

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Stuart, David [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 March 2015 16:51  
**To:** Nick Cardnell; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Bourton Neighbourhood Plan, North Dorset District Council - Scoping Report

FAO Nick Cardnell and Mike Withers

Many thanks for your consultation on this exercise. Our apologies for the slight delay in this response but we hope its contents can still be accommodated.

In fact, we have little that we would wish to comment on and would restrict this to Issue 5 – Heritage Assets in the Assessment Approach. The Scoping Report usefully summarises the statutory provisions of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (P3) and the Historic Environment imperatives within the National Planning Policy Framework (P6). These collectively promote the preservation and enhancement of heritage assets and we are pleased to see that the emerging Plan embraces these sentiments.

However, Issue 5 in the Report sets out its Objective as “to assess the potential to harm a heritage asset or its setting”. This intention falls short of the statutory requirement, and is inconsistent with the positive objectives set out under the other Issues and the thrust of the emerging Plan generally. It also excludes the potential to assess any positive impact on heritage assets which might arise and help compensate for or outweigh where negative impact occurs.

While the assessment of proposal and policy options will need to assess the scale and nature of possible impact on heritage assets, it should not be assumed that minimising harmful impact is a criterion for acceptability. We would therefore encourage a more balanced wording to the Objective which is, at worst, neutral – eg “to assess the potential for impact on the significance of a heritage asset or its setting” – or ideally something more positive – eg “to maximise the potential for positive impact etc”.

Kind regards

David Stuart

David Stuart | Historic Places Adviser

---

**From:** Nicholas Cardnell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 February 2015 09:21  
**To:** Torkildsen, Rohan  
**Subject:** Bourton Neighbourhood Plan, North Dorset District Council – Scoping Report

Dear Sir or Madam

**Bourton Neighbourhood Plan, North Dorset District Council – Scoping Report**

**Regulation 12 of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004**

Bourton Neighbourhood Area was designated on 10th December 2012 and covers the whole of the parish. Bourton Parish is on the northern border of Dorset. It borders the parishes of Penselwood and Cucklington in South Somerset

and Zeals in Wiltshire as well as the parish of Silton in Dorset. The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC) and the Regulations require an assessment of the likely significant effects of the implementation of a plan. The aim is to provide a high level of protection for the environment and to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation of plans.

A screening report <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/neighbourhoodplanse/north> has been produced for the Bourton Neighbourhood Plan which concluded that the proposals within the draft plan had the potential to have significant environmental effects and therefore a SEA was required. It would be through careful site selection, avoidance of impacts and mitigation that the likely significant effects of the plan would be avoided or minimised. The SEA process will help to minimise the likely significant effects of the plan.

The proposals in the draft plan, which led to the requirement for an SEA, concern the community's expressed wish to build a new village hall and the associated need to accommodate a small amount of housing development to assist in the delivery of the new hall and an associated amenity area. The background to this issue and a Short List of potential sites is at Appendix A. The SEA process includes a scoping stage which involves a review of the context within which the Neighbourhood Plan sits and an assessment of the baseline information on the Neighbourhood Area with a view to identifying the environmental issues. This information is then used to assess the proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan in order to minimise the likely significant effects that may arise as a result of its implementation.

Consultation on the Bourton Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report (Attached) commences, **18<sup>th</sup> February 2015** and the deadline for representations is **11.59pm on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015**.

Please send any representations to Mike Withers (Chairman, Bourton Neighbourhood Planning Group) and Nick Cardnell (Neighbourhood Planning Officer, North Dorset District Council).

We look forward to receiving your comments, but if in the meantime if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Cardnell  
Neighbourhood Planning Officer  
North Dorset District Council

[Redacted signature]

and

Mike Withers  
Chairman, Bourton Neighbourhood Planning Group

[Redacted signature]

CC

English Heritage  
Natural England  
Environment Agency

We value your feedback. To help us improve services, please complete a short survey by [Clicking Here](#)

<http://www.dorsetforyou.com>

Email: [Redacted email address]

Think before you print.

The views expressed above are personal unless stated otherwise. NDDC is not liable for any consequences of accessing this electronic transmission.