

Sawtry Village Neighbourhood Plan – Summary of Responses to Submission Consultation held between 12 April 2023 to 24 May 2023.

Consultation responses and relevant attachments can be found in full at: [Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan - Submission \(Regulation 16\) - What people say - Keystone \(huntingdonshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/consultation/Sawtry-Neighbourhood-Plan-Submission-Regulation-16-What-people-say-Keystone)

Full Name	Organisation Details	Response Date	ID	comment on	Support/ Object/ Observations	Comment - My comment	Changes required?	Proposed changes
Tessa Saunders	Anglian Water Services Ltd	17/05/2023 16:25	SNPS:3	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Support	Anglian Water welcomes and supports the amendments to the submission draft Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan, in respect of our representation to the Reg. 14 consultation. We have no further observations on the plan.		
Ms Alice Lawman	Spatial Planner National Highways	19/05/2023 14:19	SNPS:19	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Thank you for consulting National Highways on the abovementioned Neighbourhood Plan. National Highways is a strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It has been noted that once adopted, the Neighbourhood Plan will become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Where relevant, National Highways will be a statutory consultee on future planning applications within the area and will assess the impact on the SRN of a planning application accordingly. Notwithstanding the above comments, we have reviewed the document and note the details of set out within the draft document are unlikely to have an severe impact on the operation of the trunk road and we offer No Comment.		
Middle Level Commissioners Graham Moore	Planning Engineer	24/05/2023 16:51	SNPS:23	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Unfortunately, due to current workload commitments and limited resources it has not been possible to consider all the submitted documents. Therefore, this response refers to the Submission Plan only. The following comments are made: A. General Whilst it is accepted that these items are too late for inclusion in the Submission document, they may nonetheless be of interest following the enactment of The Environment Act 2021. These are: (i) Enhancement of the Boards District system Both the Middle Level Commissioners and the Internal Drainage Board have a duty to enhance its systems in terms of biodiversity. (ii) Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) As the Parish Council are probably under the Environment Act 2021, all planning permissions granted in England (with a few exemptions) except for small sites will have to deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain from an as yet unconfirmed date in November 2023. During discussions with other parties, it is apparent that there is an absence of suitable sites within Cambridgeshire and this may be a matter that the Parish Council wish to be include in future discussions with the County and District Councils, developers, land agents etc. and/or consider when responding to planning consultations as there may be potential opportunities here. B. The Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036 The consultation Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036 Submission Document has been reviewed in respect of the Commissioners'/Board's interests and many of the items raised in the response on the draft plan appear to have been considered and where relevant included in the revised document. C.Partnership Working The Commissioners and the Board are prepared to work in partnership with the local community, private and public partners to contribute to and look forward to further involvement, discussion and consultation to identify opportunities and deliver schemes to maintain and enhance biodiversity,water resources, water level & flood risk management in		

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						the area where there is a mutual benefit to the partners concerned. However, to what extent they are prepared to contribute would be the subject of a decision for the respective authority and this may vary dependent upon their views.		
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:27	SNPS:4	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Evidence for Local Green Spaces document Comments in relation to Local Green Space for Huntingdonshire District Council can be found within the relevant Neighbourhood Plan policy SNP1. HDC's response to the draft consultation recommended that "This [Evidence for Local Green Spaces] document will need to be updated following this consultation and prior to examination to demonstrate that landowners have had the opportunity to comment, and their responses recorded." It is noted that all landowners have been contacted however it is unclear whether there was agreement on the allocation of the land as LGS specifically in relation to : LGS 10 , part of LGS 13 and part of LGS 17. For sites LGS 4 and 6. HDC has provided maps to assist with the site boundaries (see response to SNP1)	Yes	Evidence of landowner responses
Natural England	Consultations Team Natural England	19/05/2023 11:01	SNPS:20	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 12 April 2023. Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development. Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made. Natural England does not have any specific comments on the Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan.		
Coal Authority	The Coal Authority	04/05/2023 14:02	SNPS:2	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Thank you for your notification of 12 April 2023 regarding the Sawtry Neighbourhood Plan - Submission (Regulation 16). The Coal Authority is only a statutory consultee for coalfield Local Authorities. As Huntingdonshire District Council lies outside the coalfield, the Planning team at the Coal Authority has no specific comments to make.		
Lesley Golding	Access & Bridleways Officer British Horse Society International UK Ltd	24/05/2023 11:23	SNPS:30	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Object	BHS response to Sawtry's Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Sawtry's Neighbourhood Plan (NP) does not at any point mention provision for equestrians, which is unacceptable. Considering that there are many equestrians in the area this is both disappointing and surprising. Horse riders are vulnerable road users in the same way as walkers and cyclists, in fact under the new Highway code horse riders are considered in the road hierarchy to be equal to cyclists. The Local Travel Plan includes horse riders as part of Active Travel (or Sustainable travel). The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Improvements, changes and new additions to existing infrastructure should always be inclusive as that is best expenditure of public money and is not discriminatory to any group. The NP does not mention the inclusion of improving links from the neighbourhood into the local landscape and improving public rights of way (PROW). It would be nice to maintain and enhance the "green fingers" which connect the neighbourhood to the local landscape and other villages. The A1 is a major barrier for all Non-Motorised users and future planning should improve access for all, including carriage drivers -many of whom are disabled.	Yes	the inclusion of improving links from the neighbourhood into the local landscape and improving public rights of way (PROW)

