

# TETSWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2034

## BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

Published by Tetsworth Parish Council under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012  
(as amended)

JANUARY 2020

## 1.INTRODUCTION

1.1 This statement has been prepared by Tetsworth Parish Council ("the Parish Council") to accompany its submission of the Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan ("the Neighbourhood Plan") to the local planning authority, South Oxfordshire District Council ("the District Council"), under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) ("the Regulations").

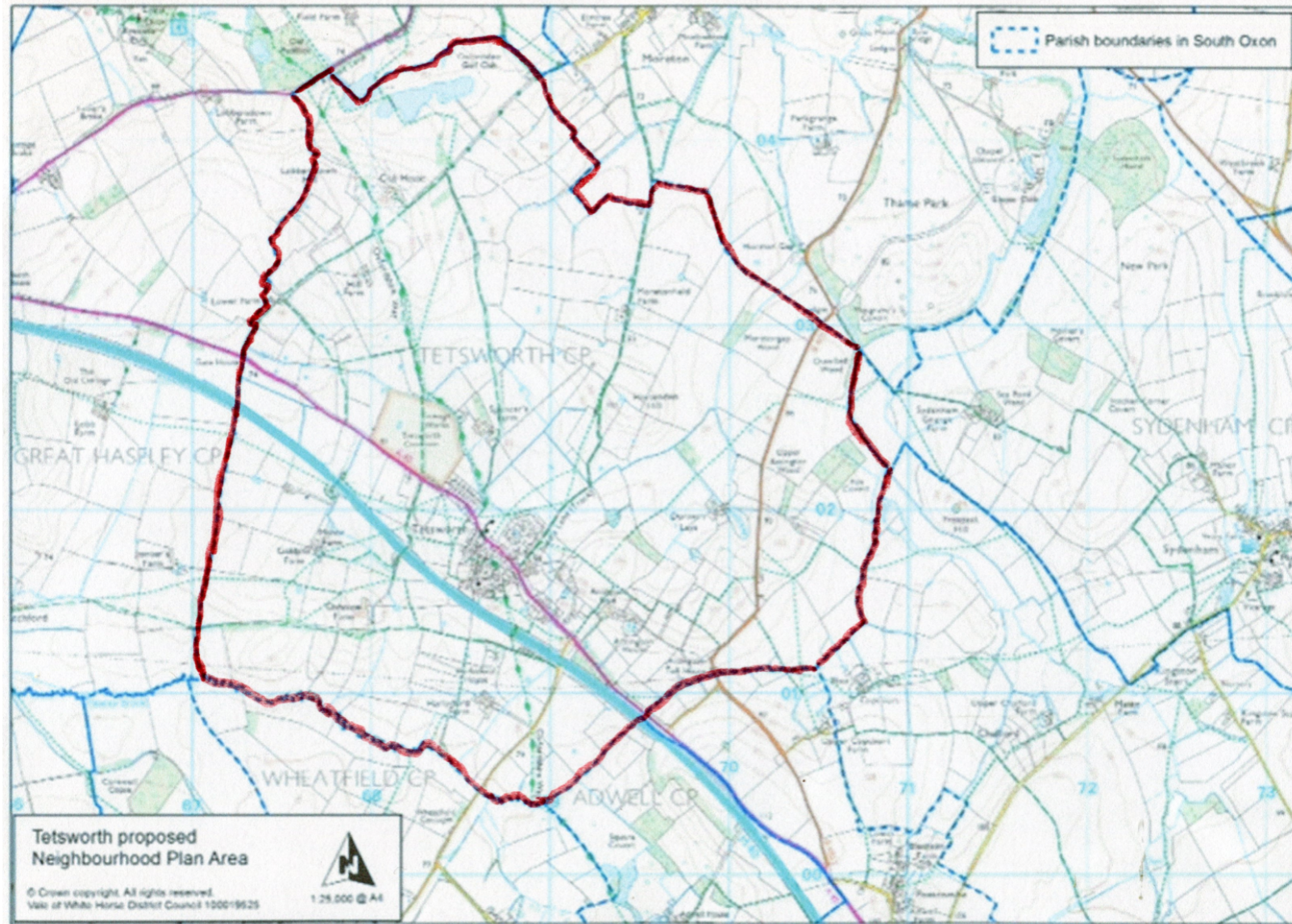
1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Parish Council, a qualifying body, for the Neighbourhood Area, which coincides with the boundary of the Parish of Tetsworth and which was designated by the District Council on 1 June 2017 (see Plan A overleaf). The Parish Council has consulted the local community, the statutory bodies and other stakeholders throughout the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, as required by the Regulations. This is detailed in the Consultation Statement, which is published separately as part of the submission documentation.

