

Planning Policy
Melton Borough Council
Parkside, Station Approach
Burton Street
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 1GH
Via Email: planningpolicy@melton.gov.uk

Scarlett Griffiths
Spatial Planning and Economic
Development Manager

The Cube
199 Wharfside Street
Birmingham B1 1RN

Direct Line: 0300 470 3034

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation on the Hoby with Rotherby Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the Hoby with Rotherby Parish Development Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) which has been produced for public consultation and covers the Plan period 2020-2037. The document provides a vision for the future of the area and sets out a number of key objectives and planning policies which will be used to help determine planning applications.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as 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 is our role to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth. In relation to the Hoby with Rotherby Parish Neighbourhood Plan, our principal interest is in safeguarding the A46 Trunk Road which routes along the North-Western edge of the Plan area.

We understand that a Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with relevant national and Borough-wide planning policies. Accordingly, the Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Hoby and Rotherby has been prepared in conformity with the adopted Melton Local Plan (2011-2036) and this is acknowledged within the document.

We note that the Neighbourhood Plan covers the villages of Hoby, Rotherby, Ragdale, Brooksby and the Parish countryside. The adopted Melton Local Plan classifies these villages as Rural Settlements but contains no specific housing provision for the Plan area. The Melton Local Plan states that Rural Settlements will accommodate a proportion of the Borough's housing need, to support their role in the Borough through planning positively for new homes as 'windfall' sites within and adjoining settlements by 2036.

Upon review of the document, it is noted that the plan is slightly changed from the pre-submission version reviewed in January 2020.

However, we note that Policy 14 of the NDP still identifies that any housing expected to be developed within the local plan area would be of a small scale and to be contained

within the existing settlement boundary of either Brooksby, Hobby, Rotherby or Ragdale, unless support is gained by the local community and Parish Council.

Therefore, we retain our previous position that, due to the scale of development being proposed, it is not considered that there will be any impacts on the operation of the SRN.

We have no further comments to provide and trust that the above is useful in the progression of the Hobby with Rotherby Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely



Scarlett Griffiths
Midlands Operations Directorate
Email: Scarlett.Griffiths@highwaysengland.co.uk