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						Additional Comments and information from the British Horse Society also included in the attachment		
John Potter		21/05/2023 17:58	SNPS:18	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Support	The Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents are supported. However, in the interests of accuracy two minor modifications are recommended: 1. Page 17 section 3.25 of the Submission Plan refers to medical and dental services. Recently, Wellside Surgery has closed its dispensary. Repeat prescriptions can now be obtained online and collected from a local pharmacy. These comments should replace the second sentence in this section. 2. The map on page 36 of the Submission Plan incorrectly refers to 'Orchard Business Park'; it should read 'Oakwood Business Park'.	Yes	The above comments define both the text to be deleted and the text to replace the deleted items.
Environment Agency		19/05/2023 11:49	SNPS:22	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Flood Risk The Draft Neighbourhood Plan includes areas which are located in Flood Zone 2 and 3. In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paras 159-165, we remind you that the Sequential Test should be undertaken if the plan is proposing development or promoting growth to ensure development is directed to the areas of lowest flood risk taking climate change into account. The application of the Sequential Test should be informed by the Local Planning Authority's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). Water Resources Being in one of the driest areas of the country, our environment has come under significant pressure from potable water demand. New developments should make a significant contribution towards reducing water demand and mitigate against the risk of deterioration to our rivers, groundwater and habitats from groundwater abstraction. We recommend you check the capacity of available water supplies with the water company, in line with the emerging 2024 Water Resources Management Plan which is due to be published in 2023. The Local Planning Authorities Water Cycle Study and Local Plan may indicate constraints in water supply and provide recommendations for phasing of development to tie in with new alternative strategic supplies. New development should as a minimum meet the highest levels of water efficiency standards, as per the policies in the adopted Local Plan. In most cases development will be expected to achieve 110 litres per person per day as set out in the Building Regulations &c. (Amendment) Regulations 2015. However, a higher standard of water efficiency (e.g. 85 l/p/d) should be considered, looking at all options including rainwater harvesting and greywater systems. Using the water efficiency calculator in Part G of the Building Regulations enables you to calculate the devices and fittings required to ensure a home is built to the right specifications to meet the 110 l/p/d requirement. We recommend all new		

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						non-residential development of 1000sqm gross floor area or more should meet the BREEAM 'excellent' standards for water consumption. Developments that require their own abstraction where it will exceed 20 cubic metres per day from a surface water source (river, stream) or from underground strata (via borehole or well) will require an abstraction licence under the terms of the Water Resources Act 1991. There is no guarantee that a licence will be granted as this is dependent on available water resources and existing protected rights. The relevant abstraction licencing strategy for your area provides information on water availability and licencing policy at Abstraction licencing strategies (CAMS process) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). Informative We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment. For your information, together with Natural England, Historic England and Forestry Commission, we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environment into plans. This is available at: How to consider the environment in Neighbourhood plans - Locality Neighbourhood Planning		
Suzie Wood/Andy Moffat	Investment Property Manager St John's College Cambridge	22/05/2023 08:54	SNPS:1	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Support	We are pleased to SUPPORT the Neighbourhood Plan and consider that it meets each of the required basic conditions. Specifically, it contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area. Please see letter for full comments.	No	
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:28	SNPS:5	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Huntingdonshire District Council's previous response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan stated that: "... the Parish will need to carefully consider how CIL is spent and on what priorities, for example it could be used to support the expansion of health or education facilities. It would be beneficial to the Parish Council to identify an action plan detailing each infrastructure item to be delivered, timescale, funding, lead partner etc. This would assist in the allocation of funds. In addition, the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan assesses the suitability of existing infrastructure provision and identifies the infrastructure investment required to support growth, some of which is located within Sawtry." It is noted that infrastructure projects are now referenced in paragraph 12.8, however the reference to the Infrastructure delivery plan has not been included. It is recommended that the Parish could develop a more comprehensive list, or action plan (as identified in the Council's response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan) to support the Neighbourhood Plan. To do this the Parish Council would need to consider whether any of their proposals are likely to increase development costs, these would need to be tested to ensure no impact on the requirements set out in Huntingdonshire's Local Plan and the Developer Contributions SPD.	No	