1.3 The policies described in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to the development and use of land in the designated Neighbourhood Area only. They do not relate to 'excluded development', as defined by the Regulations. The plan period of the Neighbourhood Plan is from 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2034, which corresponds with the plan period of the emerging South Oxfordshire Local Plan.

1.4 The statement addresses each of the four 'Basic Conditions' required of the Regulations and explains how the submitted Neighbourhood Plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act.

1.5 The Regulations state that a Neighbourhood Plan will be considered to have met the conditions if:

- Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the Neighbourhood Development Plan,
- The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,
- The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area).
- The making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations



Plan A: Tetsworth Designated Neighbourhood Area

## 2.BACKGROUND

2.1 The decision to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan was made by the Parish Council in 2016. With the encouragement of the District Council to local communities across the District to prepare Neighbourhood Plans, the key driver of this decision was a sense of wanting to plan positively for the future of the Parish. Although a small rural Parish with few services and relatively remote to the major centres of population in and around the District, the Parish Council considered having a Plan would improve the way in which future development proposals, however modest, are managed.

2.2 A steering group was formed comprising the residents and Parish Council representatives. The group has been delegated authority by the Parish Council to make day-to-day decisions on the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. However, as the qualifying body, the Parish Council approved the publication of the Pre-Submission plan in October 2019 and the Submission Plan now.

2.3 The Parish Council has consulted local communities extensively over the duration of the project. It has also worked closely with officers of the District Council since the start of the project to collate and examine the evidence base, to design and iterate policy proposals and to define the proper relationship between the Neighbourhood Plan and the existing South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 ("the adopted Local Plan") and South Oxfordshire Core Strategy ("the Core Strategy"), and with the emerging Local Plan 2011 – 2034 ("the new Local Plan"). The outcome of that work is the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan.

2.4 The Neighbourhood Plan contains nine land use policies, some of which are defined on the Policies Map. The Plan has deliberately avoided containing policies that duplicate saved or forthcoming development plan policies or national policies that are already or will be used to determine planning applications. The policies are therefore a combination of development management matters that seek to refine and/or update existing and emerging policies to secure their specific application to this Parish.

2.5 The steering group debated if the Neighbourhood Plan should make housing site allocations. It noted the 20% increase in the village housing stock (approx. 70 new homes) already committed in the plan period, which is double the scale of growth expected of 'smaller villages' in the emerging Local Plan. It concluded that planning for any further expansion of the village would be incompatible with that spatial strategy and instead any further growth in the village would be of a size and type compatible with adopted and emerging strategic policy for smaller villages.

### **3.CONFORMITY WITH NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY**

3.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared with full regard to national policies as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and is mindful of the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) in respect of formulating Neighbourhood Plans. The NPPF was first published in 2012 and subsequently revised in July 2018 and in February 2019. In overall terms, there are three NPPF paragraphs (§28 - §30) that provide general guidance on neighbourhood planning, to which the Neighbourhood Plan has directly responded.

3.2 The Neighbourhood Plan contains non-strategic policies to manage development in the Parish. The Parish Council believes the Neighbourhood Plan is planning positively to support the strategic development needs of the District, as framed by the adopted and emerging Local Plan, by supporting small scale, infill development within the village of Tetsworth. The Plan represents a vision, objectives and policies for the Parish that reflect the desires of the majority of the local community for the kind of place that the Parish should be in the coming years.

3.3 The Parish Council believes the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan are in general conformity with the policies of the development plan and effectively anticipate the policies of the emerging Local Plan. It acknowledges the physical and policy constraints of the Parish but plans to accommodate suitable infill development in the right locations and to be of an appropriate design. In respect of planning for new homes, the District Council has confirmed that the 'indicative housing figure' for the Parish is zero (as per §66), though in choosing not to make any housing site allocations, it is accepted that the provisions of §14 will not apply.

