Name and Address of Contact: MICHELE RIST  
2 GREENWAY WALKERN HERTS SG2 7NR

Telephone No. Home: 01235 51367 Mobile/ Work: 07931 516531  
e-mail address: michelerist6@gmail.com  
Proposed type of stall or Side Show: GAZERS  
Brief description of the Goods or Game: N/A  
Any other comments: STALL TO PROVIDE INFORMATION RE WNPg

Please indicate the size of the area you are booking

Stall Size	Price	Qty	Total
3 yds long x 3 yds deep	£10	—	—
6 yds long x 3 yds deep	£20	—	—
Total to be paid			—

Payment by cheque/cash is required with this booking form prior to the event made payable to Walkern Village Fair.

**Terms**  
Pitches are limited and in order to ensure variety prospective stall holders may be asked to change the nature of their stall if their "proposal" has already been reserved by another stall holder.  
Access is available from 9.00am

- Unloading and setting up – Stall holders may bring their cars onto arena for unloading only. They must be moved to the main car park by 1.00pm (Disabled drivers exempt)
- Any stall/side show that requires a vehicle to stay on the field
- Organiser – please make your requirement clear on this form
- No alcohol is allowed to be sold on the stalls/sideshows
- No food or drink for consumption on site will be sold on stalls/
- the Chairman of the Walkern Fair Management Committee
- Good quality/nearly new clothing for sale (no jumble allowed) hangers.
- If you require a receipt of confirmation of your application, please

If you have any queries, please contact Miki Phillips on 01438 8 Sewell on 01438 860495 ( [mike.sewell@walkernfair.co.uk](mailto:mike.sewell@walkernfair.co.uk) )

Please return this booking form and payment to Walkern Fair St Froghall Lane, Walkern SG2 7PH.

*Miki,*  
*I have returned form.*  
*As agreed at our last meeting.*  
*Steve Jenner has agreed*  
*money but when it will*  
*arrive with you via Brian*  
*Alexander I do not know.*  
*Hope this is ok with you.*  
*Regards*  
*Michele*

## FEEDBACK COMMMENTS FROM WALKERN FAIR 3RD MAY 2015

- Two bed starter homes to be given to young village residents as a priority.
- Bungalows to allow older people to downsize thus freeing up family homes - (mentioned by two people)
- Sheltered Accommodation
- A Village Dentist
- Child friendly play areas around the village
- Another general stores!
- Another Pub!
- The village infrastructure can't cope currently, how can it cope with further development?
- Planes are a real nuisance and will devalue our homes. New homes - who will buy under a flight path? 60% increase over the next 10 years.
- Flight path aligns with Boxwood so planes could and sometimes do fly west of Walkern.
- Pressure must be put on Luton to adjust flight routes away from homes now at 1 per minute. Flying over centre of village. Pilots use to align up with Luton.
- Noise is intolerable. No other airport operates all night.
- To maintain Walkern as a village
- No to yellow lines
- Yes to infill building only
- Absolutely no to large development - infrastructure will be jeopardised for all including nature.
- School will not be able to cope with extra housing. Parking at the school is spreading into the village itself, along the High Street.
- Walkern children refused a place at the school as now full, Stevenage children have been accepted (possibly under the siblings rule).
- School places should be allocated for Walkern children only encouraging them to walk to school and alleviate the parking problems. Now a serious safety issue.
- Would like 3 bed family homes with big gardens. Homes not to all be grouped together, spread around the village.
- Improvement to the recreation area by the stores. This prime area is not being used to its full potential. It currently looks ugly. Something needs to be done for the younger members of our community.

## Appendix 10

Poster used to advertise June 2015 Public Meeting



The poster features a background of four large, overlapping circles in light blue, light purple, light orange, and light green. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical layout. At the top, the title 'Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Open Day' is in a large, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the date and time 'Thursday 9th June, 4.00 - 9.00pm at Walkern Sports & Community Centre' are in a smaller black font. The phrase 'GET INVOLVED' is prominently displayed in large, bold, green capital letters. A paragraph of text follows, explaining the purpose of the event: 'Help shape the growth of the village up to 2031. Give us your feedback on the draft policies & proposals for the parish.' Below this, there is a central graphic consisting of four stylized, interlocking circular shapes in blue, purple, orange, and green. To the left of these shapes are the labels '\* Local Green Space' and '\*Housing', and to the right are '\*Village boundary' and '\*Traffic'. At the bottom, the name 'Walkern Neighbourhood Planning Group' is written in a green, sans-serif font. Finally, a line of small blue text at the very bottom provides additional information about a concurrent council consultation.

**Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Open Day**

Thursday 9th June, 4.00 - 9.00pm at  
Walkern Sports & Community Centre

**GET INVOLVED**

Help shape the growth of the village up to 2031. Give us your feedback on the draft policies & proposals for the parish.

\* Local Green Space      \*Village boundary  
\*Housing      \*Traffic

**Walkern Neighbourhood Planning Group**

East Herts District Council consultation on the Walkern Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal & Management Plan - Exhibition at same venue 7.00 - 9.00pm

# Appendix 11

## Display of feedback at June 2015 Public Meeting

**HAVE YOUR SAY TODAY**

HERE IS A SELECTION OF FEEDBACK FROM OUR QUESTIONNAIRE  
& OUR FIRST PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2015



PRESERVE & PROTECT  
THE RIVER BEANE FROM  
OVER ABSTRACTION



ALLEViate PARKING  
PROBLEMS



NO EXECUTIVE  
TYPE HOMES



EXTRA HOUSING TO  
BE BUILT ON  
INFILL SITES



NO LARGE ESTATE  
TYPE DEVELOPMENT



GREEN BELT NOT  
TO BE BUILT ON



TRAFFIC CALMING  
MEASURES



STARTER HOMES  
& HOMES FOR  
LOCAL PEOPLE



DWELLINGS FOR  
THE ELDERLY



LIMIT ENTRY OF HGVs  
THROUGH VILLAGE



PRESERVE THE  
CHARACTER OF  
THE VILLAGE

We need your help - your suggestions/views/comments are essential to help us draft our Neighbourhood Plan.  
Please feel free to speak to one of us or put your suggestions/views/comments on one of our forms.



## Appendix 12

### Photographs from June 2015 Public Meeting



# Appendix 13

## Summary of the responses from the 2014 community questionnaire

### Section 1: Parish Statement

Which of the following are important characteristics of Walkern Parish?

	Not important					Very important	Blank
Conservation and listed buildings	4	7	19	26	32	130	13
River Beane – historic rare chalk stream	2	2	10	16	30	157	7
Open green spaces in and around the village	1	2	1	5	30	181	8
Working farms surrounding the village	1	2	10	17	44	144	6
Separation from other surrounding villages and Stevenage by field	2	1	3	2	19	199	5
Varied building styles throughout the village	6	9	16	64	41	83	7
Having a village with local history/archaeology	2	6	16	28	48	122	6
Village identity feeling part of the community	1	2	12	25	48	138	5
Village activities/community groups	1	2	10	41	49	109	7
Easy access to the countryside	1	1	7	11	35	165	6
Easy access to a town	4	4	17	49	55	91	5
Rural atmosphere	0	2	7	18	33	164	6

### Section 2: Housing

How do you rate the availability of each type of housing in Walkern Parish?

	Very Poor					Very good	Blank
Flats	6	22	48	44	23	45	34
Bungalows	30	31	56	41	19	20	23
Family houses	4	8	25	43	48	67	25
Luxury houses	4	23	25	41	44	48	28
Private rented accommodation	6	24	54	54	21	12	52
Social housing	11	20	44	53	28	41	38
Two-storey houses	4	5	21	36	49	69	30
Three-storey houses	6	41	41	38	22	26	39

### Section 3: Building and Development

1) When additional homes are built, would you prefer...

	Yes	No	Don't know	Blank
One large development	28	180	11	7
A number of small developments	152	47	11	14
Individual released plots for a single dwelling	157	33	25	11
Garden infill development	68	98	43	14
All homes have their own garages/parking	193	10	15	8

2) What style of housing/facilities would you like to see included in any new housing developments in Walkern Parish?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Blank
Flats/apartments	60	126	19	22
Bungalows	162	39	11	14
1-bedroom house	98	80	27	20
2-bedroom house	182	22	12	10
3-bedroom house	183	19	19	11
4-bedroom house	98	78	29	23
Homes with annexes	57	83	65	20
Work/live units	47	82	74	21
Small garden	148	35	27	17
Large garden	88	80	33	23
Communal garden	67	103	36	20
All new builds with parking/garages	100	7	12	6



## Section 4: Parish Facilities

How important to you individually, or as a family, are the following features, facilities and businesses within Walkern Parish?

	Not important					Very important	Blank
Walkern Sports & Community Centre	20	16	23	30	48	86	2
Football/cricket facilities	30	27	25	25	34	81	4
Play equipment	29	16	17	24	40	97	2
Public houses & restaurants	5	3	12	33	51	120	1
River	1	2	8	18	42	147	1
Ford (with the ducks)	2	4	7	15	33	168	1
Allotments	25	12	34	48	36	73	0
Local shops	0	1	2	19	23	183	0
Post office	0	1	1	8	17	193	0
Public footpaths/bridleways	0	1	7	15	26	176	0
Tea rooms	12	11	28	37	56	85	0
Village journal	1	5	17	29	41	130	0
Churches & cemeteries	1	8	17	20	37	144	0
Garage	4	7	14	17	42	144	0
Village school	14	7	4	11	21	164	0
G. P. Surgery	4	2	9	13	29	168	0
Village clubs/community groups	6	6	11	37	53	114	0
Green spaces	0	1	3	7	28	188	0
Local tradespeople	4	5	10	26	47	134	0
Art gallery	21	26	37	51	38	55	0

List 1: Which of the following amenities do you use?

	Number of responses
Village shop	224
Hairdressers	71
Hearts & Craft shop	63
Jolie wool shop	67
Walkern gallery	74
Post office (in village shop)	222
Churches (St. Mary's/United Reformed Church)	142

List 2: Which of the following amenities do you use?

	Number of responses
Garages	185
G.P Surgery	158
Village groups & associations	127
Magic of Christmas	137
Pubs/Restaurants	188
Tea rooms	138
Private schools	50

List 3: Which of the following amenities do you use?

	Number of responses
Pre-school	31
Toddler group	35
Local tradespeople	152

What other shops, services and amenities would you like to see in the village/parish?

	Number of responses
Village hall	121
Greengrocers	103
Butchers	114
DIY shop	30
High speed internet access to all	167
Small businesses	22
More sporting/leisure facilities	50

## Section 5: Education

How well is Walkern Parish served by educational facilities?

### Pre-school

	Not well at all	Not well	Well	Very well	Don't know	Blank
Play group	0	2	29	68	92	33
Parent and toddler group	0	1	27	60	106	33
Nursery places	0	1	21	53	118	35

### Primary school

	Not well at all	Not well	Well	Very well	Don't know	Blank
Child places available for all Walkern Parish children	0	3	12	54	119	37
Breakfast club	2	0	15	43	121	29
After-school club	0	2	14	43	128	37
Holiday club	8	4	23	21	138	45

### Secondary school

	Not well at all	Not well	Well	Very well	Don't know	Blank
Access to secondary schools	16	19	32	27	96	37

### Adult learning

	Not well at all	Not well	Well	Very well	Don't know	Blank
Opportunities for adult learning	37	33	5	8	104	39

## Section 6: Ecology & Environment

How important are the following ecological and environmental features in Walkern Parish?

	Not important					Very important	Blank
River Beane which runs through the village	0	1	6	10	21	188	2
Open spaces	0	0	4	8	26	203	2
Farmland	1	0	5	7	27	184	4
Wasteland	26	27	26	32	29	72	16
Woodland	0	1	6	6	37	160	2
Agricultural ditches and drainage	3	3	10	19	31	161	8
Country narrow lanes	5	6	16	32	37	115	15
Drains and sewerage around the parish	0	1	5	11	25	117	8
Archaeological sites	6	14	19	34	41	108	7
Farms	0	1	11	14	43	161	4
Ponds	1	5	20	24	36	142	4
Footpaths and bridleways	0	2	7	18	33	164	6
Greenfields	0	1	7	6	25	112	2
Hedges	0	3	8	11	21	183	2
Roadside verges	1	2	14	18	30	156	5

## Section 7: Businesses

	Yes	No	Blank
Do you operate a business from home?	25	190	8
<b>If yes, what type of businesses?</b>  Plumbing, Consultancy, Home Baking, Public Relation/Marketing, Tiling, Electrical Contractor, Tree Surgery/Landscaping, Graphic Design, Soft Furnishings, Farming, Foster Carer, Engineering, Human Resources, Consultancy, Office/Admin, Childminder, Business Consultancy, Artist Studio, Carpet Retailer, Livery Yard etc, Sole trader, IT Consultancy + 2 blanks			

## Section 8: Transport

In your opinion, are there any changes needed with regard to the following transport issues?

	No change	Some change	Much change
Speed of vehicles through the village	29	74	120
Bus services	33	107	66
Parking	21	61	136
Footpaths	98	80	37
Speed humps/traffic calming	68	78	74
HGV traffic	30	65	126

## Section 9: Demographics

	Given	Blanks
Postcode provided	212	15

How many people live in your house?

Number	Response
1	46
2	92
3	36
4	33
5	10
6	2
Blank	9

Age groups

	number
<20	85
21-40	115
41-60	172
61-75	107
76-86	49
>86	16
Blank	3

If a member of your household is over 60, please complete these additional questions.

	Yes	No	Blank
Do you have a car?	109	12	3
Do you travel by bus from the parish?	27	89	7
Do you walk to the village shop/post office/hairedressers/ GP/other?	108	9	4
Do you have access to the internet?	100	21	3
Should you wish to move from a family home, do you feel there are suitable smaller properties in the village area?	20	58	14
Do you think that people are neighbourly to the over 60's in the parish?	107	8	7
Do you think there is enough in the parish for the elderly, i.e. clubs and other activities?	55	47	19
Does the community provide sufficient support for the over 60's?	72	27	22

## Young Persons – About You

Age groups

	number
<12	23
12	5
13	2
14	2
15	3
16	4
17	3
18	4
>18	27

Are you male or female?

Male	Female
39	38

Are you living with your parents?

Male	Female
69	4

## Young Persons – Education

Are you still attending school or college?

Yes	no	University
39	38	1

Do you intend to, or would you like to, continue living in Walkern Parish after education?

Yes	no	Undecided
39	3	28

## Young Persons – Transport

How do you travel to school or college?

	number
Walk	15
Cycle	4
Taken by car	21
Bus	14
Motor bike/scooter	0
Other	9

## Young Persons – Employment

Do you have a job?

Yes	No
26	41

How do you travel to work?

	number
Walk	2
Bus	5
Cycle	0
Drive a car	16
Motor bike/scooter	1
Other*	8

\*OTHER: mum takes me, BA hons at home, get a lift, care for mother of 83 years, taken by car, lifts from parents, drive a car x 2

Do you use the local bus service?

Yes	No
22	56

How often do you use the bus?

	number
Daily	5
Weekly	4
Weekends	0
Monthly	2
Infrequently	19
School bus	2

## Young Persons – Leisure Pursuits

Does the parish of Walkern cater for your leisure pursuits?

Yes	No
34	45

Do you have to travel out of the parish for your leisure pursuits?

