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GILLINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Regulation 16 Consultation: 4 January – 15 February 2018

Response Form

Gillingham Town Council has submitted a Neighbourhood Plan for Gillingham to North Dorset District Council (NDDC) under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Regulation 16 requires NDDC to publicise the plan on its website and to invite representations for a prescribed period of time. All representations made at this stage will be sent to an independent examiner.

The submitted plan and supporting documents can be accessed online from

dorsetforyou.gov.uk/Proposed-Gillingham-Plan

All comments must be received by **5pm Thursday 15 February 2018**. We cannot accept late responses.

Please return completed forms to:

Email: planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk

Post: Planning Policy (North Dorset), South Walks House, South Walks Road, DORCHESTER, DT1 1UZ

Part A – Personal Details

Please complete this part of the form as unfortunately we cannot accept confidential or anonymous representations. By submitting this form you consent to your information being disclosed to third parties for this purpose. Personal details will not be visible on our website, although they will be shown on paper copies that will be sent to the independent examiner and available for inspection.

Note, if comments are being made by an agent, all correspondence will be sent to the agent unless requested otherwise.

	Details of person(s) making response	Details of appointed agent (if applicable)
Title	Mr	
First Name	Jonathan	
Last Name	Alldis	
Job Title (where relevant)	Town Planner	
Organisation (where relevant)	Network Rail	
Address		
Postcode		
Tel. No.		
Email Address		

Part B – Representation

1. Which document does the comment relate?

Tick one box only.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neighbourhood Plan – Submission version
<input type="checkbox"/>	Neighbourhood Area Map (included within the neighbourhood plan document)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultation Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic Conditions Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Determination Notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please specify:</i>

2. Which part of the document does the comment relate?

Identify the text that you are commenting on as appropriate.

	<i>Location of Text</i>
Whole document	
Section / chapter / appendix	7. Economy 8. Retail and Town Centres uses 9. Transport
Policy	
Page	

3. Do you wish to?

Tick one box only.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Support
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support with conditions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Object
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make an observation

4. Please give your reasons in the box below.

Network Rail (NR) have considered the proposed Neighbourhood Plan submission and have the following comments to make:

Comments relating to Chapters 7 & 8:

With regards to the potential redevelopment of Station Road, whilst Network Rail does not have any specific comments at this stage, NR would look for developer contributions for any improvements needed for the station realm.

Comments relating to Chapter 9. Transport:

- Figures 8.1 & 9.1 maps appear to show a path across the railway at the west end of the station. There is a Station Barrow Crossing (SBC) at this location which does not serve any public rights. A SBC is a gated level crossing for use by station staff to escort vulnerable personnel across the railway and is locked closed when not in use and when the station is unmanned. The station is equipped with a stepped footbridge for use of customers to cross between platforms.
- Table 9.3 sect I states “Establish a new foot and cycle right of way from the railway station south across the railway line to a new junction with Footpaths N64/47 and N64/48.” Level crossings are considered the main source of catastrophic risk by our regulator, the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) and the recommended way of dealing with this risk is by eliminating it and closure of dangerous level crossings. Dedication of any rights for the public across the rails (at a grade) would contradict Network Rail’s obligation to run “a safe and efficient railway network” in UK and would be unlikely to receive the consent of the ORR. Additionally, dedication of public rights requires that a grantor is capable; Network Rail does not possess the requisite capacity to dedicate its land to the public. Network Rail is open to consider creation of public rights over or under its railway.

- Table 9.3 sect g proposes a new FP/bridleway to run “underneath the railway line where it crosses the River Lodden to a junction with Footpath N69/20” Network Rail (NR) is an active participant of the Motcombe Cycle Link Working Group and have discussed this proposal at length. Network Rail supports the proposal in principle and would consider dedicating its land for public use providing that footpath N69/20 is diverted from the current level crossing (Kings Court) underneath the bridge thereby providing members of the public with a reliable and fundamentally safer means of crossing its railway. This proposal appeared to have met with a positive reception by the Working Group and Network Rail has offered to proactively support such scheme.

5. Do you wish to be notified of the District Council’s decision to make or refuse to make the neighbourhood plan?

Please tick one box only.

√	Yes
	No

Signature: _____

Date: 15/02/2018

If submitting the form electronically, no signature is required.