

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF THE WARFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

EXAMINER: Mary O'Rourke BA(Hons) DipTP MRTPI

Jason Mawer  
Clerk to Warfield Parish Council

Matt Lunn  
Bracknell Forest Council

Examination Ref: 03/MOR/WNP

Via email

1 June 2021

Dear Mr Mawer and Mr Lunn

**WARFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EXAMINATION**

I am in receipt of the Bracknell Forest Council's (BFC) letters of 26 April and 7 May 2021 and that of the Warfield Parish Council (WPC) of 21 May 2021, and your responses to my first set of questions.

As set out in my letter of 27 April, I agree the approach proposed by BFC of a four-week targeted consultation to specifically seek comments on the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Warfield Neighbourhood Plan (WNP). However, I understand that has not yet been progressed. This is because of BFC's view, in answer to my question 2 (i) and set out in their subsequent letter of 7 May, that the WNP plan period should ideally be aligned with that of the emerging Bracknell Forest Local Plan, and which, if such a course of action was to be pursued, would itself require further consultation (and the two consultations could be run together).

In respect of the period of the Neighbourhood Plan, I note that the WPC is now content for the Plan period to be amended to 2037 to align with the emerging Local Plan. Its suggestion appears to be that this could be achieved by way of my recommending a modification to the Plan. However, altering the Plan period is also likely to require other appropriate amendments to the text of the Plan which the qualifying body itself might wish to put forward for consideration.

I do not wish to unnecessarily prolong the examination. However, I have already agreed the need for consultation on the HRA. In these circumstances, it seems to me sensible that at the same time, and for a 6 week period, consultation is also carried out on the Plan period being extended to 2037. I note that the BFC is happy to organise any necessary consultation required.

Steps should now be taken by the Parish Council to identify if it wants to put forward for consultation any other amendments to the Plan. I do not think this should be a complicated or unduly lengthy exercise. I would be grateful if the Parish Council would notify myself and the BFC of those amendments that it wishes to propose to the Plan, as result of the Plan period being extended to 2037, within **2 weeks** of the date of this letter. Following their receipt, I would be grateful if BFC would put in place the necessary arrangements to commence the 6 week focused public consultation exercise, providing an opportunity to submit comments on the WNP HRA, on the Plan period and any commensurate amendments to the Plan's text. This should include notifying all those who responded to the Regulation 16 consultation exercise.

Please advise me when the consultation goes 'live' and confirm the formal consultation period (ie the start and end dates).

In the interests of transparency, may I prevail upon you to ensure a copy of this letter, and any subsequent responses, are placed on the websites of the Warfield Parish Council and Bracknell Forest Council.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Your sincerely

*Mary O'Rourke*

Examiner