Yes	No
67	9

Which of the following do you use?

	number
School	14
Walkern SCC	33
Walkern Stores & Post Office	59
Churches	32
Pubs	53
Hairdresser	23
Tea Rooms	24
Other shops in the village	21
Playing fields	31
Paly area	31
Magic of Christmas	38
Other	4

What other clubs or societies outside of school/work do you use?

	number
Scouts/cubs	4
Brownies/Rainbow/Guides	7
Youth club	5
Football club	3
Cricket club	2
Dance class	11

What do you like about living in the parish of Walkern?

	number
Getting to Stevenage	49
Lots of other young people around	19
Close to primary school	19
Local shops	39
In the countryside	82
The wildlife	67
Availability of various walks	63
Sports field and facilities	37
Village life	69
Family connections	37
Other	1

What do you not like about living in the parish of Walkern?

	number
Slow internet	64
Poor mobile phone reception	59
Out of date play equipment	22
Insufficient things for young people to do	26
Poor bus service	37
Expensive to travel out of the parish	16
Dog poo on fields and pavements	52
Other	1

## Appendix 14

### CDA Herts Housing Needs Survey Flyer

# **Do you or someone you know living in the village need Affordable Housing? ...**

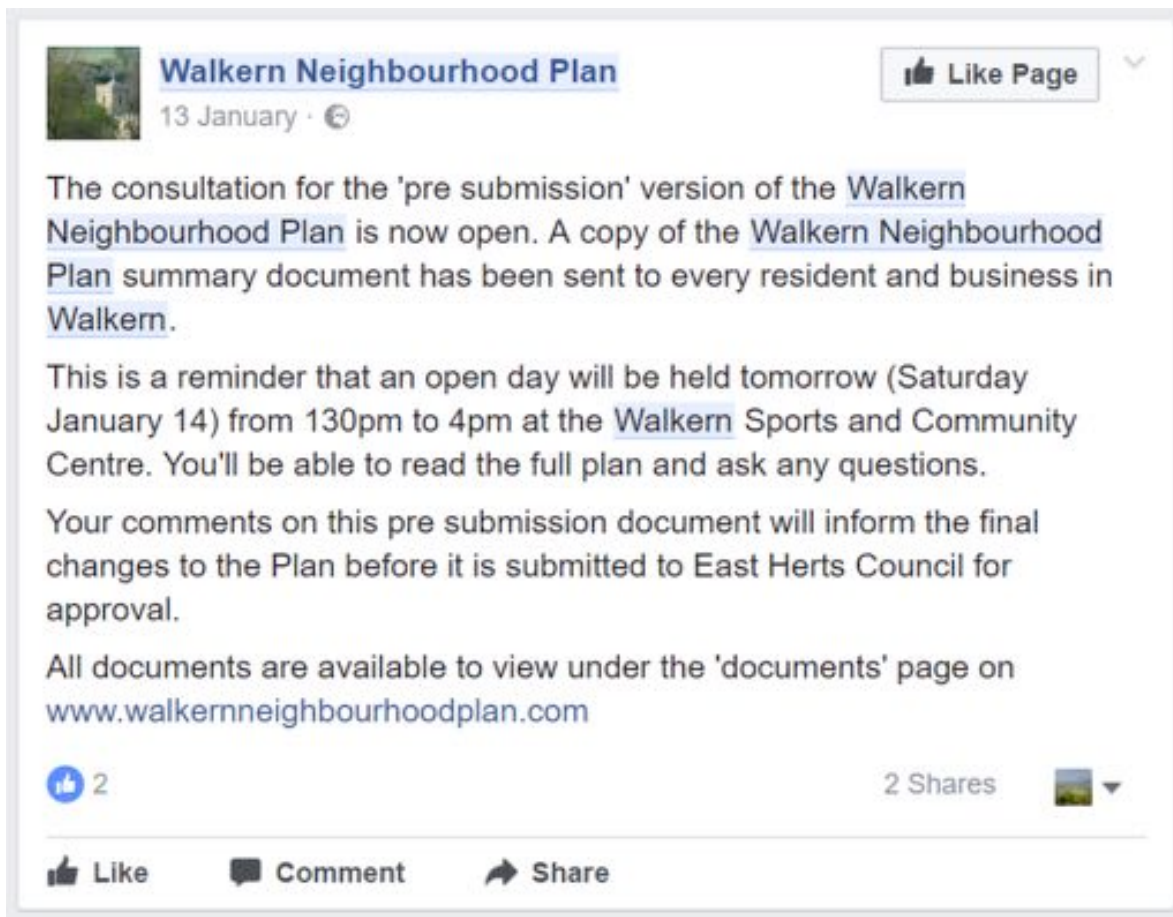
The Parish Council will be doing a Survey of housing needs in **October**, in conjunction with CDA Herts.

Please look out for the Survey which will be delivered to your door! ... we really welcome all views,  
whether or not you are in need of housing!



## Appendix 15

### Publicity for Regulation 14 Consultation



#### WALKERN PARISH COUNCIL

#### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (PRE SUBMISSION)

#### CONSULTATION

Walkern Parish Council has produced a Neighbourhood Plan to help guide development within the Parish of Walkern and has now entered the statutory consultation phase of the process. We invite any person, business or organisation to comment on the pre-submission plan.

The full pre-submission version of the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan is available at [www.walkernneighbourhoodplan.com](http://www.walkernneighbourhoodplan.com). Hard copies of the document will be available to read at an open day to be held on **14th January 2017** in the Walkern Sports and Social Club from 13:30 to 16:00.

Copies will also be available, at East Herts Council Offices, Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG13 8EQ and at the following Walkern High Street venues - Walkern Stores, The White Lion, The Yew Tree and the United Reformed Church until the **19th February 2017** when the consultation process ends.



## Appendix 16

Detailed feedback received on the plan policies and where relevant, how the policies changed as a result of consultation

Policy no.	Details	Agree	Dis-agree	?	Agree Comments	Disagree Comments	Response
Policy 1		16	1		A rural villlage requires sustainability to maintain its rural setting for residents and wildlife. Development must be sustainable in terms of road infrastruture to ensure local access and safety. Good design is required. All development must be built to last. Development must preserve the village whilst growing and providing for villagers needs	Need to understand the implications of the NPPF	<b>No change to policy</b>
Policy 2	Beane Valley	22	0		Add Dovecot at Manor Farm. Add Road from Walkern to Watton (It lifts the soul).		<b>No change to policy.</b> Dovecot is not a view or vista. Walkern to Watton is the Beane Valley
	Across High St	21	0		Add public footpath 34. Add area around the Mill/Mill Houses and the War Memorial.		<b>No change to policy.</b> All within the Beane Valley.
	Church End	22	0		Add Box Wood across valley to Bassus Green and along valley from Cromer to Datchworth church.		<b>No change to policy.</b> All within the Beane Valley.
	Along High St	19	0		New development should reflect what is already there		<b>No change to policy.</b> In design policy.
	Froghall Lane	20	0		Policy is important for everyone's benefit		<b>No change to policy</b>

Policy 3		19	1		Open grassland and natural woodland should be kept where possible. Witch's house should have heritage status. Beautiful features of the village must be preserved. no further encroachment from Stevenage	Conservation area is too big and policy too restrictive	<b>No change to policy.</b> The Witch's house is no longer standing. The Granary at The Old Rectory is listed. Proposal to reduce conservation area in Appraisal and Management Proposals.
Policy 4	High St	19	3		Add the allotments? Add the old bowling green? Add all fields bordering the Beane	Add land at Bridgefoot Farm/ Add land rear of Bockings/ Add land rear of White Lion Pub	<b>No change to policy.</b> These sites are covered by LGS designations in the plan.
	Sports Field	20	2		All green spaces should be kept and if possible more added/ Allow ball games	Add land to side of Manor Farm	<b>No change to policy.</b> Ball games are not planning policy.
	Aubries	18	4		Need ample facilities for young people/ Need a new children's play area e.g. on Froghall Lane		<b>No change to policy</b>
Policy 5	All sites	17			In addition to the 16 forms supporting the policy, one form ticked only Box Wood and Bassus Green, one form ticked no boxes but mentioned Sallow Yellow Moths on land next to Walkern Gallery. The sites are already designated and the question asked was incorrect - they would not be given similar protection to Green Belt. Add all fields bordering the Beane. Add land behind Moors Ley support birds.		<b>No change to policy.</b> Cannot add designations. Assume support for this policy.

Policy 6		20			Lossing green corridors would reduce wildlife. Corridor from Box Wood towards Ardley. Corridors are vital.		<b>No change to policy.</b> We need to tighten up the corridor and map it.
Policy 7		17			Development should be infill and not use green spaces. Will preserve the integrity of the village. Add the area around the ford.		<b>No change to policy.</b> The area around the ford is already covered.
Policy 8		18	4	3	See separate sheet		<b>Change to policy required.</b> No building should be more than two storeys to preserve the privacy and views of existing residents.
Policy 9		14	1	1	Gardens are being sold off for development. Gardens shouldn't be used for development. Only ok if within village boundary, good design and safe access to highway. Should count towards 10% and be a proportionate increase in the village (not like Buntingford).	Gardens should be used to build housing	<b>No change to policy.</b> Gardens can be used as long as their development is not inappropriate.
Policy 10		17	1		Buildings need to be in the village vernacular. New buildings and extensions should be in keeping with the character of the property. Better to use buildings than let them rot. Should also build affordable housing for locals, the elderly and disabled.	Opens the door for more development	<b>No change to policy.</b> Wording conditions what is already acceptable in the NPPF. Village vernacular covered in Policy 12.

Policy 11		17	3		Include bungalows for retirees. It is good to have a mix of housing stock. Not easy to accommodate affordable housing in small developments so at least one larger size development is needed. Absolute minimum! Most should be for rent - so a one wage family can afford them. Flats are not suitable homes for families with children. It is important to keep young people in the village.	Policy does not state % and it should. Too much affordable housing causes problems. The balance of affordable housing and size of the village is sufficient.	<b>No change to policy.</b> % will be fixed either in the District Plan or centrally by government.
Policy 12		17		1	Design should be red brick and black clapboard. Properties should be in harmony. Need sufficient parking for new homes. Development should be limited.	New homes should be 'green' and sustainable. Mix of architectural styles so not sure what 'in character' means.	<b>Change to policy.</b> Additional bullet to encourage energy efficient homes and zero run-off .
Policy 13		17			Must be in keeping with the character and scale of the village and its infrastructure. Where will they be located? Should be more opportunities for businesses - light industrial uses at north end of High St.		<b>Change to policy.</b> Add the example of Manor Farm, Dovehouse Lane, where new small businesses will be welcome.
Policy 14		14			Farmers should diversify as long as it doesn't harm the environment. They should only be small scale businesses.		<b>No change to policy.</b> Small scale is difficult to define.
Policy 16		19			Need updated broadband. Would want to be consulted on any masts. Mast should not be near houses. Should not include wind or solar farms. Fibre optic broadband is ssential to allow home		<b>No change to policy.</b> Cannot prevent wind or solar farms. <b>Change policy no to Policy 15.</b>

					working and avoid long commute.		
Cycleway	Adjacent road	17	4		Must not be used by motorbikes. No more development through fields. There would be a conflict with residents cars with a cyclepath on Froghall Lane. Footpath is different to that shown on the map. Would be a safety issue if cyclepath was along footpath. It should not impact on Walkern's beautiful countryside. Should be in keeping, not lit and no road markings. Could fibre optic cable be laid in the path at the time of construction? Would be most sensitive on the other side of the hedge.	It would not relieve traffic congestion. Would create a tarmic lit street and further links would follow. Would cater only for single, healthy individuals not business, farm or school traffic.	<b>New policy required - Policy 16.</b> Conclude that we should have a policy for a cyclepath following the road to Stevenage but off the highway inside the hedge.
	Along footpath	3		4	3 forms didn't mind which route but agreed that there should be a cycleway		As above.

Policy 17		22	6	1	Need waiting restrictions on High St. and corner of Stevenage Rd. More houses add to the already congested roads. Should be more emphasis on keeping traffic out of the village. Traffic should be slowed on High St. Sign access into the sports field for pedestrians to keep them off the road. No cycle paths across rural footpaths. New homes must have sufficient parking. No evidence of proposals to deal with problems of traffic in the village.	No more car parking on road. Traffic will worsen with more growth. How can this be mitigated? Electric charging spaces take up more room. No more building. Put speed ramps on High St. to discourage rat running. Only traffic solution is an alternative road to Baldock. On-road parking is a hazard.	<b>Policy change required.</b> Specifiy proposals to increase ' <i>off-street</i> ' parking in second paragraph and electric charging points should be ' <i>off-street</i> ' in third para.
Policy 18		26			3 requests to include the church. Keeping the community spirit in Walkern is of upmost importance. CAMRA will help with getting the pubs listed. All ACV needed and appreciated. EHDC should not be allowed to renege on ACV. Assets should be bought by the community not developers.		<b>No change to policy.</b> It is not appropriate to include the church as this is not at risk.

Policy 19		24		<p>Could build more recreation facilities elsewhere in the parish. Doctors surgery should be maintained. Park by shop could be redeveloped so there is less grass and it can be used all year round. Upgrade the current playground. Why does the sports club need rebuilding? A tennis court in the village would enhance village life and maintain healthy people.</p>		<p><b>Change to policy required.</b> Intention to channel any additional funds into existing facilities which are in the village. Replace rebuilding of Sports Centre with refurbishment.</p>
Policy 20		28		<p>Surgery requires modernisation and would be better in a purpose built facility. Must be retained at all costs as residents don't have private transport to Stevenage and buses are inadequate. Disabled access to the doctors surgery badly needed. Longer hours requested. Excellent service. Huge asset. Must be retained. Particularly good for the young and elderly. Difficult for elderly to commute when unwell. Good luck with the parking problem!</p>		<p><b>No change to policy.</b></p>



## Appendix 17

### Policy Map Identifying Policy Options and Evidence

This table shows how the key objectives of the plan have been translated into planning policies.

	Key Objective	What the policies are intended to do	Policy Options/Notes	Policies that achieve the Key Objectives	Evidence that the policies are needed
a	Ensure new development protects and enhances local landscape character, valued nature conservation sites and the rich biodiversity of the Parish.	Protect landscape character, views, nature conservation sites and biodiversity on development sites	Policies to protect nature conservation sites and biodiversity including Green Corridors	POLICY 2 Views, Vistas and Landscape Features POLICY 5 Designated Wildlife Sites POLICY 6 Green Corridors POLICY 12 Design of New Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information received from the Wildlife Trust</li> <li>Importance of local landscape identified in Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Survey (survey)</li> </ul>
b	Protect and enhance the village conservation area and its setting, and listed and locally listed buildings.	Identify specific heritage assets and control development that would have a detrimental effect	Policy highlighting character of village and specifically the conservation area.	POLICY 3 Walkern Conservation Area and Heritage Assets POLICY 4 Protected Recreational Open Space POLICY 7 Local Green Space POLICY 9 Housing Infill Sites POLICY 12 Design of New Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development's that impact negatively on the conservation area identified in Conservation Area Appraisal</li> <li>Photographic evidence</li> </ul>
c	Protect and enhance the Parish's open spaces and views for public access and informal recreational use.	Protect existing important green spaces and views from development	Policies on Local Green Space/ Protected Open Space/ Protected Views	POLICY 2 Views, Vistas and Landscape Features POLICY 4 Protected Open Space POLICY 6 Green Corridors POLICY 7 Local Green Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threat posed by proposals to building below the ridge line in the Beane Valley east of Stevenage</li> <li>Importance of open space identified in the survey</li> </ul>
d	Ensure the River Beane, a rare chalk stream that runs through Walkern, is preserved and protected from over-abstraction	Protect species, opportunities to increase flow, reduce pollution	This will only have an influence over development in the Parish/ protect landscape feature	POLICY 2 Views, Vistas and Landscape Features POLICY 5 Designated Local Wildlife Sites POLICY 6 Green Corridors POLICY 7 Local Green Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project to enhance the chalk stream</li> <li>Landscape Character Assessment</li> <li>Importance of the river to Walkern residents identified in the survey</li> </ul>
e	Enhance and improve the environmental quality of the Parish, minimizing noise and air pollution.	Limit impact on or improve environmental quality	Specific policy or include as criteria in other policies	POLICY 12 Design of New Development POLICY 17 Traffic Impact & Sustainable Transport Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traffic congestion in the village (photographic)</li> </ul>
f	Ensure the mix, size and type of new housing meets local needs, including a sufficient supply of affordable housing and preferential access to some new homes for people with a strong local connection	Influence the type of new housing built to meet local needs including retirement provision	A criteria based policy is more succinct than a separate policy for each aspect	POLICY 8 Framework for Land South of Froghall Lane POLICY 9 Housing Infill Sites POLICY 10 Rural Homes POLICY 11 Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Results of the Housing Needs Survey conducted by the Community Development Foundation</li> <li>Aspirations of local residents identified in the survey</li> </ul>