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Historic England	Historic Environment Planning Adviser, East of England Historic England	24/05/2023 17:10	SNPS:29	Overall comment on the Neighbourhood Plan	Have observations	Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on the above consultation. We welcome the production of this neighbourhood plan in principle but, owing to staff vacancies, we do not currently have capacity to provide detailed comments. We would refer you to any detailed comments we may have made at earlier stages of the plan's production including Regulation 14 and where it was required, SEA screening/scoping and draft report stages. Our detailed advice on successfully incorporating historic environment considerations into neighbourhood plan, alongside some useful case studies, can be found here: https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/ . To avoid any doubt, this letter does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on or, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise as a result of the proposed plan, where we consider these would have an adverse effect on the historic environment.		
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:29	SNPS:6	2. Neighbourhood Planning: purpose, benefits and legislative background L	Have observations	Paragraph 2.18 and map Since the consultation of the submission plan began, further Neighbourhood Plan Areas have been designated such as 'The Giddings, Winwick and Hamerton' which was approved on the 30/03/2023. It is suggested that paragraph 2.18 and the associated map are updated for the referendum version of the plan and also prior to the plan being made.	Yes	It is suggested that paragraph 2.18 and the associated map are updated for the referendum version of the plan and also prior to the plan being made.
Middle Level Commissioners Graham Moore	Planning Engineer	24/05/2023 16:57	SNPS:24	3. The Village Scene and Contemporary Challenges	Have observations	3.The Village Scene and Contemporary Challenges 3.31 & 3.32 Surface Water (Pages 17 & 18) Comment – The inclusion of the entries is noted and whilst specific reference is made to the LLFA both the Commissioners and the Board are part of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Flood and Water (FloW) Partnership which amongst other matters reviews flooding incidents with the intention of finding suitable solutions. Comment – It is also hoped that the Commissioners/Board will be involved on the SUDS Approval Board (SAB) that are due to be introduced when Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (F&WMA) is enacted next year. Comment – The introduction of the SUDS Approval Board (SAB) and Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (F&WMA) will hopefully alleviate many of the concerns and problems associated with this means of surface water disposal and there may be possibilities for mutually beneficial schemes/projects to improve water quality, enhance biodiversity, manage water and alleviate flood risk.		
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:32	SNPS:7	4. Sawtry's Neighbourhood Planning Project	Have observations	Huntingdonshire District Council recommends that paragraph 4.1 to 4.6 is removed from the plan prior to submission along with the text in section 5. Any information that the Parish wishes to retain could be added to the statement of consultation or relevant evidence document. This will ensure a more concise Neighbourhood Plan.	Yes	Huntingdonshire District Council recommends that paragraph 4.1 to 4.6 is removed from the plan prior to submission along with the text in section 5. Any information that the Parish wishes to retain could be added to the statement of consultation or relevant evidence document. This will ensure a more concise Neighbourhood Plan.

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Lesley Golding	Access & Bridleways Officer British Horse Society International UK Ltd	24/05/2023 11:31	SNPS:31	6. Vision and Objectives	Object	Paragraph 6.2.8. "To encourage increased use of sustainable transport methods including through the development of active travel including safe cycling and walking routes."The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included.	Yes	The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included.
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:34	SNPS:8	7.1 The Built Environment	Have observations	Suggested amendment to Paragraph 7.1.2	Yes	Suggested additional text (underlined) "In policy LP8 Sawtry was designated a Key Service Centre; that policy sets out a framework for built development. The Local Plan also allocated two sites for development. Local Plan policies LP1, LP2, LP8, LP10, LP11, LP12, LP13, LP20, LP24, LP25, LP26 and LP28 cover the policy framework for housing adequately. This includes addressing windfall housing proposals and potential rural exception sites (which could be considered in Sawtry if there is local needs evidence) . The Local Plan delivers the strategic housing requirement.
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:39	SNPS:9	Policy SNP1 - The natural environment and protecting green spaces	Object	Huntingdonshire District Council's previous comments to LGS 9 noted that: "The LGS evidence document references the recreational value of the site, although there appears to be no official footpaths within the area. Is the site publicly accessible space? It is noted that the site is prone to flooding; would increased footfall affect the biodiversity of the site? Has the Council considered that there may be opportunity to incorporate connections between the existing development that the site serves and potential development to the North? Reference to permitted applications such as 20/01407/OUT may be required to investigate this in more detail." It is noted that people do use the site, however there doesn't appear to be any further detail provided or even an acknowledgement of the barrier it creates with the northern development. In order to facilitate greater recreational value it would be recommended that this is addressed. This would enable the site to meet the criteria set out in the NPPF paragraph 102 of: "b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife;" This would also allow the site to better meet basic condition a (having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance). HDC also noted in the response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan that "Future developments such as planning application 19/00462/REM will also be providing additional green spaces in Sawtry. This site is adjacent to LGS 6. A site plan layout has been provided for information. Has the Council considered if there is opportunity within this LGS to provide connections between the residential area and LGS 4?" There is still concern that not designating the green space provided within the 19/00462/REM application site (Bovis Homes, Gidding Road and Local Plan Allocation SY2 South of Gidding Road, Sawtry), will undermine the strategic green edge along the southwest side of the village. Strategic policies within	Yes	LGS 9 - incorporate connections between the existing development that the site serves and potential development to the North. Inclusion of green spaces at 19/00462/REM (Bovis Homes, Gidding Road) and Local Plan Allocation SY2 South of Gidding Road, Sawtry