3.4 None of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan have required a balancing exercise to be undertaken in having regard to national policy as none are considered to be inconsistent with national policy.

Table A: Neighbourhood Plan & NPPF Conformity Summary		
No.	Policy Title	Commentary
TET1	Development within the Village Settlement and Surrounding Countryside	The policy distinguishes between the built up area of the village and the surrounding countryside so it is evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals (§16d). The Policies Map does not define a settlement boundary but it will normally coincide with the distinction made between the village and countryside character areas in policies TET2 and TET3. Although boundaries are not provided for in the strategic policies of the development plan (§21), the District Council has accepted that this approach is consistent with its own approach to development management.
TET2	Settlement Character Areas and Design Criteria	<p><i>'Neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development'</i> (§125).</p> <p>The policy seeks to bring 'clarity about design expectations' within the six distinct character areas of the village, as articulated in the Character Assessment (§126). The specific matters included in the policy 'provide a framework for creating distinctive places' to deliver a 'consistent and high quality standard of design'.</p>
TET3	Countryside Character Sectors	<p><i>'Neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development'</i> (§125).</p> <p><i>'Planning policies ... should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by ... protecting and enhancing valued landscapes ... recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside ... in a manner commensurate with their ... identified quality in the development plan'</i> (§170).</p> <p>The policy seeks to bring 'clarity about design expectations' within the five distinct character areas of the countryside in the Parish, as articulated in the Character Assessment (§126). The specific matters included in the policy 'provide a framework for creating distinctive places' to deliver a 'consistent and high quality standard of design'. The Parish does not lie within a designated landscape, but, as shown in the Character Appraisal, there are some demonstrable physical attributes within the surrounding landscape that are special in framing views between, from and to the village that are above the norm in defining its rural character.</p>

TET4	Key Views	<p><i>'Planning policies ... should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by ... protecting and enhancing valued landscapes ... recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside ... in a manner commensurate with their ... identified quality in the development plan' (§170).</i></p> <p>The Parish does not lie within a designated landscape, but, as shown in the Character Assessment and Key Views documents, there are some demonstrable physical attributes within the surrounding landscape that are special in framing views between, from and to the village that are above the norm in defining its rural character.</p> <p>In recognising the local status of the policy, it does not seek to prevent any development as a matter of principle, but rather requires development proposals to avoid unnecessary harm by way of their height, massing or obstructive location. Further, the policy does not unduly constrain the delivery of new development, as Policy TET1 makes provision for infill development of a scale that is in line with strategic policy.</p>
TET5	Local Heritage Assets	<p><i>'The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application' (§197).</i></p> <p>The policy identifies a number of such assets, derived from the Character Assessment, which describes the value of each asset. For completeness, the policy restates this national policy provision.</p>
TET6	Landmark Buildings	<p><i>'Neighbourhood plans can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development' (§125).</i></p> <p>The policy seeks to bring 'clarity about design expectations' by identifying three prominent buildings in the Parish that are noted in the Character Assessment as being landmarks, though not of sufficient heritage interest to warrant being included in Policy TET5 (§126). The policy 'provides a framework for creating distinctive places' to deliver a 'consistent and high quality standard of design'.</p>

TET7	Green and Public Open Spaces	<p><i>'The designation of land as Local Green Space through ... neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them' (§99).</i></p> <p><i>'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on ...' (§97)</i></p> <p>The policy serves two purposes. It firstly seeks to designate one space – Tetsworth Common – as a Local Green Space, as it is considered to meet the tests of §100, as shown in the Character Assessment. Further, the policy does not unduly constrain the delivery of new development, as Policy TET1 makes provision for infill development of a scale that is in line with strategic policy.</p> <p>Secondly, it identifies six other public open spaces that, whilst not considered to warrant designation as Local Green Spaces, are important to the village as functional spaces that encourage walking and recreation. The policy provisions accord with the principles of §97 in allowing for exceptional circumstances to justify the loss of such land.</p>
TET8	Biodiversity and the Natural Environment	<p><i>'Plans should ... take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure' (§171).</i></p> <p><i>In addition, plans should 'safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks' (§174).</i></p> <p>The policy identifies a series of biodiversity and other natural environment assets in the Parish that are especially important to its biodiversity value, as identified in the Character Assessment.</p>
TET9	Residential Parking	<p><i>'If setting local parking standards for residential and non-residential development, policies should take into account ... the type, mix and use of development ... (and) ... local car ownership levels' (§105).</i></p> <p>The policy responds to the significant problems in the village of on-street parking and seeks to ensure that new infill schemes can deliver off-street spaces to meet their needs.</p>