	Key Objective	What the policies are intended to do	Policy Options/Notes	Policies that achieve the Key Objectives	Evidence that the policies are needed
g	Require new development to be of high quality design, built to a high sustainability standard and to be sympathetic to, and improve, the look and feel of the parish.	Design to reflect/enhance local vernacular, characteristics of conservation area etc and to be high quality	Difficult to define high quality/ what is local vernacular? Use Conservation Appraisal and criteria based policy	POLICY 8 Framework for Land South of Froghall Lane POLICY 10 Rural Homes POLICY 12 Design of New Development in Walkern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspiration of local farmers to diversify</li> <li>• Lack of suitable space for expansion in the village</li> </ul>
h	Ensure the design and location of new developments are resilient to the effects of climate change and flooding.	Siting and design of new development to be environmentally sustainable	Criterion in a general housing policy or a specific policy on its own	POLICY 8 Framework for Land South of Froghall Lane POLICY 12 Design of New Development in Walkern POLICY 16 Flood Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of properties being flooded more regularly (photographic)</li> </ul>
i	Support existing businesses, creative industries and home working, and encourage new local employment opportunities for residents.	Increase local employment opportunities Improve infrastructure for home working and new employment opportunities	New site allocation policy or redevelopment of an employment use to maintain or increase jobs, encourage and support new infrastructure	POLICY 13 New Businesses POLICY 14 Diversification of Farm Businesses POLICY 15 New Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited opportunity to provide new employment premises or sites</li> <li>• Traffic congestion at peak times due to commuting to work because of lack of local employment opportunities</li> <li>• Poor Broadband speeds</li> </ul>
j	Preserve and enhance public transport services to and from the village for residents who do not have use of a car, and encourage walking and cycling.	Protect existing and enhance use of sustainable modes of transport	Criteria in design policy to take account of high car ownership /Cycle link to Stevenage to be funded by new development	POLICY 8 Framework for Land South of Froghall Lane POLICY 17 Traffic Impact & Sustainable Transport Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results of consultation exercise on draft policies revealed support for cycle path</li> <li>• Poor existing bus service – evidenced by timetable</li> </ul>
k	Ensure that community facilities (eg school, GP surgery) enhance the health and wellbeing of local residents.	Protect existing community facilities and health care facilities	List important facilities as Assets of Community Value and ensure GP's surgery remains in the village	POLICY 18 Assets of Community Value POLICY 20 Maintaining Existing Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Popularity of the village shop</li> <li>• Changes of ownership of village pubs</li> <li>• Reliance of less mobile on local doctors surgery</li> <li>• Increasing use of the URC hall</li> </ul>
l	Ensure the village has indoor and outdoor recreational facilities that meet the needs of young children, teenagers and adults, and strengthen the sense of community.	Match leisure facilities to local needs.	Protect and enhance existing facilities or ensure they are replaced in the village if lost through development	POLICY 4 Protected Recreational Open Space POLICY 7 Local Green Space POLICY 8 Framework for Land South of Froghall Lane POLICY 19 Community and Recreation Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current facilities are well used (evidenced through calendar)</li> <li>• Lack of variety of facilities identified by residents in the survey</li> </ul>
m	Give the Parish the opportunity to access Community Infrastructure Levy Funding to improve Parish facilities	Direct CIL payments to parish priorities such as Community Facilities	Put all ideas which do not constitute planning policy issues into a Wish List	Project List (appended to the Consultation Statement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments appended to the survey</li> <li>• Comments received at consultation open days</li> </ul>

	Key Objective - Deleted	What the policies are intended to do	Policy Options/Notes	Policies that achieve the Key Objectives	Evidence that the policies are needed
Deleted	Identify several small housing sites to satisfy the need for new homes in Walkern up to 2031, as required by the East Herts District Plan.	Allocate sites to meet EH plan requirements	Need for policy overridden by Land South of Froghall Lane appeal decision	N/A	N/A
Deleted	Locate and phase new development to minimise the impact on the already limited road infrastructure in the village so traffic congestion is not exacerbated.	Stagger development over the period of the plan and distribute development around the village	Difficult to achieving phasing Site allocations can be phased – but not possible on a single site	N/A	N/A
Deleted	Promote existing community groups and encourage the formation of new groups to support community cohesion.	Promote wellbeing	Not a land use policy – added to Wish List	N/A	N/A

## Appendix 18

### Spreadsheet of Consultees for Regulation 14 Consultation

Email Address/Tel number	First Name	Last Name	Consultation Body Name	Consultation Body Type
Clerk.beningtonpc@yahoo.co.uk	Julie	Haire	Benington Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
clerk@cottered.org.uk	Marty	Kilby	Cottered/Throcking Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:ardeleypc@gmail.com">ardeleypc@gmail.com</a>	Aimee	Lauezzari	Ardley Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:astonpcclerk@gmail.com">astonpcclerk@gmail.com</a>	Roy	Falder	Aston Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:marty.kilby@virgin.net">marty.kilby@virgin.net</a>	Marty	Kilby	Aspenden Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
cler@kgreatashbycouncil.org.uk	Pauline	Kellett	Great Ashby Community Council	community council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:weston@clerkyahoo.co.uk">weston@clerkyahoo.co.uk</a>	Lorrain	Ellis	Weston Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
pgrange@greatmumdenpc.org.uk	Paul	Grange	Great Munden Parish Council	parish council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:csc@stevenage.gov.uk">csc@stevenage.gov.uk</a>			Stevenage Borough Council	borough council that adjoins our neighbourhood area
Linda.Haysey@eastherts.gov.uk	Linda	Haysey	East Herts District Council	local planning authority
kevinsteptoe@eastherts.gov.uk	Kevin	Steptoe	East Herts District Council	local planning authority
<a href="mailto:kencrofton@eastherts.gov.uk">kencrofton@eastherts.gov.uk</a>	Ken	Crofton	East Herts District Council	a local district councillor
oliver.heald.mp@parliament.uk	Oliver	Heald	You are	Our member of parliament
leslie.bridger@herts.pnn.police.uk	Leslie	Bridger	You are	Our local Community Support Office
e82086.kinggeorgesurgery@nhs.net			King George Surgery	Doctors surgery
<a href="mailto:thecoalauthority@coal.gov.uk">thecoalauthority@coal.gov.uk</a>			Coal Authority	Consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(c) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
mail@homesandcommunities.co.uk			Homes and Communities Agency	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(d) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk			Natural England	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(e) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk			Environment Agency	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(f) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
eastofengland@HistoricEngland.org.uk			Historic England	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(g) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
<a href="mailto:Josh.kubale@hmwt.org">Josh.kubale@hmwt.org</a>			Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(h) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
<a href="mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk">info@highwaysengland.co.uk</a>			the Highways Agency	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(i) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Email Address/Tel number	First Name	Last Name	Consultation Body Name	Consultation Body Type
<a href="mailto:communications@hchs.nhs.uk">communications@hchs.nhs.uk</a>			Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust	consultation body under Schedule 1, para 1(l)(i) the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012
01438861754 hand delivery	Olga	Ginn	URC	body that represents the interests of a religious group in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:evelyn.tweedlie@esselgroup.com">evelyn.tweedlie@esselgroup.com</a>	Evelyn	Tweedlie	Friends of Lanvally	Voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:stevebadis@gmail.com">stevebadis@gmail.com</a>	Steve	Badis	Austin Arrowheads	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:nigelstrong@icloud.com">nigelstrong@icloud.com</a>	Nigel	Strongitharm	Walkern Tea Room	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:keith@keithpitts.co.uk">keith@keithpitts.co.uk</a>	Keith	Pitts	Walkern Players	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:info@ljdanceacademy.com">info@ljdanceacademy.com</a>	Laura Jane	Shipley	Dance club	dance club whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:admin@walkern.herts.sch.uk">admin@walkern.herts.sch.uk</a>	Jonty	Hall	Walkern Primary School	a school in our neighbourhood area
01438861272/01438860330 hand delivery			Walkern Stores & Post Office	a business based in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:deboinville@btconnect.com">deboinville@btconnect.com</a>	David	deBoinville	Royal British Legion	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
01438861852 posted by MR	Edna	Shepherd	Pigeon Club	body that represent the interests of pigeon owners in our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:janetwoodall@btinternet.com">janetwoodall@btinternet.com</a>	Janet	Woodall	Walkern History Society	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="http://www.nuthampsteadshootingground.co.uk">www.nuthampsteadshootingground.co.uk</a> hand delivery	Derek	Jackson	Walkern Clay Pigeon Club	body that represents the interests of clay pigeon shooters in our neighbourhood area
014388315570 <a href="mailto:walkernguiding@gmail.com">walkernguiding@gmail.com</a>	Claire	Kemp	Guides Brownies and Rainbows	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:mark.armond@bbrail.com">mark.armond@bbrail.com</a>	Mark	Almond	Cricket Club	Voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
01438861631 <a href="mailto:janetwoodall@btinternet.com">janetwoodall@btinternet.com</a>	Janet	Woodall	Magna Carta 800 Anniversary Group	Voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
01438861634 no email address hand delivery			Clark's Garage Walkern Ltd	a business based in the neighbourhood area
07930520681 <a href="mailto:davidthorne22@aol.com">davidthorne22@aol.com</a>	Dave		Ideal Carpets	a business based in the neighbourhood area
01438860363 <a href="mailto:sales@walkerngallery.com">sales@walkerngallery.com</a>	Stephen	Lowe	Walkern Gallery	a business based in the neighbourhood area
01438861321 <a href="http://yewtreewalkern.co.uk">yewtreewalkern.co.uk</a> hand delivery			Yew Tree Public House	a business based in the neighbourhood area
<a href="http://whitelionwalkern.com">whitelionwalkern.com</a> hand delivery			White Lion Public House	A business based in the neighbourhood area
01789143886 <a href="http://www.beaubelleshairandbeauty.co.uk">www.beaubelleshairandbeauty.co.uk</a> hand delivery			Beau Belles Hairdressers	a business based in the neighbourhood area

Email Address/Tel number	First Name	Last Name	Consultation Body Name	Consultation Body Type
<a href="mailto:steelrose2015@gmail.com">steelrose2015@gmail.com</a>			Walkern Hall Farm	a commercial business based in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:info@taeuklimited.co.uk">info@taeuklimited.co.uk</a>			TAE	a commercial business based in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:deboinville@btconnect.com">deboinville@btconnect.com</a>	David	De Boinville	Walkern Hall Farm	an agricultural business based in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:info@hertsbuildersitd.co.uk">info@hertsbuildersitd.co.uk</a>	Richard		Abbey building and maintenance	a business based in the neighbourhood area
To be hand delivered as unsure of amount of businesses by MR		Ansell	The Piggeries	commercial businesses based in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:themagicofchristmas@hotmail.com">themagicofchristmas@hotmail.com</a>	Jeremy	Dyson	Church end Farm/Magic of Christmas	An agricultural business and commercial business base in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:youthconnexions.eastherts@hertfordshire.gov.uk">youthconnexions.eastherts@hertfordshire.gov.uk</a>			Youth Connexions Hertfordshire	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:info@walkernsc.co.uk">info@walkernsc.co.uk</a>			Walkern Sports and Community Centre	voluntary body whose activities benefit our neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:annebrolly@hertforshire.gov.uk">annebrolly@hertforshire.gov.uk</a>	Anne Michelle	Brolly Lloyd	Stevenage library	Hertfordshire County Council Library Service
<a href="mailto:info@hertsmindnetwork.org">info@hertsmindnetwork.org</a>			Herts Mind Network	body that represents the interests of disabled people in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:guideposts.ware@guidepoststrust.org.uk">guideposts.ware@guidepoststrust.org.uk</a>			Guideposts Trust (Hertfordshire)	body that represents the interests of disabled people in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:office@hertsblind.com">office@hertsblind.com</a>			The Hertfordshire Society for the Blind	body that represents the interests of disabled people in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:info@ageukherts.org.uk">info@ageukherts.org.uk</a>			Age UK Hertfordshire	body that represents the interests of disabled people in the neighbourhood area
<a href="mailto:John.Wood@hertfordshire.gov.uk">John.Wood@hertfordshire.gov.uk</a>	John	Wood	Herts County Council	Chief Executive and Director of Environment, local planning authority
<a href="mailto:John.wilshire@hertfordshire.gov.uk">John.wilshire@hertfordshire.gov.uk</a>	John	Wilshire	Fire and Rescue Service	Chief Fire Officer (Herts CC)
<a href="mailto:cschighways@hertfordshire.gov.uk">cschighways@hertfordshire.gov.uk</a>	Oliver	Sowerby	County Highways Dept.	Local highway authority
<a href="mailto:customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk">customer.feedback@thameswater.co.uk</a>			Thames Water	
<a href="mailto:ds@affinitywater.co.uk">ds@affinitywater.co.uk</a>			Affinity Water	
<a href="mailto:connections.gateway@ukpowernetworks.co.uk">connections.gateway@ukpowernetworks.co.uk</a>			UK Power Networks	
<a href="mailto:networkalts.eastern@openreach.co.uk">networkalts.eastern@openreach.co.uk</a>			Open reach (BT)	
<a href="mailto:customerservices@equus.co.uk">customerservices@equus.co.uk</a>	Kim	Horton	Equus	a business based in the neighbourhood area

## **Appendix 19**

### **Responses to Regulation 14 Consultation**



## Spreadsheet of Consultees Responses to Regulation 14 Consultation - Residents

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
2	Views, Vistas and Landscape Features			The River Beane valley is not visible from Viewpoint 6	Policy change	<b>Replacement POLICY 2 see EHDC comments</b>	WNP2
2	Views, Vistas and Landscape Features			View 1 isn't something of beauty and isn't accessible to many	No change	<i>Note: Disagree</i>	WNP16
2	Views, Vistas and Landscape Features			Maintaining the clear rural views for 360o around the village and from surrounding high points of the valley is absolutely crucial. Any development along the ridge parallel to Chells Manor must be full and naturally screened with evergreen trees and shrubs tall enough so as not to be visible from vistas 4 and 5.	Policy change	<b>The NP cannot control development outside its area. However, see also replacement POLICY 2 see EHDC comments</b>	WNP30
3	Walkern Conservation Area and Heritage Assets			With regard to non-designated heritage assets, this would encourage further development that would be detrimental to Walkern	No change	<i>Note: The policy conserves and enhances non-designated assets</i>	WNP9
3	Walkern Conservation Area and Heritage Assets			The first paragraph is a general policy to protect and enhance the Conservation Area which is sensible. The third paragraph is a policy which permits developments that affect non-designated heritage assets so long as they either conserve or enhance the quality of the asset or its setting, which also seems sensible. However the second paragraph of Policy 3 which deals with designated heritage assets is not very clear because it appears to require both conservation and enhancement and as a matter of drafting the conservation and enhancement is said to relate to the development proposals not the relevant asset. The drafting point is easily solved, but it is unclear whether there is intended to be a difference between the policy in relation to designated heritage assets and the policy in relation to non-designated heritage assets, and if there is intended to be a difference what it is. In my view it is appropriate to have a policy which permits developments affecting designated heritage assets so long as the development conserves the asset or its setting, but it is wrong in principle for there to be a requirement that the development should also have to enhance the asset or its setting (although if it does so that might be a ground for facilitating the development rather than just permitting it).	Policy change	<b>Policy re-drafted see EHDC comments on separate sheet</b>	WNP37
5	Designated Wildlife Sites			Bassus Green verges are irrelevant to this plan	No change	<i>Note: They are a designated wildlife site - however there is no onus on the owner to maintain them as such.</i>	WNP16
5	Designated Wildlife Sites			New development adjacent to Stevenage should be screened and the screen designated as a Wildlife site	No change	<i>Note: Cannot be achieved through planning policies as is outside the Parish</i>	WNP30
6				As many green corridors as possible should be protected around the village, for wildlife	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP15
6	Green Corridors			Is it possible to widen the designated parish boundaries to encompass all the current arable and woodland within view of our village right up to the current pine copse parallel with Gresley Way?	No change	<i>Note: No, this land is in Aston Parish</i>	WNP30
7	Local Green Space			My privately owned agricultural field should not be claimed as a LGS. It's use is for farming and livestock and at this time is sprayed annually to facilitate the growing of hay. The only public recreational value is walking on 2.1metre wide footpaths. Our family have kept pigs and cattle on it also horses and it could go back to that use. Also it could of course be ploughed for crop growing, in which case it would be brown and not green. So it is unrealistic to claim it will remain a green space. What is the field's special historic significance anyway? It is not the local park and calling it a local green space will not change that. Also there is no rookery that is Mr Dyson's side of Church End and the field adjacent to the allotment in Totts Lane is not owned by the Cordell's and the land behind the barns is in different ownership. This field is no more significant than any other green field around Walkern. So why is it the only one singled out?	Append change	<b>Appendix F2: Replace 'Yes' with 'No' in 3.c. (special historic value)</b> <i>Note: This is an attractive, well used area which should be protected from inappropriate development.</i>	WNP1
7	Local Green Space			We would appreciate more details with regard to 'special circumstances'	No change	<i>Note: These are detailed in national guidance</i>	WNP9