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						<p>Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 include "All policies that allocate land for development in Section D: 'Allocations' as they are required to achieve the strategy as set out in 4 'The Development Strategy'" (page 4).</p> <p>The site (SY2 and planning application 19/00462) includes central public open space, as well as structural landscaping around the western and southern edges and links in with Local Green Space number 4 on the northern side of Gidding Road, and number 6 to the east on the map - see attached Site Planning Layout for 19/00462/REM.</p> <p>This development is nearing completion. HDC Urban Design consider that it is therefore imperative that the green spaces in this development are included as Local Green Space.</p> <p>This would ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan meets basic condition e. "the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority".</p>		
Middle Level Commissioners Graham Moore	Planning Engineer	24/05/2023 16:58	SNPS:25	Policy SNP1 - The natural environment and protecting green spaces	Have observations	7.2. The Natural Environment Policy SNP1 - The natural environment and protecting green spaces (Pages 22-23) Comment - The inclusion of biodiversity enhancement, surface water flood risk and infrastructure in the policy are noted.		
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:49	SNPS:10	7.3 Community Infrastructure and Services	Have observations	Paragraph 7.3.2 references the Greenfields site. Planning application 20/01407/OUT (a Glatton Road development) allocates funding (£216,977) to improve Greenfields. It is recommended that this is referenced in the Neighbourhood Plan, paragraph 7.3.2 and paragraph 12.8.	Yes	Paragraph 7.3.2 references the Greenfields site. Planning application 20/01407/OUT (a Glatton Road development) allocates funding (£216,977) to improve Greenfields. It is recommended that this is referenced in the Neighbourhood Plan, paragraph 7.3.2 and paragraph 12.8.

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Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:51	SNPS:11	Policy SNP3 - Recreation and leisure	Object	<p>Huntingdonshire District Council support the inclusion of this positive policy reflecting the needs and aspirations of the local population as demonstrated through previous engagement responses. The following comments are provided to assist in providing additional clarity to the policy. Remedying these issues will ensure that decision-makers and applicants have a clear understanding of the intent of the policy and criteria for assessment and that the overall aims of the policies are clearly laid out.</p> <p>It appears that the policy relates to two separate issues: 1 – the Land North of Greenfields; and 2 – the rest of the Parish. To ensure clarity it is suggested that the policy is made clearer to ensure decision-makers and applicants can distinguish between the two.</p> <p>In addition, in relation to Land North of Greenfields, it would be beneficial to make the criteria for assessment clearer through bulleted points and by clarifying the definition of recreation and leisure. For example, as written, at the moment recreation and leisure (as identified in the first sentence) could potentially include many forms of use: cinema, community centre etc. It is recommended that the definition of recreation and leisure is revised to clarify the intended uses for the site for example, are acceptable uses predominantly in the form of playing pitches or is further built form permissible in addition to the extension and improvement of the pavilion?</p> <p>Resolving this issue would ensure that the policy meets basic condition a (having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance) as, currently it is considered that it does not comply with Paragraph: 041 Reference ID: 41-041-20140306 of National Planning Practice Guidance ‘Neighbourhood Planning’ which states that policies “...should be drafted with sufficient clarity that a decision maker can apply it consistently and with confidence when determining planning applications”.</p> <p>It is noted that the Site Allocation Evidence document (paragraph 15) identifies that there is an agreement in place for the area Land North of Greenfields</p>	Yes	<p>It appears that the policy relates to two separate issues: 1 – the Land North of Greenfields; and 2 – the rest of the Parish. To ensure clarity it is suggested that the policy is made clearer to ensure decision-makers and applicants can distinguish between the two.</p> <p>In relation to Land North of Greenfields, it would be beneficial to make the criteria for assessment clearer through bulleted points and by clarifying the definition of recreation and leisure.</p>
Middle Level Commissioners Graham Moore	Planning Engineer	24/05/2023 16:59	SNPS:26	Policy SNP3 - Recreation and leisure	Have observations	Policy SNP3 - Recreation and Leisure (Pages 24-26) Comment - The reference to drainage measures is noted.		