## 4.CONTRIBUTING TO ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4.1 A draft version of the Pre-Submission Plan was submitted to the District Council to inform its 'screening opinion' on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the European Directive 2001/42/EC and Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. A final screening opinion ('Determination') was issued in October 2019 by the District Council, following a consultation period with the statutory bodies, as per those Regulations. The Determination statement concludes that the policies in the Plan are not likely to have any significant environmental effects and therefore an SEA is not required (see Section 6 below for further details). Neighbourhood Plans are not subject to the requirement to have a Sustainability Appraisal.

4.2 To demonstrate that the Plan will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the absence of an SEA or Sustainability Appraisal, this basic condition is addressed in Table B below. The potential of the Plan to have social, economic and environmental effects –positive (+), neutral (0) and negative (-) – is assessed for each of its policies, together with a summary commentary.

<b>Table B: Neighbourhood Plan &amp; Sustainable Development</b>					
<b>Policy</b>		<b>Social</b>	<b>Economic</b>	<b>Environ</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
TET1	Development within the Village Settlement and Surrounding Countryside	+	0	0	The policy will have positive social effect by encouraging small scale infill housing development, which in combination with Policy TET2, will enable containing and managing the sustainable infill growth of the village. The physical containment of the village will ensure that its historic and rural character, and the surrounding landscape, will be protected to avoid causing a negative environmental effect.
TET2	Settlement Character Areas and Design Criteria	0	0	+	The policy will have a positive environmental effect by raising the standards of design of new development to reflect the distinct characteristics of the village.
TET3	Countryside Character Sectors	0	0	+	The policy will have a positive environmental effect by raising the standards of design of new development to reflect the distinct characteristics of the countryside in the Parish. The policy does not seek to rule out development that may be appropriate

					to a countryside location, which may have an economic value, and so does not have an adverse economic effect.
TET4	Key Views	0	0	+	The policy will have a positive environmental effect in protecting important views into and out of the village from harmful development to retain the essential rural character of the village.
TET5	Local Heritage Assets	+	0	+	The policy will have positive environmental and social effects by seeking to retain a number of locally important buildings, which not only play an important role in defining the streetscene of the village but also have some intrinsic, local architectural merit or historical associations with the village.
TET6	Landmark Buildings	+	0	+	The policy will have positive environmental and social effects by seeking to retain a number of prominent buildings, which not only play an important role in defining the character of the Parish but also have social value.
TET7	Green and Public Open Spaces	+	0	+	The policy will have a positive social effect in protecting from development the Common as a space that is used and cherished by the local community. The space is also integral to forming the countryside setting to the western part of the village and therefore also has a positive environmental effect. The policy works in parallel with Policy TET1, which provides for appropriate infill development, and so there is no adverse economic effect arising from its constraint on development.
TET8	Biodiversity and the Natural Environment	0	0	+	The policy will have a positive environmental effect by ensuring that development proposals have regard to a series of important biodiversity and other principles.
TET9	Residential Parking	+	0	0	The policy will have a positive social effect by enhancing the quality of life for residents by restraining growth of chronic on-street parking congestion.

## 5. GENERAL CONFORMITY WITH THE STRATEGIC POLICIES OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

5.1 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to ensure its general conformity with the development plan for the District, that is the saved policies of the adopted Local Plan 2011 and the Core Strategy 2012. The new Local Plan will cover the period from April 2011 to March 2034 and will replace the saved and adopted policies early in the time span of the Neighbourhood Plan. Although the Neighbourhood Plan will be examined before that plan is adopted, its reasoning, evidence base and proposed policies have been taken into consideration during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

5.2 Notably, the Final Publication (2nd) version of the new Local Plan (of January 2019) continues to define Tetsworth as a 'Smaller Village' in the settlement hierarchy of the District and contains no strategic proposal in the vicinity of the Parish. It encourages the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans at such villages but does not require any further growth to be planned for, other than infill and conversions.