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
7	Local Green Space			I object to this field being submitted as having Historic value - what is the justification? No significant views, apart from boundary hedges. Only recreational value is the footpath. It is no richer in wildlife than the surrounding agricultural fields. No rookery. By labelling it as a 'local green space' it will encourage people to use the footpath, which is already a problem now. This field is used for Hay making for animal feed. Dog waste and litter are already a problem. This privately owned field has been put into the WNP to stop future planning, which is not something that has been considered.	Policy change	<b>See line 2</b>	WNP29
9	Framework for Land South of Froghall Lane			Flooding has extended further than the south west corner in the past. The privacy of existing residents should be protected. Pedestrian safety will be an issue with more cars using the access in Aubries and Moors Ley. The bus service should be improved before the development is occupied.	No change	<i>Note: Policies in the NP aim to resolve these issues</i>	WNP8
9	Housing Infill Sites			We would appreciate more details with regard to small-scale infill	Policy change	<i>Note: Refer to District Plan policy and revised Policy 9.</i>	WNP9
9	Housing Infill Sites			Define local vernacular style and character	Para change	<b>Refer to the Walkern Conservation Area Appraisal in para 5.35</b>	WNP22
9	Housing Infill Sites			Agree that garden developments should be resisted. Open spaces and gardens are why people live in a village.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP27
9	Housing Infill Sites			What is meant by the term 'vernacular architectural style'? This needs to be defined clarified.	No change	<b>See comment to WNP22 above</b>	WNP38
10	Rural Homes			There is a case for an extension to Rural Exception Sites as in EHDC Draft D Plan paragraph 13.6.5 and supported by CPRE	Policy change	<b>Policy amended see EHDC comments</b> <i>There is no paragraph 13.6.5 in the District Plan</i>	WNP11
12	Design of New Development			There should be at least two spaces per household plus visitor parking	Policy change	<b>Agree for Policy 8 change wording and justify</b>	WNP10
12	Design of New Development			Define 'traditional design feature'	No change	<i>Note: The Conservation Area Appraisal is already referenced in para 5.37</i>	WNP22
13	New Businesses			As a business owner we strive to employ local people and utilise local resource. Local small and medium sized enterprises should be encouraged as they help promote the village/community and the provision of local employment has local benefits, e.g. not the need to drive outside the village, supports other local businesses etc.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP23
14	Diversification of Farm Businesses			The two bullet points run against each other. The viability of farm buildings often depends on diversification away from the usual business of a farm. The parish would be better following the policy of EHDC "conversion of rural buildings" and paragraph 13.6.5.	Policy change	<b>Change 'and' to 'or'</b> <i>Farming the fields around Walkern is important</i> <i>There is no paragraph 13.6.5 in the District Plan</i> <i>East Herts have not said policy conflict with their plan</i>	WNP11
14	Diversification of Farm Businesses			No need to have an ancillary farm business this policy should be wider	Policy change	<b>As above reply to Id WNP11</b>	WNP16
14	Diversification of Farm Businesses			I agree that diversification should be supported for farm business and the change they are expected to make in the future. However, I feel the policy at the moment is too restrictive for diversification, and that it should reflect para 13.6.5 in the District Plan.	Policy change	<b>As above reply to Id WNP11</b>	WNP19
14	Diversification of Farm Businesses			Farm diversification should be supported for all farm business in the Parish to ensure their viability. The present policy is restrictive and the East Herts rural district plan should be included and adopted. Chapt 13 Paragraph 13.6.5	Policy change	<b>As above reply to Id WNP11</b>	WNP20
15	New Infrastructure			Since the closest mobile mast in on Gresley Way and the local BT exchange is still copper it is wondered if support would include making Walkern more attractive for high speed broadband or for suitably disguised mobile masts.	No change	<i>Note: Policy supports these options</i>	WNP5

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Do not really need a cycle path: how many people will use it? What is the statistical evidence?	Policy change	<b>Delete Policy 16 and add cycle path into Policy 8</b> <i>As stated in the appeal decision.</i>	WNP3
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			A cycle path/walkway to Stevenage would be very welcome and on the Southside of the Stevenage road behind the thickets would be safer than a barrier. Suggest retaining and increasing the thicket hedge. Would both provide protection from traffic and visually would work as a backdrop for the pathway and would reduce noise pollution.	Policy change	<b>This policy has been deleted. Add wording into explanatory paragraphs for Policy 8.</b>	WNP5
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			The cycle path should be constructed before the development of the Froghall Lane site.	No change	<i>Cycle path will only be delivered as part of the development</i>	WNP8
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Support this policy	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP10
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Support this policy	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP11
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Support this project	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP12
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Support - should be actioned as soon as possible	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP16
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Support this policy for young people and school children especially	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP21
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			As a keen cyclist and committee member of the village cycling club, I feel it is imperative that a cycle path is provided as set out. No only would it give safe access to Walkern by bike, it would lead to less congestion, and may encourage children/parents to cycle to school, work etc.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP23
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			A tarmac surface and lit route would make a semi-urban link with Stevenage and would not be used by many, therefore it would not reduce traffic.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP25
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			Bridleways should be maintained and enhanced to provide better access for horses an this path should be suitable for horses.	No change	The 2009 Feasibility Study did not include provision of a bridleway, nor would the route meet with an existing bridleway.	WNP26
16	Cycle Path between Walkern and Stevenage			I am very concerned that a cycle path between Walkern and Stevenage would be the starting point to bring about the integration of Walkern with Stevenage. A purpose built route between the village and town would forever link Stevenage with Walkern. I can' t see how a cycle path would do anything to alleviate the current and growing traffic problem within Walkern. For example I can't see the children who currently live outside of Walkern riding to school with their parents. I can see people from Stevenage cycling to Walkern. Developments like this will lead to the village losing its status as a village.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP35
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			Transport Policy is weak. As relatively new arrivals the traffic congestion in the High street does not provide a good impression. The road cannot cope with more traffic. Need firm policy on school parking. Need more controlled parking e.g. need intermittent no parking areas in High street to assist traffic movement. Policy needs to be stronger e.g. will reduce congestion, will eliminate poor or illegal parking.	No change	<i>Note: Planning policies cannot reduce congestion or eliminate poor or illegal parking</i>	WNP3

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			We need 'off street' parking in a designated area, double yellow lines down both sides and 30mph flashing signs in the one lane High Street	No change	<i>Note: Cannot be achieved through planning policies</i>	WNP4
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			Action must be taken to reduce the congestion on the High Street and improve the pavement on the west side of the High Street	No change	<i>Note: Cannot be achieved through planning policies</i>	WNP7
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			There is insufficient detail on parking problems and how the neighbourhood plan will resolve these	No change	<i>Note: Cannot be achieved through planning policies</i>	WNP13
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			The village is currently suffering the increased volume of traffic caused through the expansion of surrounding villages, e.g. Buntingford. Sat nav's etc. direct travel through Walkern as a 'cut through'. The problem is also exasperated through general higher volumes or traffic on surrounding major roads, e.g. the A602.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP23
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			Concerned about parking and speeds in the High Street and HGV's using the bridge at the mill	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP24
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			The provision of off street parking and/or permanent parking restrictions on High Street and Stevenage Road would be welcomed	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP27
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			Concerned about rat running traffic congestion and high speeds through Walkern	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP30
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			Please can some new bridleways be proposed or footpaths changed to bridleways so horse riders can safely ride through Walkern without having to negotiate the very busy High Street and Stevenage Road.	Policy change	<b>A bridleway has been included in Policy 8</b>	WNP34
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision			There should be no further development including no school expansion. I would suggest there are no measures left to mitigate increased traffic. The village is already at bursting point. Indeed there should be focus on reducing the traffic flow. It is unsustainable. Traffic/parking along the High Street is incredibly overbearing and destructive to village life for residents. Recently there has been an increase in parking on the High Street by the school overnight. This is due I believe to people sub letting/ renting out properties which leads to an increase in vehicles as the building has more residents and insufficient parking.	No change	<i>Note: The Froghall Lane site already has planning permission. Only limited infilling will be appropriate in the village</i>	WNP35
19	Community and Recreation			Recreation facilities should not just be on play area in High St. All ages could benefit from investment in Walkern Sports and Social club ad its sports ground to provide more than just football.	No change	<i>Note: This level of detail has been removed from the policy by the Parish Council</i>	WNP13
19	Community and Recreation			I feel recreational facilities should be enhanced, such as the provision of tennis courts, in order to encourage physical exercise for the wellbeing and health of the community. This accords with Government initiatives.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP23
19	Community and Recreation			I don't believe existing community and recreation facilities should be enhanced. However, I do strongly believe they should be maintained. By enhancing (enlarging) it will be encouraging more people into the village and therefore give greater weight to joining with Stevenage as indeed Walkern may provide a facility that Stevenage does not have. An example is that Stevenage football teams use the recreation ground an create parking problems.	No change	<i>Note: Residents have expressed a wish to extend the range of facilities</i>	WNP35
20	Maintaining Existing Health Services			Absolutely essential - a lifeline for the village	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP8
Many				Support Policies 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,11,13,14,16,18,19 & strongly support Policies 8,9,10,12,15,17,20. Concerned about traffic management and flood risk/control.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP6

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
Many				Support policies 2,4,5,6, 10, 12 and 20. Congestion and parked cars along Stevenage Road is a concern	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP9
Many				Support policies 5,6 & 7 and would encourage educating the community on why they are important. It is also important to build a greater understanding between users of footpaths and owners of the private land they are on	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP14
Many				General support for policies 5,8, 12 & 14 and the plan as a whole	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP17
Many				What is the relative ranking of policies when two policies are in conflict?	Para change	<i>Note: It is not anticipated that policies will conflict with each other, however, a site specific policy will take preference over a general policy.</i>	WNP22
Many				Please provide more detail on how development should not increase the risk of flooding. This should cover flooding due to: a. river breaking its banks, b. run off from fields, and c. blocked drains.	No change	<i>Note: Cannot be achieved through planning policies</i>	WNP22
Many				Support policies 1-7 and 9-12	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP31
Many				General support for the plan but concerned about traffic congestion and the problems of encroaching ivy.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP36
Many				Typo's identified in paragraphs 4.7, 4.8 ,5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.10, 5.13, 5.21, 5.22, 5.24, 5.27. 5.29, 5.30, 5.54 and policy 2, Appendix A1, A2 & B1, B2 Objective h		<b><i>Note: Typo's will be corrected</i></b>	WNP38
	Proposals Map			Is the fact that the four properties at Walkern Mill are outside the village boundary to the properties detriment?	No change	<i>Note: No proposal to change the village boundary here</i>	WNP2
	Objectives			Running the Walkern Sports and Social Club on a commercial basis would be contrary to Objectives E and K	No change	<i>Note: There is no policy in the Neighbourhood Plan to run centre commercially</i>	WNP2
	Objectives			More cars in Walkern High Street will cause more pollution contrary to Objective E	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP4
	Objectives			The River Beane has just been restored; more houses in the valley would the river again	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP4
			20-22	Walkern's woods, green spaces and the Beane Valley should be protected from the Gresley Park development	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP8
		3.3		Suggest two additional objectives: To ensure that future growth is supported by upgrades in infrastructure (roads, shops school etc.) and To ensure that future house building is given appropriate off road parking to ease congestion.	No change	<i>Note: These are covered by policy 1, 8 and 12</i>	WNP18

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
		4.9		This paragraph should only include assertions that are backed up by evidence	Para change	People like living in Walkern Parish and value their rural surroundings highly, according to the Neighbourhood Plan survey and feedback from consultation events. With approximately 32% of respondents to the CDA Herts Housing Need Survey 2017 (CDA 2107 p.12) having lived in Walkern for more than 20 years, this indicates the relative stability of the community. House prices in the Parish are high. There were 27 properties sold in Walkern in the 12 months to March 2017 with an average price of £417,762. Five of these were flats with an average price of £212,600; the remaining 21 house sales averaged £432,398.	WNP38
		4.10		Paragraph should be rewritten to focus on what the Neighbourhood Plan is trying to achieve	Para change	The recommendations of the CDA report on housing need in Walkern indicate that, in order to serve the local community, 16 affordable units should be identified for local residents. This was further clarified as the most significant need being for two bed homes for small three person families (7 units), one bed homes for single people (5 units), and three bed homes for four person families (4). Of the 31 respondents who desired affordable homes, only 2 asked for bungalows and 7 asked for flats. Almost 50% of respondents who commented on where the affordable housing should be located identified the land at Froghall Lane.	
		4.11		Paragraph contains unsubstantiated assertions	Para change	The village store is an important facility for residents and has been designated an Asset of Community Value, providing a local meeting point as well as an essential service for those who do not have private transport. Other private community facilities that are particularly valued are the Yew Tree and White Lion pubs and the United Reform Church, which has been completely renovated with a new kitchen and now offers facilities for local groups to meet.	

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
		4.12		Paragraph contains inappropriate statements	Para change	Improvements have been made to the primary school, which offers pre-school places and a toddlers group and takes pupils from outside the village. The Walkern Sports and Community Centre football pitches are well used but the centre has little in the way of outdoor equipment or facilities for other sports.	WNP38
		4.13		Paragraph should be rewritten to focus on what the Neighbourhood Plan is trying to achieve	Para change	As a result of the Neighbourhood Plan, consultation exercises ideas and suggestions were made for improvements to facilities and services in the Parish. These have been captured in a 'Wish List' of diverse projects. Grant funding through schemes such as Biffa and the Heritage Lottery Fund and funding from new developments (S106 and New Homes Bonus etc.) will be directed to projects that will benefit the greatest number of residents and businesses. These projects will be complimentary to and implemented in parallel with, the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan to achieve the objectives set out in section 3.	WNP38
		5.12		What is meant by the term 'vernacular architectural style'? This needs to be defined of simpler English used.	Para change	See comment to WNP22 above	WNP38
		5.12		Bridgefoot Farm does not overlook the ford.	Para change	Change 'which is overlooked by' to 'below'	WNP38
		5.13		Suggest change wording of last sentence to 'both hamlets are accessible by road and footpath'	No change	<i>Note: This is not about accessibility</i>	WNP38
		5.18		There are more than 200 chalk streams worldwide, so the reference needs to be checked/clarified	No change	<i>Note: The reference is correct</i>	WNP38
		5.32		Delete 'be easily navigable on foot encouraging residents to walk into the village'	Para change	Replace phrase with 'be well connected with the rest of the village'	WNP38
		5.32		Delete 'will be critical to its success'	Para change	Change 'success' to 'successful integration'	WNP38
		5.35		I disagree that Walchra Court is a successful' infill scheme. It is out of keeping with the surrounding dwellings.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP38
		5.36		Delete 'careful'		Paragraph to be rewritten to incorporate results of Housing Needs Survey	WNP38
		5.37		What is 'local style' ? This needs to be clarified.	Para change	See comment to WNP22 above	WNP38
		5.38		There is no evidence to support the assertion that cars are parked on the pavement in the High Street.	No change	<i>Note: This does not specifically refer to the High Street.</i>	WNP38

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Action	Change Required	Id
		5.50		Delete: 'is a lively community, which' as this is an exaggeration	Para change	<b>Delete: 'is a lively community, which'</b>	WNP38
		5.51		Need to include St. Mary's C of E church in the list of community facilities.	No change	<i>Noted</i>	WNP38
			32	Chart is out of date	No change	<i>Note: chart represents a point in time</i>	WNP38
		B2		In key objective h what does local vernacular mean?	No change	<i>Note: Now explained in document</i>	WNP38
		B2		In key objective l what facilities are well used?	No change	<i>Note: Point clarified in rewritten para 4.12</i>	WNP38
		E & F		Numerous queries on Appendices E and F	Append change	<b>Appendices to be corrected and justified</b>	WNP38
		Ackn		Chris Birt should be acknowledged for Analysis of village survey data	Append change	<b>Change wording as requested</b>	WNP38



