Dear Madam,

Melton Local Plan Examination – Somerby & **SOM 2 MBC/023/16**

In write in connection with the Melton Local Plan Examination.

I have attempted to categorise my representation under the various Matters.

Matters 5, 8 and 9

In the document Emerging Options (Draft Plan) Jan 2016 MBC stipulated in Policy SS3 for development to enhance the sustainability of communities the development will respect ecological historic and biodiversity features. Since SOM 2 MBC/023/16 (The Croft Field) HER reference MLE22781 contains medieval assets and is the primary field to exhibit such features within Somerby, MBC has steadfastly ignored the evidence. Please refer to my past submissions to MBC (For ease of reference I attach at Appendix 1 an email sent to MBC on 22/02/2017 at 16:03).

SOM 2 MBC/023/16 ("SOM 2') fails the Policy EN3. It is impossible to protect and enhance this historical landscape by building over it! The site allocation SOM2 is inconsistent with the policies contained in the local plan.
As the Croft Field contains visible evidence in Somerby of our medieval past, the loss of such an asset to our village locally would be significant. The Croft Field forms an important reminder to each successive generation of our historic past beneath our feet.
The Croft Field is partly within the Conservation area of Somerby and therefore the proposed development of SOM2 would cause harm to the historic buildings within the conservation area including their setting. It fails Policy EN13- Heritage Assets. SOM2 is also adjacent to the historic walled paddock enclosure. Refer Site Reference 11 p105 MBC Areas of Separation Settlement Fringe Sensitivity and Local Green Space Study 2015. This report notes the historic enclosure has a "strong relationship to settlement /focus for settlement and quality" with a recommendation to "reinforce". The proposed site SOM2, which is directly adjacent to the enclosure and other listed properties, is therefore incompatible and inconsistent with this objective and Policy EN4.

MBC is not taking a positive approach in accordance with Policy EN13 in seeking to ensure the protection and enhancement of this heritage asset and the medieval remains and features contained in this field.
In designating site SOM2 within the local plan MBC have failed NPPF clause 126 to adopt a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. SOM 2 ought to be omitted from the local plan and alternative sites sought which causes less harm should be considered.