

Daventry District Council

**Stowe Nine Churches
Village Design Statement**

Supplementary Planning Document

Statement of Consultation

Adopted February 2020



Introduction

This report sets out the consultation undertaken on the Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This report is required by regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012.

At its meeting on 17th October 2019 the Council's Strategy Group resolved that consultation could take place on the VDS.

Consultation

Consultation commenced on Wednesday 23rd October 2019. Landowners, Parish Councils, statutory consultees and adjoining local authorities were notified.

Publicity

The draft SPD could be accessed from the Planning Policy and Consultation pages of the Daventry District Council Website.

Copies were available in the following locations;

- Daventry library, St John's Square, Daventry;
- Daventry District Council Offices at Lodge Road, Daventry;
- The Barn Café, Old Dairy Farm Craft Centre, Upper Stowe, NN7 4SH;
- The Old School Rooms, Main Street, Church Stowe and
- St Michaels Church, Main Street, Church Stowe.

A Consultation Notice was also placed on the website, Daventry library and in the Council Offices, a copy of which is included at Appendix A.

Consultation Period

Consultation took place with organisations referenced above and local residents on the document for a period of 6 weeks until 4.30pm on Friday 6th December 2019.

Comments received.

Four responses were received. These are set out in Appendix B.

Consideration of Responses

The Council carefully considered all of the comments received. A number of changes were made to the document as a result of these responses. These changes are set out in appendix B.

The representations were reported to the Council's Strategy Group on 6th February 2020 followed by Full Council on 20th February 2020 when the document was adopted.

Appendix A

Stowe Nine Churches Village Design Statement

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

Regulation 12, 13 and 35 – Consultation Statement regarding Supplementary Planning Document

Daventry District Council is consulting on a Village Design Statement (VDS) for Stowe Nine Churches. The document will, when adopted, provide design guidance for development in Stowe Nine Churches Parish and will supplement the saved policies from the Daventry District Local Plan, the emerging Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part 2 and the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy.

The Council hereby welcomes comments from any interested party on the document. The document will be available during the consultation period for inspection at:

- Daventry District Council, Lodge Road, Daventry, during normal opening hours
- Daventry Library during normal opening hours
- The Barn Café, Old Dairy Farm Craft Centre, Upper Stowe, NN7 4SH, Tues – Sun 10am - 4pm
- The Old School Rooms, Main Street, Church Stowe, NN7 4SG
- St Michael's Church, Main Street, Church Stowe, NN7 4SG

A copy will also be available on the Council's website:

<https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/planning-policy/village-design-statements/>

The consultation commences on Wednesday 23rd October 2019 and closes at 4.30pm on Friday 6th December 2019.

Comments in writing should be forwarded to Mags Howe, Senior Policy Officer (Planning), Daventry District Council, Lodge Road, Daventry, Northamptonshire, NN11 4FP or e-mail planningpolicy@daventrydc.gov.uk by **4.30pm on Friday 6th December** at the latest.

Comments cannot be accepted after this time.

Mags Howe
Senior Policy Officer (Planning)

Appendix B Schedule of Comments, Agreed Responses and Actions

Under 'Suggested Action', new text is shown as underlined; deleted text is shown as ~~strike through~~.

| Respondent | Summary of Comments | Suggested Response | Suggested Action |
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| Anglian Water | Support the aim, objective and overall content of the VDS. There is a recommended revision to Building and Design Guidelines Bullet (Bullet point 2, Page 30) to specify the type of water that will be drained. | Noted | Amend Building and Design Guideline (Bullet point 2, Page 30) as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Pathways, driveways and parking areas should be constructed of materials that reflect the natural surroundings and allow for proper <u>surface</u> water drainage.</i> |
| Highways England | No comment to make on Stowe Nine Churches VDS. | Noted | No change required. |
| Weedon Parish Council | The Village Design document fails to acknowledge the inclusion of a traveller site as part of Stowe Parish. WBPC is of the view that it should be included as people live there and their activities impact on the local environment. WBPC suggest the inclusion of a statement such as: 'The traveller site on the A5 is acknowledged as part of Stowe parish community. It is noted that this is a single-family site. Residents would not want it to be used as a transit site for nonfamily as access on to the A5 is very poor. Buildings | This would not be a matter for the VDS to consider as it would be dealt with via the Local Plan Part 2. The character and appearance of any new buildings will need to consider the guidelines set out in the VDS, in particular the 'Building and Design Guidelines' on Page 29. | No change required. |