## Spreadsheet of Consultees Responses to Regulation 14 Consultation - Other

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
2	Views, Vistas and Landscape Features			All the views listed are from Walkern looking outward. There are some very nice views of Walkern looking inward: - On the road from Stevenage to Walkern from the corner by Box Wood looking East over the village and into the valley - From Bassus Green looking west over the village and into the Beane valley showing clearly how the settlement is sheltered by the topography	Views have been amended see revised appendix D	RBRA	WNP40
2	Views, Vistas and Landscape Features		17	It is unclear what exactly is meant by the word 'protect' in this policy and what development proposals will be expected to do to comply with the policy. It is likely that new development will, by its nature, have some impact on the views and vistas and the NP is not clear about what is particularly important/special about the 'key views and vistas' indicated on the Policies Map that the NP is seeking to preserve. Further information on this would provide greater clarity to the reader and ensure that appropriate development proposals are brought forward. Suggest amending the policy to state that in these locations it would be necessary for any development proposals to assess the impact of development on the identified key views and vistas or harm to the landscape and in proposals where a harmful impact is identified, development proposals would only be permitted where appropriate mitigation measures can be delivered.	<b>Replacement POLICY 2 Views, Vistas and Landscape Features:</b> <b>Six important views and vistas are identified on Policies Map (Appendix C) and detailed in Appendix D. These are:</b> <b>View 1: West from the URC (High Street) through Manor Farm paddock</b> <b>View 2: East along Church End over the ford</b> <b>View 3: North from the meadows to St Mary the Virgin Church</b> <b>View 4: East from Box Wood towards Walkern</b> <b>View 5: East of the River Beane to Wrights Tower House above the Finches</b> <b>View 6: North from the entrance to Walkern along Bennington Road</b> In addition, the River Beane Valley is the primary landscape feature in the Parish and provides a strategic gap between Walkern and Stevenage. Any development proposal in the Parish should include an assessment of the impact of the development on the key views and vistas or harm to the valley landscape. Proposals where a harmful impact is identified will only be permitted where appropriate mitigation measures can be delivered.		
2		5.11	17	Corresponding text to explain the new policy on Policy 2 Views, Vistas and Landscape Features	<b>Replacement para 5.11</b> It is important that any new developments in the Parish are sympathetic to this local landscape character. Walkern has a minimal impact on the views across the river valley as it nestles in the gently rolling landscape. The Neighbourhood Plan has identified a number of key views, vistas and landscape features, listed in Policy 2, detailed in Appendix D and shown on Policies Map (Appendix C). In order to maintain the integrity of these cherished views, vistas and landscape features and insure new development does not impinge on the rural setting of the village, development proposals must include an assessment of any impact and how that impact will be mitigated.	EHDC	WNP45

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
3	Walkern Conservation Area and Heritage Assets			There is an issue with the second paragraph of the policy. Is there intended to be a difference between the policy in relation to designated heritage assets and non -designated heritage assets? If there is an intended difference, what is it? It is wrong in principle for a development to have to enhance a designated heritage asset as long as it conserves the asset of its setting. If it does so that might be grounds for facilitating the development rather than just permitting it.	<b>Policy to be reworded in accordance with EHDC comments</b>	Walkern Hall	WNP39
3	Walkern Conservation Area and Heritage Assets		18	Second paragraph of the policy doesn't make sense. It appears that some words are missing and the sentence should have the same meaning as the third paragraph of the policy.	<b>Replacement POLICY 3 Walkern Conservation Area and Heritage Assets</b> <b>In accordance with the policies in the East Herts District Plan and the guidance in the Walkern Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Proposal 2016, the Walkern Conservation Area and its setting will be protected and enhanced.</b> <b>Proposals for development which affect designated heritage assets in the Parish, including listed buildings and the two scheduled monuments (Box Wood and Walkern Bury Farm), and non-designated heritage assets will be permitted provided that they conserve or enhance the quality of the asset or its setting.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
4	Protected Open Space			Could the land alongside the River Beane at Finches End be included as a Protected Open Space?	<i>Note: This would not be classified as a Protected Open Space</i>	RBRA	WNP40
4		5.16	19	Change 'Conversation' to 'Conservation'.	<b>See revised paragraph 5.16 as justification to Policy 4</b>	EHDC	WNP45
4	Protected Open Space		19	<p>Policy 4 designates 'Protected Open Spaces'. It is not clear exactly what the intention of this policy is and if it is seeking to be more restrictive than the equivalent policy in the Local Plan 2007 and emerging District Plan. The policy seeks to 'protect' the open spaces from development, yet also proposes that they be 'enhanced'. This could potentially involve some form of development so further clarity is required with regard to this policy.</p> <p>This policy identifies, and seeks to protect from development, three open spaces that are primarily used by the local community as sport and recreation facilities. All three sites are designated in the Local Plan 2007 and the emerging District Plan as 'Open Space, Sport and Recreation' facilities where development would only be permitted in particular circumstances. It is currently unclear whether this policy is seeking to go beyond the policy position set out in the Local Plan 2007/emerging District Plan by preventing any loss or reduction of open space or sport and recreation facilities. The policy currently seeks to 'protect' the sites from development, yet also to see them 'enhanced'. It is possible that 'enhancement' may involve some form of development, which may involve some loss or reduction of existing facilities/open space. Further clarity is required about if development, what type of development and in what circumstances development may be permitted.</p> <p>Consider amending the title of the policy to 'Protected Sports and Recreational Open Spaces' or similar for clarity.</p> <p>The final paragraph of the policy relating to the development of land south of Froghall Lane should be deleted from the policy. It could be added to the supporting text and amended to state that the recreational open space delivered on this site will be subject to designation under this policy as an amendment/through a review of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p><b>Amend title of POLICY 4 to Protected Recreational Open Spaces.</b></p> <p><b>Delete last paragraph from policy 'Following.....'</b></p> <p><b>Replacement Policy 4:</b></p> <p><b>The following sites, detailed in Appendix E and shown on the Policies Map (Appendix C) are allocated as Protected Recreational Open Space:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>• The park on the High Street next to Walkern Stores, no 79 High Street (PROS1)</b></li> <li><b>• The children's play area in Aubries (PROS2)</b></li> <li><b>• The sports field at Walkern Sports and Community Centre (POS3)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Development proposals that would result in the loss of all or part of these spaces will not be permitted unless they are replaced with better facilities which are as accessible to the local community as the current recreational open spaces.</b></p>		

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
4		5.16	19	Corresponding text to justify Policy 4	<b>Replacement paragraph 5.16:</b> There are three open spaces within the village which are recognised as important for recreational purposes. Two of these are also identified as Important Open Spaces in Chapter 5 – Walkern Conservation Area, Character Appraisal and Management Proposal 2016, published by East Herts Council. These spaces are shown as Protected Recreational Open Space (PROS) on the Policies Map (Appendix C) and detailed in Appendix E. Green spaces within the village that are accessible to all residents should be retained.	EHDC	WNP45
5	Designated Wildlife Sites			There is no mechanism for designating wildlife sites in neighbourhood plans unless they have previously been designated as wildlife sites by other routes. The sites listed under Policy 5 have not been designated as wildlife sites and so reference to these sites is erroneous. The sites are referenced in Wildlife Site Inventory for East Herts 2013 which is an advisory document and implies no designation. Moreover, the document is transitory and changes from publication to publication. There are no <b>Designated</b> wildlife sites in the Parish. Suggested policy wording change - delete 'Designated' in the title of the policy.	<b>Advice received from Herts Environmental Records Centre - clarify the status of the sites in the text and in the Appendix</b>	Walkern Hall	WNP39
5		5.21	20	Penultimate sentence – insert 'be' after 'will'	<b>Paragraph 5.21 insert 'be' after 'will in the penultimate sentence</b>	EHDC	WNP45
5	Designated Wildlife Sites		20	It is unclear what exactly is meant by the use of the word 'protected' in this policy. Consider changing to 'conserved' or 'protected from any harmful impacts of development'.	<b>Policy 5 insert 'from any harmful impacts of development' after 'protected' in the first sentence.</b> <b>Corresponding text changes will be made to paragraph 5.21.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
7	Local Green Space			Can consideration be given to making the land alongside the East bank of the River Beane at Finches End a Local Green Space? At present it is an unattractive, uncared for river bank with a weed filled river bed. If this could be made into a strip of riverside garden, or a properly managed space, it would add considerably to the enjoyment of the area for the benefit of all the community and especially local residents. Families who may live in Finches End with children are remote from safe play areas.	<i>Note: This area is too large a tract of land to be designated LGS. It is in private ownership outside the village and essentially part of a farm holding.</i>	RBRA	WNP40
7	Local Green Space		22	Suggest listing the identified Local Green Spaces within the policy wording.	<b>Replacement POLICY 7 Local Green Space</b> <b>Six areas within the Walkern Conservation Area, detailed in Appendix F and shown on the Policies Map (Appendix C) have been designated as Local Green Space. These are:</b> <b>LGS 1 &amp; 2: Land either side of the river Beane at the Ford, Church End</b> <b>LGS 3: Meadow adjacent to the river Beane between Church End and Winters Lane</b> <b>LGS 4: Field adjacent to Allotments, Totts Lane</b> <b>LGS 5: Allotments, Totts Lane</b> <b>LGS 6: War Memorial</b> <b>New development will only be allowed within designated Local Green Spaces where very special circumstances can be demonstrated in accordance with Green Belt policy in the National Planning Policy Framework.</b>	EHDC	WNP45

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
7		5.24	21	Corresponding text to justify Local Green Space designations	Replace last sentence of paragraph 5.24 with: 'Appendix F shows the assessment of the six sites chosen for designation as Local Green Space along with a table showing all sites considered and how each of the six sites designated meet the prescribed criteria. Table to show the comparison between sites chosen and those rejected to be added to Appendix F.		
9	Housing Infill Sites		26	A change to Policy 9 is suggested to make a clear comparison between Policy 9 and the revised Policy 10	Policy 9 replace the first sentence of the policy with: Within or immediately adjacent to the village boundary, small-scale infill developments on brownfield sites will be supported in preference to green field sites. Important views and open spaces that contribute to the enjoyment of residents of the village and are important to the character of the conservation area must be retained.'		
10	Rural Homes		26	Suggest amending policy to state that rural exception affordable housing schemes will be permitted development in the rural area. Consideration should be given to whether this policy applies across the whole of the parish of Walkern or whether smaller rural settlements, i.e.. Clay End and Bassus Green should be specifically identified. Consideration should also be given as to whether limited infill development in identified smaller settlements would be appropriate (market housing as opposed to rural exception affordable schemes).	Replacement POLICY 10 Rural Homes Outside the village boundary of Walkern, high quality conversions to residential use, of buildings of architectural merit will be welcomed. Rural Exception affordable housing schemes in the two small settlements of Clay End and Bassus Green will be permitted, provided that they do not impinge on important views and do not conflict with other policies in this plan. Other single rural homes will only be supported where there is a demonstrable need for them to be located in the countryside.	EHDC	WNP45
10	Rural Homes			Housing for local people at affordable rents can be provided within the parish but outside the village. This would allow some development without further overdevelopment of the village. Proposed revised wording: "Rural exception sites for single affordable homes will be permitted to meet a local need where this need is evidenced and where the development does not have an unacceptable impact on the visual and landscape amenity of the area. This may be acceptable in the case of either new build dwellings or conversion of traditional buildings. In each case ancillary works such as access, outbuildings, curtilage boundaries also should not have an unacceptable impact on the visual and landscape amenity of the area."	See comments from EHDC - and include new wording on Rural Exception Sites with reference to the Inspectors report on the Buntingford Neighbourhood Plan	Walkern Hall	WNP39
10	Rural Homes			The reference to the village boundary should be amended to refer to the 'Village boundary new proposed' as indicated in Appendix C1 - Proposals Map	<i>Note: The Neighbourhood Plan amends the village boundary. The policy refers to the new boundary by default.</i>	David Coles	WNP44
11	Affordable Housing			Current housing needs should be informed by an up to date Housing Needs Survey, where available	<i>Noted: This is now available</i>	David Coles	WNP44
12	Design of New Development		27	6th bullet – Delete reference to 'brick structures' as this is considered too prescriptive. It is not considered necessary to 'hide' refuse bins but adequate provision for the storage of refuse bins should be required.	Replace sixth bullet in Policy 12 with: 'Adequate provision of enclosures to accommodate storage of refuses bins should be provided within the curtilage of each new home.	EHDC	WNP45

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
12	Design of New Development		27	The first statement infers that all development should relate to the character of Walkern and its historic core of the village in terms of scale and design. The character of Walkern is varied with some parts of the village likely to be viewed as being less representative of the predominant village character. This is therefore in direct conflict with the NPPF which seeks to 'improve design' rather than replicate any designs that are considered to be poor or of low quality. The first statement also conflicts with the clauses below where reference is made to "traditional design features", "Modern, innovative design".	<i>Note: There is very little negative residential development within the conservation area and a conservation area can be improved by modern innovative design where appropriate.</i>	David Coles	WNP44
12	Design of New Development		27	Third bullet point is a very broad requirement and has little value, particularly if applied to "Modern, innovative design" as referred to below and without any qualification as to what features should be.	<i>Note: Typical design features are described in the Conservation Area Appraisal.</i>	David Coles	WNP44
12	Design of New Development		27	Bullet point 6: This clause is overly prescriptive for a Neighbourhood Plan and is considered to be inappropriate. This should only be applicable to any refuse bin storage areas that are visible from the public realm. Where refuse bins are stored within the fenced or walled boundary enclosures of the property, e.g. the rear garden, then separate brick structures should not be required.	<b>This bullet has been amended see EHDC comments</b>	David Coles	WNP44
12	Design of New Development		28	Bullet point 11: A zero run-off of surface water suggests that all homes should have no surface water discharge from the property and that each home has to manage its own surface water within the curtilage. We would suggest that this is amended to relate to the principle of managing surface water run-off rates from development sites to reduce the risk of flooding, in accordance with the guidance issued by the Environment Agency.	<b>Amend bullet point 11 of Policy 12 to replace with 'New developments should be designed so that surface water run-off does not increase the risk of localised surface water flooding with the aim of achieving zero run-off.'</b>	David Coles	WNP44
12	Design of New Development		28	Bullet point 12: Energy efficiency is currently regulated by the Building Regulations and associated statutory legislation and guidance, as well any specific planning policy issued by the District Council. Unless improvements above these existing standards are to be encouraged, then this clause will duplicate existing requirements and should be omitted.	<b>Replace bullet point 12 with: 'New homes will be encouraged to be as energy efficient as practically possible.'</b>	David Coles	WNP44
13	New Businesses		29	Consider amending the final sentence and the specific reference to Manor Farm. It is not clear whether the Neighbourhood Plan is supportive of further development at Manor Farm. If it is, delete 'For example' and amend 'could' to 'would'. If it is not, the specific reference to Manor Farm should be removed from the policy but could be moved to the supporting text if deemed appropriate.	<b>Replace last sentence of Policy 13 with: 'Further development at Manor Farm would be supported provided that the main vehicular access is directly off the B1037.'</b>	EHDC	WNP45
14	Diversification of Farm Businesses			The wording of the policy is not logical. If the development is diversification then it is not ancillary to the farm business. The wording should be as in the East Herts Plan.	<b>Replace 'and' with 'or'</b>	Walkern Hall	WNP39
16	Cycle Path		31	It is not considered that this policy works as a standalone policy as it is not clear how it would be applied and who is responsible for the delivery of the cycle path. As the approved planning application on Land south of Froghall Lane contains a financial contribution towards the delivery of the cycle path/footpath, it is suggested that the wording of this policy is incorporated into Policy 8 in some form. This provides the link between the delivery of the development and the delivery of the sustainable transport infrastructure.	<b>Delete Policy 16</b>	EHDC	WNP45
17	Traffic Impact and Sustainable Transport Provision		31	First section - Query as to whether it is appropriate to expect all development proposals to carry out an assessment of the potential impact of increased traffic. Suggest that the wording is amended to state that any assessment should be proportionate to the scale of development proposed.	<b>Replace the first sentence of Policy 17 with: 'All proposals for development in the village must provide a traffic impact assessment, proportional to the scale of the development proposed, which assess the potential impact of increased traffic on pedestrians, cyclists, road safety, parking and congestion.'</b>	EHDC	WNP45