5.3 None of the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan have required a balancing exercise to be undertaken in having regard to general conformity with strategic policy as none are considered to be inconsistent with strategic policy (either as expressed in the current development plan or in the new Local Plan).

5.4 An assessment of the general conformity of each policy with the current development plan ('LP/CS'), and its relationship with new Local Plan ('2019 LP') policy where relevant, is contained in Table C below.

Table C: Neighbourhood Plan & Development Plan Conformity Summary		
No.	Policy Title & Refs	Commentary
TET1	Development within the Village Settlement and Surrounding Countryside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>'The district's countryside, settlements and environmental resources will be protected from adverse developments' (LP/CS G2).</li><li>'Development that would give rise to a significant increase in traffic generation in relatively inaccessible or isolated rural locations will not be permitted' (LP/GS G3).</li><li>'The need to protect the countryside for its own sake is an important consideration when assessing proposals for development' (LP/CS G4).</li><li>'In considering development proposals within the built-up areas of settlements the best use of land and buildings will be sought, in terms of the type and density of development, in</li></ul>

		<p>order to reduce the need for development of greenfield sites or of sites in non-sustainable locations' (LP/CS G5).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Proposals for development in South Oxfordshire should be consistent with the overall strategy of ... supporting other villages ... by allowing for limited amounts of housing ... and by the provision and retention of services' (LP/CS CSS1).</li> <li>• 'In order to contribute to the present and future economic, environmental and social sustainability of the villages, housing will be allowed where the scale and nature of the development is as follows – Smaller Villages – No allocations – Infill on sites of up to 0.2 Ha; Other Villages – No allocations – Infill on sites of up to 0.1 Ha ... Local character and distinctiveness will be protected and the requirements of relevant development plan policies will be met' (LP/CS CSR1).</li> <li>• 'Proposals for development in South Oxfordshire will be assessed using national policy and guidance and the whole of the development plan and should be consistent with the overall strategy of ... Supporting smaller and other villages by allowing for limited amounts of housing and employment to help secure the provision and retention of services' (2019 LP STRAT1)</li> <li>• 'Housing development on sites not allocated in the development plan will only be permitted where ... it is appropriate infilling within the existing built up areas of ... smaller villages (and) other villages' (2019 LP H1)</li> <li>• 'The Council will support development within the smaller villages in accordance with Policy H16' (2019 LP H8)</li> <li>• 'Smaller villages, as defined in the settlement hierarchy have no defined requirement to contribute towards delivering additional housing (beyond windfall and infill development) to meet the overall housing requirement of South Oxfordshire' (2019 LP §5.39)</li> <li>• 'Proposals for housing on sites within the built-up areas of the ... villages will be permitted ... Infill development is defined as the filling of a small gap in an otherwise continuous built-up frontage or on other sites within settlements where the site is closely surrounded by buildings. The scale of infill should be appropriate to its location and this will be directed ... Smaller Villages – infill on sites of up to 0.2 Ha (and) Other Villages – Infill on sites of up to 0.1 Ha' (2019 LP H16).</li> <li>• 'It is not generally expected that those settlements classified as "other villages" will provide a significant source of housing supply, However, it is possible that some development proposals may come forward over the Plan period in these villages, such as single dwellings, infilling and conversions from other uses' (2019 LP §5.41)</li> </ul> <p>The policy is consistent with the current and emerging spatial policy for 'smaller villages'. Although</p>
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		<p>no settlement boundary is defined on the Policies Map, the combination of policies TET2 and TET3 do distinguish between the village and its surrounding countryside. The District Council accepts this approach to defining the 'built up areas' in policies G5 and H16. The Character Assessment defines the respective character areas. The policy is considered to provide opportunities for infill development schemes of either 0.2 Ha or 0.1 Ha maximum site sizes.</p> <p>There is no obligation for the village to accommodate new housing site allocations – indeed, such allocations may be deemed inconsistent with policies CSR1 and H16. Policy H8 does not oblige neighbourhood plans to allocate land for housing in smaller villages and the District Council has confirmed the 'indicative housing figure' (see NPPF above) for the Parish is zero. The policy does not attempt to revise the ways in which development plan policies apply to the built up or countryside areas.</p>
TET2	Settlement Character Areas and Design Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'The principles of good design and the protection and reinforcement of local distinctiveness should be taken into account in all new development' (LP/CS D1).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Planning permission will be granted for new development that is of a high quality and inclusive Design' (LP/CS CSQ3).</i></li> <li>• <i>'All new development must be of a high quality design that reflects the positive features that make up the character of the local area and both physically and visually enhances and compliments the surroundings' (2019 LP DES1).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Where a character assessment has been prepared as part of a made Neighbourhood Development Plan, a proposal must demonstrate that the positive features identified in the assessment have been incorporated into the design of the development' (2019 LP DES2).</i></li> </ul> <p>The policy refines D1/CSQ3 and DES1/DES2 by identifying specific design features of the Parish and by cross referring to the Character Assessment to engage Policy DES2 in due course.</p>
TET3	Countryside Character Sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'Development which would damage the attractive landscape setting of the settlements of the district will not be permitted. The effect of any proposal on important local landscape features which contribute to the visual and historic character and appearance of a settlement will be considered' (LP/CS C4).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Any development that would cause the loss of landscape features will not be permitted where those features make an important contribution to the local scene' (LP/CS C9).</i></li> <li>• <i>'The district's distinct landscape character and key features will be protected against inappropriate development and where possible enhanced' (LP/CS CSEN1)</i></li> <li>• <i>'Development will only be permitted where it protects and, where possible enhances,</i></li> </ul>