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Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:52	SNPS:12	Policy SNP4 - Medical and health	Object	HDC support the inclusion of this positive policy reflecting the needs and aspirations of the local population as demonstrated through previous engagement responses. The following comment is provided to assist in providing additional clarity to the policy. Remedying this issue will ensure that decision-makers and applicants have a clear understanding of the intent of the policy and criteria for assessment and that the overall aims of the policies are clearly laid out. The policy text uses the phrase "unless it can be shown that they are poorly used, not viable in terms of community demand" It is currently unclear whether this is one criteria or two. If it's two, this should be presented as an either/or requirement, in that applicants have to show that it is poorly used, or it is not viable in terms of demand. This ambiguity goes to the heart of being able to assess the policy effectively. The Parish Council should consider rewording these criteria to ensure that it can be implemented effectively. As written, it is considered that the policy does not meet basic condition a (having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance) as it does not comply with Paragraph: 041 Reference ID: 41-041-20140306 of National Planning Practice Guidance 'Neighbourhood Planning' which states that policies "...should be drafted with sufficient clarity that a decision maker can apply it consistently and with confidence when determining planning applications".	Yes	The Parish Council should consider rewording the criteria associated with the phrase "unless it can be shown that they are poorly used, not viable in terms of community demand" to ensure that it can be implemented effectively.
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:54	SNPS:13	Policy SNP5 - Community facilities	Object	This is a positive policy which addresses the needs of the local community. The following comments are provided to assist in providing additional clarity to the policy. Remedying these issues will ensure that decision-makers and applicants have a clear understanding of the intent of the policy and criteria for assessment and that the overall aims of the policies are clearly laid out. As written, it is considered that the policy does not meet basic condition a (having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance) as it does not comply with Paragraph: 041 Reference ID: 41-041-20140306 of National Planning Practice Guidance 'Neighbourhood Planning' which states that policies "...should be drafted with sufficient clarity that a decision maker can apply it consistently and with confidence when determining planning applications". It is noted that new policy text has been added in response to Huntingdonshire District Council's comments to the draft Neighbourhood Plan, however the Council considers that further revisions are required. Paragraph 2 of the policy states "Proposals which look to develop or replace existing community facilities through enabling development on part or all of the land or buildings will be supported where..." As written, the text is unclear as to whether it is referring to new development or existing development. This will result in the policy being difficult to implement. If this text is meant to only relate to the site that a community facility is already on, this should be clarified for example by referencing 'proposals to redevelop, extend or replace existing facilities'. If it's not just relating to an existing site, and is meant to be an 'exception test' policy in a wider sense, then the text will require further rewording. Paragraph 2 also states that "Proposals which look to improve or replace the community facilities currently provided by CARESCO (or any successor community organisation) will be supported in principle." The Parish Council	Yes	As written, the text is unclear as to whether it is referring to new development or existing development. It is recommended this is reworded for clarity and ease of implementation. Thought should be given to whether there would be benefit in providing further detail somewhere in the Neighbourhood Plan to identify what those facilities associated with the CARESCO site are, either by a clearly identifiable list or by a map of their site that can be referenced in the policy. The Parish Council should consider rewording the criteria associated with the phrase "unless it can be shown that they are poorly used, not viable in terms of community demand" to ensure that it can be implemented effectively.

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						<p>should consider if it would be beneficial to amend the paragraph to specify "(or any successor community organisation carrying out the services previously carried out by CARESCO..)" and whether there would be benefit in providing further detail somewhere in the Neighbourhood Plan to identify what those facilities are, either by a clearly identifiable list or by a map of their site that can be referenced in the policy.</p> <p>The policy text uses the phrase "unless it can be shown that they are poorly used, not viable in terms of community demand" It is currently unclear whether this is one criteria or two. If it's two, this should be presented as an either/or requirement, in that applicants have to show that it is poorly used, or it is not viable in terms of demand. This ambiguity goes to the heart of being able to assess the policy effectively. The Parish Council should consider rewording these criteria to ensure that it can be implemented effectively.</p>		
Environment Agency		19/05/2023 11:49	SNPS:21	Policy SNP5 - Community facilities	Have observations	<p>Huntingdonshire District Council's previous response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan stated that:</p> <p>".. the Parish will need to carefully consider how CIL is spent and on what priorities, for example it could be used to support the expansion of health or education facilities. It would be beneficial to the Parish Council to identify an action plan detailing each infrastructure item to be delivered, timescale, funding, lead partner etc. This would assist in the allocation of funds. In addition, the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan assesses the suitability of existing infrastructure provision and identifies the infrastructure investment required to support growth, some of which is located within Sawtry."</p> <p>It is noted that infrastructure projects are now referenced in paragraph 12.8, however the reference to the Infrastructure delivery plan has not been included.</p> <p>It is recommended that the Parish could develop a more comprehensive list, or action plan (as identified in the Council's response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan) to support the Neighbourhood Plan. To do this the Parish Council would need to consider whether any of their proposals are likely to increase development costs, these would need to be tested to ensure no impact on the requirements set out in Huntingdonshire's Local Plan and the Developer Contributions SPD.</p>		