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
18	Assets of Community Value		32	Amend 'assets' to 'Assets'.	Replace 'assets' with 'Assets' in the first sentence of Policy 18.	EHDC	WNP45
20	Maintaining Existing Health Services		33	The importance of the GP facility remaining in the village is acknowledged. However, decisions relating to the future of the surgery are not solely related to planning and development proposals. Consider amending to state that 'proposals for new health facilities or to extend and conserve the existing GP surgery in Walkern will be supported provided they are located in an accessible location, provide adequate car parking and where they are consistent with other policies in this Plan. Development proposals that would result in the loss of the existing GP surgery will not be supported.'	<b>Add after 'GP Surgery' in first sentence 'and pharmacy'.</b> <b>Replace the second sentence of Policy 20 with:</b> <b>'Proposals for new health facilities or to extend and conserve the existing GP surgery in Walkern will be supported provided they are located in an accessible location, provide adequate car parking and where they are consistent with other policies in this Plan. Development proposals that would result in the loss of the existing GP surgery will not be supported.'</b>	EHDC	WNP45
Many				The word 'protect' is used in a number of policies and supporting text to policies, which results in a failure to provide clear guidance to decision makers and those applying for planning permission as to exactly what development proposals may or may not be permitted. The policies should be amended to provide unambiguous guidance as to what development (if any) is considered to be appropriate. Further assessment evidence of key views and vistas would also provide further clarity to decision makers using Policy 2.	<b>Agreed 'protect' is used 66 times in the document. This will be reviewed (see specific policies for amendments regarding use of 'protect')</b>	EHDC	WNP45
Many				Change all references to 'Proposals Map' to 'Policies Map' to be in conformity with the emerging District Plan.	<b>All instances of 'Proposals Map' to be changed to 'Policies Map'</b>	EHDC	WNP45
Many				It is noted that the NP has been prepared having regard to the emerging policies of the East Herts District Plan, as well as the 'saved' policies of the East Herts Local Plan Second Review 2007 and this is considered to be the most sensible way to approach the production of a NP in the absence of an up-to-date Local Plan. However, it is important to note that if the NP is examined prior to the adoption of the District Plan (as is envisaged) the NP policies are required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the East Herts Local Plan Second Review 2007 to meet the 'basic conditions' which is the main focus of the independent examination process. It is advised that the Basic Conditions Statement that is required to be submitted alongside the NP, assesses the individual policies within the NP for general conformity against the strategic policies within both the East Herts Local Plan Second Review 2007 and the Pre-submission District Plan 2016.	<b>The Basic Conditions Statement will be amended to take make a clear statement that the NP is in conformity to both the adopted and the emerging local plans.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
		1.40	7	Update section prior to submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to set out the latest position of the District Plan. The final consultation on the District Plan has concluded and it is anticipated that the Plan will be submitted on 31 <sup>st</sup> March to the Secretary of State (rather than the Planning Inspectorate).	<b>Replacement para 1.4:</b> <b>Walkern Parish is in the District of East Hertfordshire and the County of Hertfordshire. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in parallel with the preparation of East Herts District Plan 2011–2033, which has undergone its final consultation and was submitted to the Secretary of State for examination on 31st March 2017. The Neighbourhood Plan is in accordance with the strategic policies in both the adopted East Herts Local Plan (2007) and the emerging East Herts District Plan and does not deal with County Council planning matters. The County Development Plan deals with waste and minerals. The current planning documents can be found on the East Herts Council and Hertfordshire County Council websites.</b>	EHDC	WNP45

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
		2.70	8	Consider rephrasing 2nd part of paragraph and amending to 'East Herts Council have acknowledged that this level of development would satisfy the housing requirement for the village as set out in the emerging District Plan. Therefore the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any sites for housing development'. The village development strategy and policies set out in the emerging District Plan will be examined later this year by a Planning Inspector. Therefore there is still the potential for modifications to be proposed to the policies in the District Plan, which may have implications for the Neighbourhood Plan.	<b>Para 2.7 delete from 'Walkern' ... and replace with 'East Herts Council have acknowledged that this level of development would satisfy the housing requirement for the village as set out in the emerging District Plan. Therefore the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any sites for housing development.'</b> <b>New para below 2.7:</b> <b>The village development strategy and policies set out in the emerging District Plan will be examined later this year by a Planning Inspector. Therefore there is still the potential for modifications to be proposed to the policies in the District Plan, which may have implications for the Neighbourhood Plan.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
		2.11	9	Update section prior to submission of the Neighbourhood Plan.	<b>Replace para 2.11 with:</b> <b>The pre-submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan was subject to a six-week consultation exercise which commenced on the 9th January 2017 and included an open day on the 14th January, to answer any question the community had on the contents of the plan and the next steps in the process. Full details of the consultation and the comments received can be found in the Consultation Statement.</b>		
		5.28	23	Change 'Carish' to 'Parish'. Write 'WCACA & CAMP 2016' in full as it is not clear what document is being referred to.	<b>Replace 'Carish' with 'Parish' in first sentence.</b> <b>Replace WCACA &amp; CAMP 2016 with 'Walkern Conservation Area Character Appraisal 2016 in all instances where this occurs in the document.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
		5.30	23	Final sentence – Delete 'of the' which is repeated.	<b>Delete repeated 'of the' in the last sentence of paragraph 5.30</b>	EHDC	WNP45
	Appendices	A	A2	Delete reference to 'Lifetime Homes' as this standard has been abolished with elements of it incorporated into Building Regulations.	<b>Delete reference to 'Lifetime Homes'</b>	EHDC	WNP45
	Proposals Map		C1	The colours used on the map and key to denote 'Local Green Spaces' and 'Protected Open Spaces' are too similar and it may not be easy for a reader who doesn't know the area well to distinguish between them.	<b>Change Protected Recreational Open Space to a lighter shade of green.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
	Appendices			Insert the attached Tibbalds Frogghall Lane Framework, February 2017	<b>Create a new Appendix and Insert the Tibbalds Framework</b>	EHDC	WNP45
		5.18 5.20 5.22 5.23		The Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust have a plan to reintroduce Water Voles to the River Beane. A prerequisite for successful reintroduction is adequate unpolluted water flow, lack of predators especially mink and suitable river bank habitat. A feasibility study is about to start to determine whether this is viable and the results will not be known for some time, possibly two or three years. This should be included in any consideration of the River environment.	<b>Incorporate this wording in the text.</b>	RBRA	WNP40



Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
	New Policy		29	<p>Walkern includes areas of Flood Zone 2, 3a and 3b, associated with the floodplain of the River Beane. Flood Zone 2 is defined by Table 1 of the National Planning Practice Guidance, Flood Risk and Coastal Change (Section 25) as having a medium probability of flooding (1 in 1000 year), Flood Zone 3a as having a high probability of flooding (1 in 100 year), and Flood Zone 3b as having the highest probability of flooding (1 in 20 year).</p> <p>Development should be kept out of these areas where possible. In particular, no development should take place within Flood Zone 3b. We would object in principle to any planning applications in the future that propose such development, unless for either water compatible or essential development. This is due to the role of Flood Zone 3b as the functional floodplain, with the purpose of safely storing floodwater during times of flooding.</p> <p>For any new development in Flood Zones 2 and 3, a Sequential Test should be undertaken in order for the development to be considered appropriate in this location. Should the site pass the Sequential Test, a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) will need to be submitted with a planning application, in line with paragraph 103 of the NPPF. The FRA must demonstrate that the development is safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere, and where possible reduces flood risk overall.</p> <p>A specific flood risk policy within the neighbourhood plan would aid in ensuring flood risk is considered with any new development within Walkern.</p>	<p><b>Insert new Policy 16 Flood Risk. Policy to read:</b>  <b>'Walkern lies in the floodplain of the River Beane. New development proposals in Flood Zones 2 and 3 will be subject to a sequential test. If a development proposal passes the test and is appropriate in the floodplain a Flood Risk Assessment must be submitted with the planning application. The Flood Risk Assessment must demonstrate that the development will not increase the risk of flooding and where possible reduce the risk of flooding in Walkern.'</b></p> <p><b>Insert a new paragraph after 5.42 to Highlight flood zones map in the Appendices and explain the Environment Agencies requirements in line with their suggestions.</b></p>	EA	WNP42
	New Policy			<p>The River Beane, which is classified as a main river, runs through the neighbourhood area of Walkern. It is encouraging to see the plan refer specifically to protecting the river Beane and its associated habitat. However, this could be made stronger through a policy specifying that any scheme adjacent to the Beane should be designed with a naturalised buffer zone of at least 10 metres from the top of the bank of the brook in order to protect and enhance the conservation value of the watercourse and ensure access for flood defence maintenance. This requirement is in line with East Herts' 2016 Pre-Submission Local Plan policy.</p> <p>All buffer zones should be managed for the benefit of biodiversity, e.g. by the planting of locally appropriate, UK native species, and we would expect the buffer zone to be otherwise 'undisturbed' by development, and left free from buildings, hard landscaping, fencing, footpaths or other development. This buffer zone would also help to provide vital space for flood waters, provide improved habitat for local biodiversity, and would also help to provide attractive amenity space on the site.</p> <p>Request a new policy specifying that any scheme adjacent to the Beane should be designed with a naturalised buffer zone of at least 10m from the top of the bank</p>	<p><b>Note: The River Beane corridor is mentioned in Policy 6 Green Corridors under the heading Green Infrastructure. Policy 6 to read:</b>  <b>In accordance with the East Herts Green Infrastructure Plan, the network of Green Corridors in the Parish will be protected from the impact of harmful development, managed and where possible enhanced. These include</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>• The local link extending to the north and west of the end of Froghall Lane</b></li> <li><b>• The network of small woodlands around Clay End and</b></li> <li><b>• The River Beane Valley</b></li> </ul> <p><b>The River Beane is an endangered chalk stream and the valley corridor has a strategic recreational value as well as being important for wildlife and a cherished landscape feature. Any development scheme adjacent to the River Beane should be designed with a naturalised buffer zone of at least 10m from the top of the bank in order to protect and enhance the conservation value of the watercourse and ensure access for flood defence maintenance'</b></p>	EA	WNP42
				Unfortunately due to current staffing capacity we are unable to respond to this consultation	<i>Noted</i>	HE	WNP43



## Spreadsheet of Consultees Responses to Regulation 14 Consultation - Policy 8

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
8	Froghall Lane			The site is in a groundwater Source Protection Zone (SPZ). Construction works should be carried out in accordance with relevant British Standards and best management practices	<b>Add bullet point:</b> <b>Construction work should be carried out in accordance with relevant standards and best practice to ensure protection of the groundwater Source Protection Zone</b>	Affinity Water	WNP41
8				Policy introduction. The site should be allocated for housing.	<i>Note: The site is not allocated for housing</i>	David Coles	WNP45
8	Froghall Lane			Policy introduction. Policies within the Neighbourhood Plan are unable to control development that has already been permitted. Various limbs of the policy below duplicate obligations already detailed within the extant Outline Planning Permission and the accompanying Section 106 Legal Agreement. Therefore these policies, and any that seek to impose any control on the development, should be omitted with reliance put on the obligations already defined, and the Conditions within, the Planning Permission.	<i>Note: The site has the benefit of outline planning permission. The appeal decision paragraph 96 clearly states that all matters other than access remain reserved for further approval and even then it is only the general principles of the access that have been approved (see also paragraph 97 of the appeal decision).</i>	David Coles	WNP45
8	Froghall Lane		24	Conditions: 1st bullet - The purpose of this clause is already covered by Condition 8 of the Appeal Decision referred to above and therefore should be omitted.	<i>Note: There is no conflict with the appeal conditions and based on the initial plans prepared by the developer, this requirement needs to be made clear.</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		24	Conditions 3rd bullet Contributions towards any planning obligations have already been determined and established as part of the Section 106 legal agreement in which payment triggers have already been specified. This clause should be omitted as additional, or alternative, obligations cannot be imposed where they are in direct conflict with the existing Planning Permission.	<b>Bullet deleted see EHDC comments</b>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		24	Conditions 4th bullet This requirement is already engrossed within the Section 106 linked to the Planning Permission on the site and therefore should be omitted.	<i>Note: There is no conflict with the appeal conditions and the policy provides an accessible means of understanding development on the site</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		24	Conditions 4th bullet This requirement conflicts with Policy 11 which requires affordable homes to be based upon current housing needs which are normally defined by an up to date Housing Needs survey which may not include older or vulnerable residents.	<i>Note: It does not conflict with Policy 11 - See Report on the Walkern Housing Needs Survey February 2017 (CDA Herts)</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 1st bullet The existing dwellings on the sites boundaries include both 2 and 3 storey properties, therefore any height reference should ensure that the proposed development can sympathetically relate to the surrounding context as referred to in the clause. Any parameters relating to height should make allowance for rooms in the roof, including future roof conversions, to ensure that development can be fully sustainable and make best use of this built form and the land available. We would suggest that the siting of any taller buildings could be controlled by limiting their location to the parts of the site where they will have little or no material or visual impact on the wider development of the site and can relate more positively to the local context.	<b>Bullet amended see EHDC comments</b>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 2nd bullet It is possible that on-street parking will be provided for visitor or unallocated parking, i.e. parking that is not allocated to a particular dwelling, therefore this clause will prevent the provision of any visitor or unallocated parking. We suggest that it is omitted.	<b>Bullet amended see EHDC comments</b>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 4th bullet This clause is already covered by Condition 7 of the Outline Planning Permission and therefore does not need to be duplicated and can be omitted.	<i>Note: There is no conflict with the appeal conditions and the policy provides an accessible means of understanding development on the site</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 6th and 7th bullets The clause above refers to a 20m landscape buffer along the entire western boundary of the site. This scale of the buffer, with hedge planting, will have an impact on any views, which are not protected or designated, in and out of the site, potentially restricting any views as the landscaping matures. This point should therefore be omitted.	<b>Both bullets have been amended see EHDC comments</b>	David Coles	WNP44

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 8th bullet The outlook (view) of properties is not protected under planning legislation except in specific circumstances where protected views are defined in a Local Plan, therefore the reference to outlook should be omitted. This clause conflicts with the concerns raised during the meeting with the Neighbourhood Plan Group and Govresources in November 2016 where it was indicated that the existing residents along Moors Ley were keen to have a buffer between their properties and the new development to help protect their privacy. A buffer between the existing properties and the new properties would also allow for the continuation of a leisure route within the proposed open space as well as accommodate any surface water management solutions that may be needed to help alleviate the flood risk experienced by the properties on Moors Ley. The clause should either be omitted or amended to reflect the concerns relayed to us by removing the reference to 'gardens of new dwellings should back onto those of existing properties on Moors Ley'. Privacy of existing dwellings is already protected by local planning policy, therefore there is no need to duplicate this within the Neighbourhood Plan. This clause can be omitted in full.	<b>Delete 'outlook from eight bullet</b> <i>Note: The policy reflects the desires of local residents</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 9th bullet The principle of providing any proposed public right of way from Froghall Lane to Moors Ley within the proposed new development is understood, however this should not include the delivery of any right of way on land outside the control of the developer/land owner. For clarity, a pedestrian/cycle link up to the boundary of the development site could be provided as part of the scheme for others to connect to beyond the site.	<i>Noted: The requirements of this bullet are within the development site only</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane			Numerous queries are raised about the conflict between the Tibbalds Framework and the Neighbourhood Plan (see separate sheet)	<b>Document passed to Tim Hagyard</b> <b>Review when EHDC comments incorporated into policy</b>	David Coles	WNP44
8	Froghall Lane		25	Include an illustrative plan from the Tibbalds Froghall Lane Framework, February 2017, within the policy as guidance and a framework for the design of the site (the remainder of the framework should be included in the appendices). Use the framework to make amendments to the policy wording as appropriate.	<b>Include '1. DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT (showing flood hazard area)' from the Froghall Lane Framework February 2017) prepared by Tibbalds after Policy 8 and reference the remainder of the Framework in Appendix XX.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
8			25	Corresponding text to explain the inclusion of the Froghall Lane Framework Plan.	<b>Insert new paragraph</b>	EHDC	WNP45
8	Froghall Lane		24	Second section of policy: 2nd bullet – Consider adding 'where possible'. It may not be possible for all existing trees and hedges to be retained in their entirety. 3rd bullet – Delete. The schedule for the payment of financial contributions is set out in the S106 legal agreement. 4th bullet – Change 'affordable home ownership' to 'shared equity' or 'shared ownership' to reflect S106 legal agreement. 5th bullet – It is not clear exactly what is meant by this; does it just mean smaller units/possibly bungalows suitable for older and vulnerable residents or is it seeking more specialist provision. Further clarity should be provided.	<b>After 'In addition all the following will apply:' 2nd bullet add 'where possible' after 'protected'</b> <b>3rd bullet to be replaced with 'The use of the Sustainable Transport Contribution of £100,000 for public rights of way will be agreed in consultation with Walkern Parish Council.'</b> <i>4th bullet - no change. Affordable home ownership covers a wider range of options.</i> <b>5th bullet replace with 'Affordable homes must include smaller units and accessible single storey homes (preferably bungalows) suitable for older and vulnerable residents.'</b>	EHDC	WNP45
8	Froghall Lane		24	Additional change which would make the policy clearer (not suggested by EHDC)	<b>Add 'conditions' after 'In addition all of the following' and before 'will apply:'</b> <i>Note: This will clarify that the second section of the policy contains conditions and the third section contains development parameters</i>		
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 1st bullet: – Suggest amendment to refer to 'the design and massing of development should respect longer views across the site from Froghall Lane'. – Delete reference to development being 'no more than 2 storeys' as this is considered to be too prescriptive to apply across the whole site. Suggest reference is made to 'development being of varied heights to promote a place of distinctive character and interest, generally of one to two storeys in height'. If there are specific areas of the site where it is considered that development should be restricted to 2 storeys to preserve the privacy and amenity of adjacent residents, this can be specified within the policy.	<b>Create two new bullets to replace the first bullet.</b> <b>- The design and massing of development should respect longer views across the site from Froghall Lane.</b> <b>- Development should vary in height to promote a place of distinctive character and interest, commensurate with its village location, generally of one to two storeys.</b>	EHDC	WNP45
8	Froghall Lane		25	Development Parameters 2nd bullet: Query regarding the requirement for access roads to be designed to prevent on-street parking. It is not clear how this would be delivered and whether it would successfully reduce on street parking. Consider a more positive policy approach by seeking adequate parking provision to be provided throughout the development site to reduce the need for on-street parking and to ensure that cars are not displaced to existing roads which already suffer from inadequate parking provision.	<b>Replace second bullet with 'At least 2 parking spaces per dwelling should be provided, unless there is a clear justification for a lower standard'</b>	EHDC	WNP45