		<p><i>features that contribute to the nature and quality of South Oxfordshire's valued landscapes, in particular ... The landscape setting of settlements ... (and) important views and visually sensitive skylines' (2019 LP ENV1).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'Where a character assessment has been prepared as part of a made Neighbourhood Development Plan, a proposal must demonstrate that the positive features identified in the assessment have been incorporated into the design of the development' (2019 LP DES2).</i></li> </ul> <p>The policy refines CS4/CS9/CSEN1 by identifying specific landscape characteristics of the Parish and by cross referring to the Character Assessment to engage Policy DES2 in due course.</p>
TET4	Key Views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'The district's distinct landscape character and key features will be protected against inappropriate development and where possible enhanced' (LP/CS CSEN1)</i></li> <li>• <i>'Development will only be permitted where it protects and, where possible enhances, features that contribute to the nature and quality of South Oxfordshire's valued landscapes, in particular ... The landscape setting of settlements ... (and) important views and visually sensitive skylines' (2019 LP ENV1).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Where a character assessment has been prepared as part of a made Neighbourhood Development Plan, a proposal must demonstrate that the positive features identified in the assessment have been incorporated into the design of the development' (2019 LP DES2).</i></li> </ul> <p>The policy regards the defined important views as 'valued landscape' features, thereby engaging adopted Policy CSEN1 and emerging policies ENV1/DES2. The policy does not seek to prevent development but to ensure its precise location and form do not obstruct a view.</p>
TET5	Local Heritage Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'Proposals for development that affect non-designated historic assets will be considered taking account of the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.' (LP/CS CSEN3)</i></li> <li>• <i>'Proposals for new development should be sensitively designed and should not cause harm to the historic environment. Proposals that have an impact on heritage assets (designated and non-designated) ... 'The Council will work with landowners, developers, the community, Historic England and other stakeholders to: ... support Neighbourhood Development Plans where they seek to assess their heritage assets and add to the evidence base.' (2019 LP ENV6)</i></li> </ul> <p>The Character Assessment identifies and describes the value of a number of non-designated heritage assets in the parish. By identifying and assessing these non-designated heritage assets, it</p>