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Lesley Golding	Access & Bridleways Officer British Horse Society International UK Ltd	24/05/2023 11:33	SNPS:32	7.4 Highways and Traffic	Object	<p>7.4 Highways and Traffic</p> <p>"7.4.1 Sustainable Transport Methods (Active Travel). Sawtry and its environs are blessed with a network of footways often linking attractive green spaces. The village and wider Parish are also fortunate to have a number of Rights of Way, including public footpaths, bridleways and a byway."</p> <p>The community consultation revealed a desire to extend footpaths, develop cycle routes, and provide areas furnished with benches for social interaction. The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs.</p> <p>7.4.2 "The Government through Active Travel England is looking to make walking, wheeling and cycling the preferred choice for everyone to get around in England. Active travel is the term often used to encompass elements such as walking to school, cycling to work, or other everyday journeys you make to get from place to place; rather than just walking or cycling solely for leisure or fitness. In addition, active travel can offer a convenient, accessible and affordable way to move more for shorter journeys. National policy in the NPPF does not refer to active travel but instead refers to sustainable transport, but includes within paragraph 104 c) that policies should look for opportunities to promote walking, cycling and public transport use are identified and pursued. Active travel and sustainable travel modes not only positively contribute to addressing climate change but also can assist in maintaining a healthy community."</p> <p>The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included.</p> <p>7.4.3 "The Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 contains Policy LP 16 which indicates that new development will be expected to contribute to an enhanced transport network that supports an increasing proportion of journeys being undertaken by sustainable travel modes. The main location for growth in Sawtry to the north and east are somewhat distant from many of the services and facilities in the village so new opportunities for walking and cycling are required to promote active travel or sustainable travel modes of transport."</p> <p>The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included.</p>	Yes	<p>7.4.1 - The community consultation revealed a desire to extend footpaths, develop cycle routes, and provide areas furnished with benches for social interaction. The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs.</p> <p>7.4.2 - The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included.</p> <p>7.4.3 - The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included.</p>

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Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:57	SNPS:14	Policy SNP8 - Footpaths and cycleways	Object	<p>Suggested revisions to text to provide clarity and reinforce the policy</p> <p>Recommended changes to paragraph 1 of policy SNP8: “Sawtry Parish Council will work with Cambridgeshire County Council as the Highway Authority to promote active travel opportunities across Sawtry. Proposals of parties to develop or improve sustainable transport infrastructure will be supported.”</p> <p>It is considered that the removal of these specific organisations within the sentence would ensure that all proposals regardless of who submits them will have the to apply the policy.</p> <p>In addition in paragraph 1 of the policy the text states. “Proposals that include extending footways, paths and cycle ways linked by communal areas to encourage active travel and social interaction both within existing and proposed development will be particularly supported.”</p> <p>Huntingdonshire District Council would like the Parish Council to consider if this is a closed list or whether the policy should also include reference to other forms of linkages such as public rights of way, permissive paths or bridleways to ensure a more comprehensive list of linkages?</p> <p>Finally, it would also be beneficial to reference the Active Travel Strategy for Cambridgeshire, (currently in draft form following consultation) and the County Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which identify infrastructure opportunities. Whilst it is noted Sawtry is not specifically referenced in some of these documents it is an opportunity for the Parish to work with the County Council to gain support on potential actions that could then be incorporated into the County Council Transport Investment Plan. It would also allow a link from the policy to other infrastructure requirements, meaning that these infrastructure improvements could be leveraged through this policy.</p>	Yes	<p>Suggested revisions to text to provide clarity and reinforce the policy</p> <p>Recommended changes to paragraph 1 of policy SNP8: “Sawtry Parish Council will work with Cambridgeshire County Council as the Highway Authority to promote active travel opportunities across Sawtry. Proposals of parties, including local landowners, community organisations, Sawtry Parish Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council to develop or improve sustainable transport infrastructure will be supported.”</p> <p>In addition in paragraph 1 of the policy the text states. “Proposals that include extending footways, paths and cycle ways linked by communal areas to encourage active travel and social interaction both within existing and proposed development will be particularly supported.” Huntingdonshire District Council would like the Parish Council to consider if this is a closed list or whether the policy should also include reference to other forms of linkages such as public rights of way, permissive paths or bridleways to ensure a more comprehensive list of linkages?</p> <p>Finally, it would also be beneficial to reference the Active Travel Strategy for Cambridgeshire, (currently in draft form following consultation) and the County Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which identify infrastructure opportunities. Whilst it is noted Sawtry is not specifically referenced in some of these documents it is an opportunity for the Parish to work with the County Council to gain support on potential actions that could then be incorporated into the County Council Transport Investment Plan. It would also allow a link from the policy to other infrastructure requirements, meaning that these infrastructure improvements could be leveraged through this policy.</p>