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
8	Froghall Lane	5.34	24	Corresponding text to justify a parking standard higher than East Herts District Plan standard.	Add justification including that there must be no overflow parking from the development into the surrounding streets, either Froghall Lane or Moors Ley & Aubries and the higher figures for vehicle ownership in Walkern Parish compared with East Herts as a whole. (refer to survey results and other consultation responses)		
8	Froghall Lane			Development Parameters 5th (comments state 4th but actually 5th) bullet: - Suggest amendment to refer to 'lower density and lower rise development being appropriate for the western edge of the site'. - Consider making reference to the provision of green roofs as part of the design guidance, particularly for dwellings on the western edge of the site.	Replacement fifth bullet: - Lower density and lower rise development should be located on the western edge of the site to reduce the impact on the countryside. Provision of 'green roofs' on dwellings in this part of the site will demonstrate sensitivity to the transition between village edge and open countryside.	EHDC	WNP45
8	Froghall Lane	5.32		Corresponding text to justify lower density and green roofs at the western edge of the site	Add justification including the importance of the countryside to residents of the village and softening the transition from a green field site to a intensive housing development		
8	Froghall Lane			Development Parameters 6th (comments state 5th but actually 6th) bullet: – Delete reference to 'minimum 20m landscape buffer', and suggest reference is made to the provision of 'generous green landscaped areas and wetland habitat on the western edge' and 'a generous green corridor on the north side to preserve landscape views and the character of Froghall Lane, and to discourage vehicle parking along Froghall Lane associated with the development'. – Delete the final sentence from the policy and add to the supporting text if deemed necessary, having regard to earlier comments on Policy 4 – Protected Open Space.	Replacement sixth bullet: - A generous green landscaped area and wetland habitat will be provided on the western edge of the site, delineated with a new hedge of local native species along the entire western boundary (in line with guidelines issued by the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust). Add 'Public open space created on the development site should be retained and managed in perpetuity by a management company' to the conditions part of the policy as a new bullet and delete the last sentence of the bullet six. Delete seventh bullet and replace with: A generous green corridor will remain on the north side of the site to preserve landscape views and the character of Froghall Lane, and to discourage vehicle parking along Froghall Lane associated with the development.	EHDC	WNP45
8		5.32		Corresponding text to state future assessment of the open space created	Add a statement that the designation of the open space on the site will be reviewed for potential designation as Local Green Space when the Neighbourhood Plan is reviewed in para 5.32		
8	Froghall Lane			Development Parameters 10th bullet (comments state 9th bullet): – Query regarding whether any emergency access is required from Froghall Lane.	<i>Note: This bullet does not specify an emergency access on to Froghall Lane, merely that if there should be an emergency access, that it will be protected from regular use or misuse.</i>		
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Additional obligations cannot be imposed over and above the established S106 agreement. Planning obligations relating to the cycle route at the Land South of Froghall Lane have already been determined and established as part of the Section 106 legal agreement in which payment triggers have already been specified. This Policy should be omitted as additional obligations cannot be imposed where they are in direct conflict with the existing Planning Permission or impose an obligation upon a third party that ultimately prevents or delays the implementation of the Planning Permission.	<i>Noted: Policy 16 has been deleted and a new bullet added into the conditions section of Policy 8 to deal with the Sustainable Transport contribution. See EHDC comments</i>	David Coles	WNP44
8 & 16	Cycle Path		31	It is not considered that this policy works as a standalone policy as it is not clear how it would be applied and who is responsible for the delivery of the cycle path. As the approved planning application on Land south of Froghall Lane contains a financial contribution towards the delivery of the cycle path/footpath, it is suggested that the wording of this policy is incorporated into Policy 8 in some form. This provides the link between the delivery of the development and the delivery of the sustainable transport infrastructure.	Delete Policy 16		
8	Froghall Lane			I am relieved to see that emergency access to Froghall Lane development will be gated. Traffic using it to go north would gridlock the High Street.	<i>Noted</i>		WNP4
8	Froghall Lane			Surface water and foul drainage from the development must not impact existing properties	<i>Note: Covered by the policy and sewerage authority conditions</i>		WNP7
8	Froghall Lane			Proposed development should not make existing parking problems on Aubries, Moors Ley or Stevenage Road worse	Alternative wording to seek adequate residents parking see EHDC comments - higher parking standards		WNP10
8	Froghall Lane			Support this policy, particularly in relation to a new hedge. Would like pensioners bungalows as near as possible to a car free zone.	<i>Noted</i>		WNP12
8	Froghall Lane			Parking is an issue around Aubries and Moors Ley now. Another entrance in by the garage should not be an option as that area is heavy with parked vehicles.	<i>The additional access would be for pedestrians only</i>		WNP13

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
	8 Froghall Lane			The well-designed sustainable urban drainage scheme needs to be in place and seen to be working before dwellings are erected.	<b>Add bullet to Conditions section of policy : The amenities of existing residents should be protected during the construction phase, in particular, temporary measures should be put in place to ensure that no surface water flooding occurs off site.</b>		WNP13
	8 Froghall Lane			We need adequate local services for a growing local community	<i>Noted</i>		WNP14
	8 Froghall Lane			Can the balancing pond be maintained as a conservation area and who would pay for the up keep?	<i>Note: Yes, it would be paid for through a management agreement</i>		WNP15
	8 Froghall Lane			A public right of way between 68 & 70 Moors Ley should be pedestrian and gated	<i>Noted</i>		WNP15
	8 Froghall Lane			There are too many restrictions on a developer. We need new homes and need to get on and build them	<i>Noted</i>		WNP16
	8 Froghall Lane			Provision should be made on this site for young and old residents to stay in the village e.g. two bed bungalows (with room for family or carer) with a wet room for the elderly and for young people on the housing list	<b>Amended See EHDC comments</b>		WNP21
	8 Froghall Lane			The principles/conditions should be strictly adhered to	<i>Noted</i>		WNP23
	8 Froghall Lane			A bridleway from the Aubries through to Froghall Lane would allow us to safely cross onto bridleways without the need for riding along Stevenage Road or the High Street.	<b>Amend Development Parameters 9th bullet Add 'horse riders' after 'pedestrians'</b>		WNP26
	8 Froghall Lane			The development should incorporate provision of nest sites for both swifts, species in decline, and bats, with specially designed roof tiles. In addition to existing trees and hedges, further planting should be made within the site. Habitat for wildlife is in decline and every effort should be made to compensate for any loss.	<b>Add to text in biodiversity section</b>		WNP28
	8 Froghall Lane			Concerned about increased traffic and congestion and foul water flooding as a result of the development.	<i>Noted</i>		WNP28
	8 Froghall Lane			The character of Froghall Lane must be kept as a lane filtering onto fields. The development should be kept separate from the land by hedging, trees and no new dwelling should overlook it. All dwellings should be as Eco friendly as possible, blend into the village and its surroundings as aesthetically as possible.	<i>Noted: The policy seeks to achieve these things</i>		WNP31
	8 Froghall Lane			Boundary of Froghall Lane to be retained by /with hedging to keep feel of lane and countryside views. Gardens should be near boundary to prevent overlooking on existing Froghall Lane properties. There should be no vehicular access to Froghall Lane from the new development.	<i>Noted: The preference for no vehicular access of Froghall Lane is stated in paragraph 5.34</i>		WNP32
	8 Froghall Lane			What preventative action will be taken to prevent flooding in the area/ control measures put in place to support area and residents with increase risk of flooding?	<b>New bullet added see above</b>		WNP32
	8 Froghall Lane			If consideration is being made for cycle/pedestrian links to Froghall Lane via Moors Ley through the land between 68/70 Moors Ley please could this include access for horse riders on a joint bridleway. At present the only access to land beyond Froghall Lane is via the High Street which is becoming very dangerous and unsafe to negotiate with horses due to the high volume and often fast speed of the traffic. I have experienced this at first hand as have others in the village and the High Street at certain times is a 'no go' area for safety reasons.	<b>Development Parameters 9th bullet amended see above</b>		WNP33
	8 Froghall Lane			A top priority here should be more than adequate parking. What we are finding is that parking in the newer developments is not adequate e.g. Rookery Close, Wrights Meadow and the Malting's .	<b>Amended see EHDC comments</b>		WNP35
	8 Froghall Lane			In the fourth (states third) bullet point it should be clearly stated that Walkern Parish Council will not be responsible for the long-term management or maintenance of this drainage scheme - Walkern residents should not end up paying for it.	<b>Amend Development Parameters 4th bullet. Add 'funded' before 'management and maintenance'</b>		WNP38
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Do not really need a cycle path: how many people will use it? What is the statistical evidence?	<b>Policy deleted see EHDC comments</b>		WNP3
8 & 16	Cycle Path			A cycle path/walkway to Stevenage would be very welcome and on the Southside of the Stevenage road behind the thickets would be safer than a barrier. Suggest retaining and increasing the thicket hedge. Would both provide protection from traffic and visually would work as a backdrop for the pathway and would reduce noise pollution.	<b>Policy deleted see EHDC comments</b>		WNP5
8 & 16	Cycle Path			The cycle path should be constructed before the development of the Froghall Lane site.	<b>Policy deleted see EHDC comments</b>		WNP8
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Support this policy	<b>Policy deleted see EHDC comments</b>		WNP10
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Support this policy	<b>Policy deleted see EHDC comments</b>		WNP11
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Support this project	<b>Policy deleted see EHDC comments</b>		WNP12

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Support - should be actioned as soon as possible	Policy deleted see EHDC comments		WNP16
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Support this policy for young people and school children especially	Policy deleted see EHDC comments		WNP21
8 & 16	Cycle Path			As a keen cyclist and committee member of the village cycling club, I feel it is imperative that a cycle path is provided as set out. No only would it give safe access to Walkern by bike, it would lead to less congestion, and may encourage children/parents to cycle to school, work etc.	Policy deleted see EHDC comments		WNP23
8 & 16	Cycle Path			A tarmac surface and lit route would make a semi-urban link with Stevenage and would not be used by many, therefore it would not reduce traffic.	Policy deleted see EHDC comments		WNP25
8 & 16	Cycle Path			Bridleways should be maintained and enhanced to provide better access for horses an this path should be suitable for horses.	Policy deleted see EHDC comments		WNP26
8 & 16	Cycle Path			I am very concerned that a cycle path between Walkern and Stevenage would be the starting point to bring about the integration of Walkern with Stevenage. A purpose built route between the village and town would forever link Stevenage with Walkern. I can' t see how a cycle path would do anything to alleviate the current and growing traffic problem within Walkern. For example I can't see the children who currently live outside of Walkern riding to school with their parents. I can see people from Stevenage cycling to Walkern. Developments like this will lead to the village losing its status as a village.	Noted		WNP35
	Tibbalds Framework			We understand that the Neighbourhood Planning Group specifically excluded the previous version of the Development Framework from the draft Neighbourhood Plan following our meeting with the NP Group and Govresources in November 2016.	The Neighbourhood Plan Group excluded the previous version of the Tibbalds Framework because it did not have the resources to amend the Framework to something it considered acceptable.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Reference is made to: "Low profile housing along edge of development". There is no requirement for "low profile housing" within the Outline Planning Permission and therefore is considered to be inappropriate to this site.	The site has the benefit of outline planning permission. The appeal decision paragraph 96 clearly states that all matters other than access remain reserved for further approval and even then it is only the general principles of the access that have been approved (see also paragraph 97 of the appeal decision).	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the low profile housing is suggested as being provided on the site generates a conflict with Policy 8 within the Draft NP bullet point "• Lower density development located towards the open countryside to the west of the site". Where low profile housing is proposed, the footprints of the dwellings will increase in size occupying more of the developable area of the site. This will increase pressure on the remainder of the site to increase the density and therefore the height of buildings elsewhere on the site. A lower density approach is anticipated to achieve a similar outcome as development is likely to be set away from the northern and western boundaries of the site and therefore be set lower down the slope of the site where any development will have a significantly reduced impact on any views into the site.	The bullet point has been amended to read: <b>Lower density and lower rise development should be located on the western edge of the site to reduce the impact on the countryside. Provision of 'green roofs' on dwellings in this part of the site will demonstrate sensitivity to the transition between village edge and open countryside.</b> The floorspace of the new homes is not defined in the Outline permission. There is no reason why lower rise homes on the edge of the site should occupy a larger footprint.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The landscape buffer along the western boundary will create a visual buffer that will ameliorate any visual impact that traditional profile housing along the edge of the development might have, in accordance with bullet point "• A minimum 20m landscape buffer, delineated with a hedge planted with local native species, should be created along the entire western boundary of the site (in line with guidelines issued by the Wildlife Trusts)."	A landscape buffer is required to increase the biodiversity value of the site and to mark the transition between the green field development and the open countryside between Walkern and Stevenage. It would take tens of years for this landscape buffer to grow sufficiently to screen traditional profile housing and even then it will not provide screening all year round.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Bullet point "• A landscaping scheme should safeguard views into and out of the site, in particular on the western boundary." of the draft NP policy reinforces the need to provide landscaping along the western boundary to minimise any visual impact of development, therefore eliminating the need to restrict development to a 'low profile'.	This bullet point has been revised to " <b>• A generous green corridor will remain on the north side of the site to preserve landscape views and the character of Frogghall Lane, and to discourage vehicle parking along Frogghall Lane associated with the development.</b> "	David Coles	WNP44