		engages the above extant and forthcoming development plan policies.
TET6	Landmark Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Proposals that result in the loss of a recreation facility or an essential community facility or service, through change of use or redevelopment, will not be permitted' (LP/CS CF1 and 2019 LP CF1)</li> <li>• 'The principles of good design and the protection and reinforcement of local distinctiveness should be taken into account in all new development' (LP/CS D1).</li> <li>• Planning permission will be granted for new development that is of a high quality and inclusive design that ... creates a distinctive sense of place and is easy to understand through the use of ... landmarks ...' (LP/CS CSQ3)</li> <li>• 'All new development must be of a high quality design that reflects the positive features that make up the character of the local area and both physically and visually enhances and compliments the surroundings' (2019 LP DES1).</li> <li>• 'Where a character assessment has been prepared as part of a made Neighbourhood Development Plan, a proposal must demonstrate that the positive features identified in the assessment have been incorporated into the design of the development' (2019 LP DES2).</li> </ul> <p>The policy identifies three community facilities as landmark buildings in the Parish in line with the adopted policies CF1 (which is also proposed as CF1 in the new Local Plan) and CSQ3. The policy also refines D1 and DES1/DES2 by identifying the buildings as having a prominence in the Parish and by cross referring to the Character Assessment to engage Policy DES2 in due course.</p>
TET7	Green and Public Open Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'In seeking to make the best use of land regard will be had to the role and importance of open space within settlements' (LP/CS G5)</li> <li>• 'Proposals for new development must demonstrate that they have taken into account the relationship of the proposed development to existing green infrastructure' (LP/CS CSG1).</li> <li>• 'Proposals for development on or affecting ... important open spaces within settlements will not be permitted' (LP/CS CON16)</li> <li>• Planning permission will be granted for new development that is of a high quality and inclusive design that ... improves the quality of the public realm with well designed external areas, and, where appropriate a clear structure of open spaces' (LP/CS CSQ3)</li> <li>• 'Development will be expected to ... protect or enhance existing Green Infrastructure' (2019 LP ENV5).</li> </ul> <p>The policy identifies a Local Green Space, which is consistent with adopted policies G5, CSG1, CON16 and CSQ3 and with emerging Policy ENV5, as it would commonly fall within the definition</p>

		of 'green infrastructure'. Its protection for other public open spaces is also in line with these same policies.
TET8	Biodiversity and the Natural Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'In considering proposals for development, the maintenance and enhancement of the biodiversity resource of the district will be sought' (LP/CSC6).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Proposals for new development must demonstrate that they have taken into account the relationship of the proposed development to existing green infrastructure' (LP/CS CSG1).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) will be refused planning permission, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons justifying the granting of planning permission' (2019 LP ENV2).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Planning permission will only be granted if impacts on biodiversity can be avoided, mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated fully' (2019 LP ENV3).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Development will be expected to contribute towards the provision of additional Green Infrastructure and protect or enhance existing Green Infrastructure' (2019 LP ENV5).</i></li> </ul> <p>The policy refines these adopted and emerging policies by identifying existing biodiversity assets in the Parish in the Character Assessment.</p>
TET9	Residential Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>'Proposals for development will, where appropriate, make provision for ... the parking of vehicles in accordance with the Council's maximum parking standards (and for) measures to reduce the need for vehicle parking where appropriate' (LP/CS T2).</i></li> <li>• <i>'Proposals for all types of development will, where appropriate ... provide for the parking of vehicles in accordance with Oxfordshire County Council parking standards, unless specific evidence is provided to justify otherwise' (2019 LP TRANS5).</i></li> </ul> <p>The policy seeks to address a specific scarcity of off-street spaces in the village, which is relatively remote in its rural area and, with poor public transport services, and therefore has a greater reliance on the private car.</p>



## 6.COMPATABILITY WITH EU LEGISLATIONS

6.1 As set out in Section 4 the Parish Council has met its obligations in relation to the EU Directive on the requirement of a SEA. The District Council's screening opinion of October 2019 concluded that "... *the Tetsworth NDP is unlikely to have a significant effect on the environment... (and therefore) The Tetsworth NDP does not require a Strategic Environment Assessment.*" (see screening statement published separately).

6.2 The Parish Council has also met its obligations in relation to the habitats provisions of EU Directive 92/43/EEC (and the associated Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)). In this regard, the Parish Council provided the District Council with all the necessary information it required for the purposes of determining whether an Appropriate Assessment was required or to carry out the Appropriate Assessment if one was required. The District Council's Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment (Appendix 2 of the SEA Screening Statement) concludes that the making of the Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the 2017 Regulations) either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

6.3 The Parish Council has been mindful of the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed under the European Convention on Human Rights in process of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan and considers that it complies with the Human Rights Act.