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Lesley Golding	Access & Bridleways Officer British Horse Society International UK Ltd	24/05/2023 11:37	SNPS:33	Policy SNP8 - Footpaths and cycleways	Object	<p>Policy SNP8 - Footpaths and cycle ways" Sawtry Parish Council will work with Cambridgeshire County Council as the Highway Authority to promote active travel opportunities across Sawtry. Proposals of parties, including local landowners, community organisations, Sawtry Parish Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council to develop or improve sustainable transport infrastructure will be supported. Proposals that include extending footways, paths and cycle ways linked by communal areas to encourage active travel and social interaction both within existing and proposed development will be particularly supported. Proposals that would harm the particularly distinctive characteristic of the rural informal lanes (including Tinkers Lane, Church Street and Tort Hill which operate as shared surface roads) such as the introduction of engineered footways would not be supported."</p> <p>7.4.7.1 "Policy Justification. Paragraphs 92 and 104 of the NPPF promote healthy and safe communities and sustainable methods of transport by encouraging the development of footpaths and cycle ways. Existing routes within Sawtry and in the surrounding countryside can be enhanced with signage and, in suitable green spaces, with benches for rest areas and social interaction. Such requests were made in numerous questionnaire responses. Local Plan policy 16 supports the use of sustainable travel modes, such that development proposals should seek to utilise, and where possible, provide safe, coherent and easy to use footpaths and cycle routes supports the use of sustainable travel modes, such that development proposals should seek to utilise, and where possible, provide safe, coherent and easy to use footpaths and cycle routes."</p> <p>The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included. Rights of Way (ROW) IMPROVEMENTS The BHS would like to suggest enhancement of the current ROW network as follows: Upgrading of footpaths to bridleways to mitigate the disjointed bridleway network would enable equestrians and cyclists to use more of the ROW network in this area. Bridleways should not be hard-topped and converted into cycle tracks. It is important to many users to have a soft-surface on the bridleways, and this should be protected at all costs as the bridleways are valuable historical assets. Some of the paths on the list of suggested upgrades below are currently being researched by the BHS for historical evidence to enable an upgrade from footpath to the correct status. Suggested upgrades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade footpath 4 to a bridleway to link to Byway 284/16. • Upgrade footpath 7 to a bridleway to link up to bridleway 29. • Upgrade footpath 20 to a bridleway to link to Conington. • Upgrade footpath 25 to a bridleway to link to Conington. • Upgrade footpath 23 to a bridleway to link to Bridleway 98/11, and Byways 97/16 and 98/1. • Upgrade footpath 21 to a bridleway to link to Glatton. • Upgrade footpath 24 to a bridleway to link to Little Gidding. • Upgrade footpath 27 to a bridleway to link to Little Gidding. 	Yes	<p>The needs of all Non Motorised Users (NMUs) including equestrians must be taken into consideration, not just cyclists and pedestrians. Any paths/routes should be improved/developed for all NMUs. Horse riders are considered to be part of Active Travel (Sustainable transport) according to the Local Transport Plan, and as such should be included. 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Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 13:59	SNPS:15	Policy SNP9 - Off-street parking and electric vehicle charging	Have observations	This policy is supported and reflects the intentions of local residents and the community with respect to the issues pertaining to parking in the village, the need for community facilities and addressing climate change through the provision of electric charging points. However, the final paragraph of the policy may require further amendments to 1. Ensure that there are criteria to determine suitable locations for electric charging points and that they do not detrimentally impact areas of significance and/or 2. It is in compliance or compatible with other relevant legislation for example section 278 of The Highways Act 1980. As such HDC is unsure whether the policy text meets basic condition a. in relation to current legislation, policy and guidance.	Yes	Assessment by the Examiner to identify if changes are required.
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 14:01	SNPS:16	Policy SNP10 - Safer communities	Object	Huntingdonshire District Council would like to reiterate comments made at the draft Neighbourhood Plan Consultation which noted that: "This policy sets out the aim of the Parish Council to achieve safe places that facilitate social interaction and community cohesion. A sentiment that has been echoed throughout as part of previous local engagement. However, the policy as it stands does not set out how this should be addressed and what planning applications will need to demonstrate to ensure they are meeting this objective, doing so would help the Neighbourhood Plan to more effectively achieve the objectives of the policy and local community. As such it is considered that it does not currently meet basic condition a (having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance) as it does not comply with Paragraph: 041 Reference ID: 41-041-20140306 of National Planning Practice Guidance 'Neighbourhood Planning' which states that policies "...should be drafted with sufficient clarity that a decision maker can apply it consistently and with confidence when determining planning applications".	Yes	The policy should set out what planning applications will need to demonstrate to ensure they are meeting the objective of safer communities.
Local Plans Team	Huntingdonshire District Council	19/05/2023 14:04	SNPS:17	Policy SNP 11 - Business and Employment	Object	Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 sets out clear strategic policies in relation to the location of economic development for example, LP8 Key Service Centres and LP 10 The Countryside, both of which are subject to other policies set out in the Plan. There is concern that the wording in the policy "of a scale that reflects the surroundings to the east of the A1M" could have negative effects and open up opportunity to large scale development in the countryside to the East of the A1. This would contravene HDC strategic policies, and it is believed is not the Parish Council's intentions when developing the policy. Some alternative wording to 'firm up' this policy would be beneficial. It is therefore considered that the wording may prevent the policy meeting basic condition e. "the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority" In addition, it is noted that the policy creates a 'hierarchy' of Established Employment Areas (see Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036 policy LP18) by establishing a preference for Black Horse Business Park and Oakwood Business Park. This preference is based on the need to limit the impact of HGVs within the village (paragraph 7.5.4 of the Neighbourhood Plan). If this is the intention of the policy it could be beneficial to provide additional criteria to inform applicants and decision-makers what mitigation or evidence would be required if a development proposal were to come forward in areas elsewhere in the	Yes	Alternative wording to clarify the phrase "of a scale that reflects the surroundings to the east of the A1M" to meet the objectives of the strategic policies in Huntingdonshire's Local Plan to 2036. Provision of additional criteria to inform applicants and decision-makers what mitigation or evidence would be required if a development proposal were to come forward in areas elsewhere in the parish or at Brookside Industrial Estate. This would help to limit the impact of HGVs within the village.