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
	Tibbalds Framework			<p>The drainage ponds are shown arranged to the western part of the site including midway along the western boundary. Generally drainage features, such as attenuation basins, are sited towards the lowest part of the site to allow the surface water to flow downhill from the development. Also drainage features are generally located lower than the level of development to allow the features to receive the surface water flowing down from the development. Where such features are located part way up an inclined site, these will involve earthworks to create the storage volume needed to meet the reduction in flood risk. An example would be like locating a bath on a slope where the water would tip out of one end. In order for the bath to hold the maximum amount of water, the bath would need to be set level with some of the bath dug into the ground and some of the bath set protruding out of the ground. The earth around this bath would need to be built up on the lower side of the slope and dug out on the higher side to allow the bath to sit level. An attenuation basin would have the same effect and result in the profile of the land having to be sculpted to accommodate it, which would have an impact upon the quality of the landscape. Given that the attenuation features are to form part of the open space around the development, this may have a negative effect upon the quality of the open space and the desire to have a sensitively designed landscape along the western part of the site where it adjoins the open countryside.</p> <p>Where the surface water drainage is suggested as being provided on the site generates a conflict with bullet point "• A well-designed sustainable urban drainage scheme will include storage for both natural run-off and run-off from the new development, and a management and maintenance plan to secure its long-term operation." of Policy 8.</p>	The Tibbalds Framework is illustrative and does not dictate the exact location of the water features. It is up to a developer to survey the site and prepare an appropriate SUDs scheme.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			<p>The Framework makes reference to "Views across the valley from Froghall Lane..."</p> <p>Froghall Lane runs along the highest part of the site which is circa 9-10m above the southern boundary. On the basis that the suggested 'low profile housing' is sited around the periphery of the development parcels, this would indicate that the development on the other edges are two storeys in height. A typical two storey dwelling is around 8-9m tall (allowing 2.6m per floor and circa 3.5m for the roof). The Development Concept indicates development in the middle of the site which is circa 4m below the level of Froghall Lane. Therefore the development in the centre of the site is likely to have a ridge level around 4-5m above the ground level of Froghall Lane, which would preclude views of any pedestrians stood on Froghall Lane. Where development is taller than two storeys, as is suggested by the density strategy (see sheet 3) and Illustrative Housing Detail for the site, then the ridge levels will be higher still. The opportunity for views through the development would be further restricted by adopting terraced housing as suggested on the Illustrative Housing Detail sheet (sheet 4). This would therefore undermine the Development Concept's suggestion that views will be retained by the layout presented.</p>	The Framework refers to "Views across valley from Froghall Lane into the new development and increase feel of permeability and connectivity." Not just the seven words extracted from this sentence. It is also being taken out of context with the map on which the sentence appears.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			<p>Reference is made to the: "Proposed Residential Development 2.0Ha (Equivalent to 80 dwellings at 40dph)". Where the higher density housing is suggested as being provided on the site generates a conflict with bullet point "• Lower density development located towards the open countryside to the west of the site." within Policy 8 of the Draft NP.</p> <p>By condensing the development into the south east corner of the site, the density has increased to deliver the number of dwellings referred to on the Outline Planning Permission (up to 85 dwellings). A density at 40dph (dwellings per hectare) is considered to be more closely related to urban locations, as could be found in Stevenage, rather than in the village setting of Walkern where a density of circa 30dph is considered to be more sympathetic to the existing settlement. It is worth noting that the previous Tibbalds Development Framework dated November 2015 suggested a density of 30dph. A density of 40dph would result in apartment buildings of 3 or 4 storeys in height and greater reliance upon parking courts and forecourt parking to achieve the parking standards and requirement for off-street parking. Whilst some of these characteristics can be found in Aubries adjoin the site to the east, this is not viewed as the predominant character of Walkern and the best precedent to draw from to inform the development proposals.</p>	The Outline planning permission refers to up to 85 dwellings not an absolute requirement for 85 dwellings. If 85 dwellings cannot be accommodated then the number of dwellings should be reduced.	David Coles	WNP44

Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
	Tibbalds Framework			A density, as suggested, of 40dph on the site would result in a development, more closely related to that found on the land to the east at Aubries, which would result in less spacing between buildings and have more continuous building lines. The Illustrative Housing Detail sheet illustrates a more continuous built form with terraced housing which has no spacing between buildings. This would be appear to be contrary to the intended character and form of development on the site and suggest that the density of 40dph is not appropriate for the site and in conflict with the Neighbourhood Plan. This is in conflict with bullet point "• New buildings should respect neighbouring roof profiles and pitches, the characteristic spacing between buildings, historic building lines, and the overall density of development in the village" of Policy 12 of the NP.	The Neighbourhood Plan does not define a density for the development site. Where there is a conflict, policies for specific sites override general policies.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			This sheet illustrates how the site could be laid out. The sheet suggests that there are houses with gardens and also apartments which occupy larger plots and have larger footprints. The scheme suggests that there are 53 houses and up to 32 apartments to achieve up to 85 dwellings, as consented. There are understood to be 4 apartment buildings situated on key corners at the access to the site off Aubries, at the north eastern corner near Froghall Lane and also in the centre of the site. On the basis that there are four apartment buildings providing up to 32 dwellings, then each building would accommodate 8 dwellings. The size of the footprints would suggest that there are two apartments per floor and therefore the buildings would need to be four storeys in height.	This is conjecture only. The Outline planning permission refers to up to 85 dwellings not an absolute requirement for 85 dwellings. If 85 dwellings cannot be accommodated then the number of dwellings should be reduced.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the apartment buildings are four storeys in height, or even three storeys in height, then this would generate conflicts with bullet : "• The design and massing of buildings and dwelling densities should relate sympathetically to the height (i.e. no more than 2 storeys) and density of existing dwellings on the sites boundaries" of Policy 8 within the Draft NP. A scheme involving apartment buildings of 3 or 4 storeys in height are likely to be less than sympathetic to the height and density of the existing dwellings on the site's boundaries.	This bullet point has been amended to two separate bullets: • <b>The design and massing of development should respect longer views across the site from Froghall Lane.</b> • <b>Development should vary in height to promote a place of distinctive character and interest, commensurate with its village location, generally of one to two storeys.</b>	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the apartment buildings are four storeys in height, or even three storeys in height, then this would generate conflicts with bullet : "• Building materials should be aesthetically pleasing and characteristic of traditional village properties" of Policy 12. A scheme involving apartment buildings of 3 or 4 storeys in height are likely to challenge and override the characteristics of traditional village properties.	Apartment buildings of 4 storeys in height have not been mentioned in the Framework. However, many traditional village properties are 2 1/2 storeys with attractive individual properties of 3, 4 and 5 storeys in height.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the apartment buildings are four storeys in height, or even three storeys in height, then this would generate conflicts with bullet : "• New buildings should respect neighbouring roof profiles and pitches, the characteristic spacing between buildings, historic building lines, and the overall density of development in the village" of Policy 12. A scheme involving apartment buildings of 3 or 4 storeys in height are likely to demonstrate less respect for the characteristic spacing between buildings, historic building lines and the overall density of development in the village.	Apartment buildings of 4 storeys in height have not been mentioned in the Framework. However, many traditional village properties are 2 1/2 storeys with attractive individual properties of 3, 4 and 5 storeys in height, including historic buildings. Where there is a conflict, policies for specific sites override general policies.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the apartment buildings are four storeys in height, or even three storeys in height, then this would generate conflicts with bullet : "• Infill development should not obscure views of the surrounding countryside nor should it significantly reduce the garden areas, which are intrinsic to the settings of existing residences" of Policy 12. A scheme involving 40dph and apartment buildings of 3 or 4 storeys in height are likely to have more impact on views through the development and to and from the countryside beyond.	There is no mention of views through the development either in the Neighbourhood Plan policies or the Tibbalds Framework. Careful siting of buildings will not obscure views of the surrounding countryside.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the apartment buildings are four storeys in height, or even three storeys in height, then this would generate conflicts with bullet : "• Sufficient off-road parking should be provided for each new home" of Policy 12. A scheme involving apartment buildings of 3 or 4 storeys in height are likely to require more areas for off-street parking to avoid any on-street parking. This is demonstrated by the parking court indicated at the entrance to the site from Aubries on the drawing.	It is up to the developer of the site to provide sufficient car parking, within the site, for each new home.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			Where the apartment buildings are four storeys in height, or even three storeys in height, then this would generate conflicts with bullet : "• All homes should have their own modest garden space, characteristic of village living" of Policy 12. Much of the green space around the apartments would be required for parking to ensure that off-street parking was achieved.	It is up to the developer of the site to provide a modest garden space, for each new home.	David Coles	WNP44



Policy	Policy Name	Para	Page	Comment Summary	Change Required	Respondent	Id
	Tibbalds Framework			The sheet illustrates rows of terraced housing that run perpendicular to the gradient of the site. This means that the terraced housing would have to be stepped up the site to follow the change in level resulting in a character of development similar to that found in Aubries immediately to the east of the site. The sheet also suggests that the terraced properties will have green frontages addressing the street. However there will need to be provision for parking for these dwellings which will have a significant effect upon the character of this street as all of the parking will be to the front of the dwellings. This will either have to be in the front garden to achieve the preferred off-street solution, or on street as parallel parking. We are of the opinion that this is unlikely to reflect the aspirations of the neighbourhood Planning Group or the local community in terms of a sympathetic relationship to the existing character of the village or in providing a high quality living environment for the new residents.	Noted. Noted. This is just one interpretation of the Framework plan.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The sheet suggests a green route running through the heart of the layout, although this is shown as being comprised of a new road linking the connection to Froghall Lane and the attenuation basin. Alongside this road is an area of hard surfacing providing space for car parking to serve the dwellings to the north of the green route. This would suggest that the route would be substantially dominated by the road and areas of parking which would undermines the creation of any green route.	Noted. This is just one interpretation of the Framework plan.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			East Herts have confirmed that the play area is no longer required to be delivered on site.	A Local Area for Play (LAP) will still be required for smaller children	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The examples indicate more urban forms of development with higher densities that are considered to have more sympathy with the existing housing in Aubries rather than the wider village. The terraced housing involves a continuous built form with a distinct lack of front gardens or landscaping and car parking having a dominant presence on the street scene. Any development proposed on the site will need to comply with other statutory legislation as well as provide safe access for all highway users. These requirements are controlled by Building Control and Highways officers who will require minimum criteria to be met.	This very detailed critique of the Best Practice Examples, is just one interpretation. The Neighbourhood Plan requires the development of this site to be innovative and forward thinking. A 'one size fits all' approach as suggested in the applicants Framework Plan which was rejected by the Inspector at the appeal will not be acceptable on the Froghall Lane site.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The style of housing and built form would generate conflicts with bullet point "• Building materials should be aesthetically pleasing and characteristic of traditional village properties " within Policy 12 of the Draft NP. A scheme involving buildings of 3 in height are likely to challenge and override the characteristics of traditional village properties.	See comments above about heights of buildings in Walkern.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The style of housing and built form would generate conflicts with bullet point "• New buildings should respect neighbouring roof profiles and pitches, the characteristic spacing between buildings, historic building lines, and the overall density of development in the village " within Policy 12 of the Draft NP. A scheme involving terraced buildings are likely to demonstrate less respect for the characteristic spacing between buildings, historic building lines and the overall density of development in the village.	There are many traditional terraces in the village. The site is a green field surrounded by relatively recent housing development. It is difficult to see what historic building lines are being referred to.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The style of housing and built form would generate conflicts with bullet point "• Sufficient off-road parking should be provided for each new home " within Policy 12 of the Draft NP. A scheme involving terraced buildings are likely to require more areas for off-street parking to avoid any on-street parking or create demand for significant on-street parking.	Parking requirements will depend on the size of the properties developed on the site. It is the role of the developer to design a development that integrates car parking requirements in a successful manner.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			The style of housing and built form would generate conflicts with bullet point "• All homes should have their own modest garden space, characteristic of village living " within Policy 12 of the Draft NP. Much of the green space around the terraced housing or detached housing would be required for parking to ensure that off-street parking was achieved, resulting in less space for 'green routes' or landscaped front gardens more closely associated with 'village living'.	There is only one 'green route' proposed. Very few of the homes in the village, particularly those on the High Street have landscaped front gardens. An innovative approach is required to ensure the development of the greenfield site is successful.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			It is important to note that should the Tibbalds Development Framework be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan, then it will be deemed to be a fair and reasonable interpretation of ALL the policies within the Neighbourhood Plan where they are applicable to residential development within the village.	This basic assumption that underlies all the comments from DCA on the Tibbalds Framework is incorrect. Policies for a specific site i.e. the Land south of Froghall Lane override other policies in the Neighbourhood Plan.	David Coles	WNP44
	Tibbalds Framework			... our mutual objectives [are], particularly sensitively designed homes within a landscaped setting that compliments and enhances the village.	Agreed. Our objectives are mutual and the Tibbalds Framework is included in the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that these objectives are achieved.	David Coles	WNP44



## Appendix 20

### Project List - Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Group

Issue	Outcome sought	Measure sought	Progress
Speed throughout village is too high.	To reduce speed within the whole village.		
Walkern playground in High Street, requires upgrading of all play equipment. Picnic area incorporated within site. Planting of native trees and shrubs	Safe and update play equipment. To enable area to be used more to mitigate any removal of shrubs/trees whilst upgrading the play area and to encourage more wildlife.	Funding is to be sort via Biffa and other possible grants. Funding sought by WPC \$106 monies	
Height and weight restrictions to be enforced for through traffic.	To prevent heavy vehicles driving through Walkern except for business	Lobby HCC and Highways	
Flight paths and height of aircraft particularly in the summer months over Walkern	Ensuring aircraft kept to set height. Reduce aircraft noise and aircraft pollution. Change of flight path so not directly over Walkern	Lobby Luton Airport and Anti-aircraft noise group?	
Congestion and speed of traffic	Traffic calming measures to be in place around the village	WPC and HCC	
Height and weight traffic issues along Totts Lane and Winters Lane	To eliminate oversize vehicles from using narrow lanes	Residents opinions to be sought on How to solve issue. Highways to visit and assess.	
Congestion re cars parked around Walkern primary school and side roads	Safety for residents and children. Safety of vision for car drivers trying to negotiate parked cars.	Suggestion of a drop off area in the school. No cars to be parked in private road. Sensible and safe parking for short periods in High Street and side roads.	Head Teacher has put a notice out asking parents to observe this.

Issue	Outcome sought	Measure sought	Progress
Lack of play/sporting facilities at WSSC for all ages	Extend the health and social activities availability for all ages in the Parish	S106 monies and/or other. grant monies.	
Future lack of burial ground in St. Mary's churchyard	Create further space of deceased residents who may wish to be buried in church grounds.	Discuss this with land owner/Church diocese.  Negotiate with owner - PC	
Installation of electric car charging point in the village	Provide power for hybrids and electric vehicles.	Put forward possible site - PC. Negotiate with owner - PC	
Equality Act 2010 resident made PC/WNPG aware of lack of crossing points and entrances to public areas within Walkern, also width of footpaths.	Create a safer and more accessible village for everyone	Survey carried out and site plan drawn up showing areas of concern. See below *	Overhanging branches cut back X1 access cleared and widened.
Village signage dated and some in poor condition	Create safe driving and visual information.	PC to discuss with Highways	
Lack of seating in and around the village especially in public places.	Enhance the life of village residents particularly the elderly and disabled.	S106 funding PC Funding	Plan to create more seating in the Recreation play area.
<p><b>This plan has been identified through consultation with residents during the preparation of the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan. Data was collected from feedback of the Questionnaire, Open days, Walkern Fair, Parish Council meeting and residents contacting members of the WNPG.</b></p>			

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*Maps showing issues and possible remedial adjustments can be found on the Walkern Neighbourhood Plan Website	
<b>Entrance to the URC</b> - Narrow pavement on opposite of the road. No pavement on URC side of road. Drop kerb required for cars and wheelchair users/pushchairs/ disabled to access the path. (Map 1)	
<b>Froghall Lane</b> - Path leading up to Froghall land and either crossing to the shop or to the opposite side of Froghall Lane requires a drop kerb to enable wheelchair users/pushchairs/disabled easier access to cross. (Map 3)	
<b>High Street alongside of the school</b> - Grit box sticks on path obstructs wheelchair users in particular. Suggest resitting to a wider area near main school gates. (Map 4)	
<b>High Street opposite pedestrian access to sports field</b> - Car parking issue of car parking on path blocking access to wheelchair users/pushchairs. Instead of being able to cross straight over pedestrians including children have to cross diagonally. Wheelchair users have to get off the kerb and cross diagonally. Proper crossing facilities required e.g. unbroken yellow line both sides of the road.	
<b>High Street Opposite Wrights Meadow</b> - There is no path coming out of Wrights meadow so people need to cross the road. Drop kerb required to enable wheelchair users to access the path.	
<b>Greenway</b> - Has no drop kerb at either side of the entry/exit to the road. This has been known to cause safety issues at least 3 times by disabled person tripping and falling on to their face, requiring hospitalisation. Car parking at top of Greenway and along to the school does not allow at times disabled to access this pathway. (Map 5)	
<b>Sports field</b> - Once accessing the pedestrian gateway and path, at the opposite end of the path wheelchair users cannot get from the path to the building or car park. There is no ramp of drop kerb. (Map 6)	
<b>Church End towards St. Marys church</b> - Pavement on one side only. It is narrow and sloping and has high levels in parts. Difficulty for wheelchair users. (Map 7)	
<b>Churchend near to Ford</b> - Access through the gate is difficult at times for pedestrians as well as wheelchair users due to overgrown vegetation. This also applies to the path near the gate. Adverse camber coming off the bridge into the road near St. Marys church this could be unsafe for wheelchair users. St. Marys church gateway and steps but no ramp. Difficult for wheelchair users to access if unable to get out of their chair. (Map 8)	
<b>Moors Ley top end</b> - Acute parking problems, with cars parked on grass and paths. Difficulty for emergency vehicles to access as happened in last 12 months when required for elderly resident. Difficult for refuse vehicles having to reverse as far as they can. Difficulty for elderly pedestrians/pushchairs/wheelchair users. Suggestion to ease this would be to turn the grass area at the top by the bungalows to parking bays with a turn around facility. (Map 19)	



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