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						parish or at Brookside Industrial Estate. This would help to limit the impact of HGVs within the village.		
Middle Level Commissioners Graham Moore	Planning Engineer	24/05/2023 16:59	SNPS:27	9. Non-planning Objectives	Have observations	<p>9.Non-planning Objectives Subject area 5 – Infrastructure and flood risks Item 9.1 (Page 41) Comment – The inclusion of both the Commissioners and the Board is noted. Item 9.2 (Page 42) Comment - Both the Commissioners and the Board have been involved in AWSL's DWMP and are aware that the main solution proposed is the removal of 25% of surface water using SuDS. The use of SuDS, wetlands and other green structures is considered to be an appropriate option in the correct circumstances and location and that suitable retrofitting/enhancement schemes could be provided at some of the suggested LGS locations. However, as the Parish Council is aware the management of SuDS and other water level management systems is an ongoing challenge and without suitable arrangements being imposed these could simply become potential liabilities for the various rate/bill payers. Therefore, adequate arrangements MUST be made to ensure that the long-term ownership funding, management and maintenance for the upkeep of any green infrastructure, whether on or off site, in perpetuity is achieved. Consideration also needs to be given to any restrictions upon maintenance of the drainage "facility" due to the presence of protected habitats and species. As the approval and consent of other RMAs may also be required, prior detailed consultation with the parties involved MUST be undertaken and agreed BEFORE work commences.</p>		

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Middle Level Commissioners Graham Moore	Planning Engineer	24/05/2023 17:01	SNPS:28	10. Maps	Object	<p>10. Maps (Page 42-54)</p> <p>10.3 Flood Risk</p> <p>General – Sawtry village is considered to be within an acute drainage area. An Acute drainage area is a geographical area with multiple or interlinked sources of flood risk where there is a need for a higher standard of water level and flood risk management than normal to ensure that any new development will not increase flood risk that affects people, properties and local infrastructure and may require protection, intervention and/or investment by the relevant RMA(s).</p> <p>10.4 Local Green Spaces (LGS)</p> <p>Map 5 (Pages 48)</p> <p>Comment – LGS 4, 5, 9, 15, 16 and 17 are adjacent to or involve a Boards District Drain.</p> <p>The Board’s District Drains are protected by byelaws made under the Land Drainage Act 1991. Consent for works within, under or over the protected watercourses and the associated 9.0m wide maintenance access strip(s) requires prior written consent.</p> <p>Whilst some of the maintenance access strips beside the Board’s District Drains may have been used infrequently it does not mean that they will not be used in the future.</p> <p>The inclusion of the Board’s system within the Local Green Space designation is discouraged as improvement works to ensure that these systems meet a suitable Standard of Protection (SoP) may be required in the future.</p> <p>When and where possible the Board will try to reinstate restricted access alongside their protected watercourses.</p> <p>Comment – LGS 2 and 6 are adjacent to important watercourses.</p>		