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| | on the site should be kept to a minimum and be of a single storey, temporary nature and not detract from the surrounding countryside or interfere with local views. | | |
| Natural England | <p>Natural England welcomes design guidelines that respect, and where possible, enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the surrounding natural and built environment, use natural resources more sustainably and bring benefits to the local community. The following is general advice that would be expected to be considered in preparing a VDS:</p> <p><i>Landscape</i> VDSs should give consideration to their impact on protected landscapes (national parks and AONBs). Landscape character assessments provide context for looking at possible changes and seeking to ensure countryside character is protected and enhanced. They are a useful tool and should be cross referenced in the VDS to ensure it makes a positive contribution to design, form and location to the character and function of the landscape and avoids any unacceptable impacts.</p> | The District does not contain nor is it adjacent to a statutorily protected landscape such as a national park or AONB. The District has an up to date landscape character appraisal and reference should be made in the VDS to the relevant section. | <p>Amend the introduction to Section 5 Landscape (page 11) by adding a new paragraph as follows: <u>“The parish is located in Landscape Character Type 13 Undulating Hills and Valley (LCT130 and specifically, Landscape Character Area 13a: Woodford Halse and Weedon Bec (LCT13). The ‘Daventry Landscape Character Assessment’ sets out the characteristics for this landscape character area and a strategy for conserving and enhancing the landscape.”</u></p> |

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| | <p><i>Green infrastructure (GI) and sustainable design</i> GI is a network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in urban and rural areas. In rural areas it includes farmland, woodland, wetlands or other natural features. It maintains critical ecological links between town and country. The VDS could promote high quality and multi-function GI. Natural England guidance provides an introduction to delivering GI at a local scale.</p> <p><i>Biodiversity</i> VDS should have recognised and referenced designated wildlife sites and other biodiversity assets, such as protected species, ecological networks, habitats and green spaces. Design guidelines should respect and where</p> | <p>Section 9 of the VDS details the 'Trees, Environment & Wildlife' with accompanying guidelines. This includes details of green infrastructure although doesn't specifically refer to GI. It is recognised that the guidelines would benefit from further emphasis and a reference to green infrastructure.</p> <p>The VDS does recognise the importance of biodiversity and has design guidelines that seek to preserve, enhance and maintain it. Further reference can be made to both the Districts Biodiversity SPD and Natural</p> | <p>Amend Landscape guideline bullet point 4 (Page 13) to include: <u>The Landscape Guidelines in the Daventry Landscape Character Appraisal for LCT13 should be referred to.</u></p> <p>Amend Environment & Tree Guidelines, bullet point 9 (Page 25) 'Landscaping measures that protect and enhance existing wildlife environments and help to create new <u>and connected</u> habitats...'</p> <p>Add in additional para in Section 9 (Page 23): Para 9.0.12 <u>"Daventry District Council has published a Biodiversity Supplementary Planning</u></p> |
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| | <p>possible enhance local and neighbouring biodiversity resources. The TCPA has produced a practical and design orientated guide. The local Wildlife Trust and local environmental record centre should have been consulted and local and national biodiversity action plans referenced where relevant.</p> <p><i>Community engagement</i> Natural England is committed to involving the community in its work and keen to see this principle adopted as part of the VDS process.</p> | <p>England's Green Infrastructure guidance.</p> <p>Section 1 of the VDS sets out the process and consultation that has been undertaken. A further update should be included of further consultation undertaken</p> | <p><u>Document which provides useful guidance on how biodiversity should be taken into account in the planning process. Natural England has published guidance on delivering green infrastructure at a local scale."</u></p> <p>Add in additional wording in para 1.5 in Section 1 (Page 6)</p> <p>1.5 <u>Following approval by the Parish Council, a period of local consultation was undertaken between June and September 2019, during which copies of the document were made available on notice boards and within the local parish churches; this was followed by an Open House event to which all parishioners were invited and during which questions were answered and clarification provided by members of The Parish Council. No issues or objections were raised during this period.</u></p> <p>1.6 <u>Finally, the VDS was submitted to DDC as the local Planning Authority whose</u></p> |
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| | | | <p>comments and feedback were incorporated prior to a further period of public consultation. This updated version is now submitted for final sign off and adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document.</p> |
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The following changes are also proposed to avoid confusion about what the meaning of the red line depicted on the two settlement maps and accompanying text:

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| <p>Figure 17 and 24 show the settlements of Upper Stowe and Church Stowe with a red line. Whilst the intention was to illustrate the extent of the built form of the two villages, it could be interpreted as a village confines</p> <p>Village confines would need to be designated via a Neighbourhood Development Plan and would only be appropriate for Church Stowe as an 'Other Village', as Upper Stowe is a small settlement/ hamlets and would be classed as being in open countryside. Due to this the red line depicted on maps on page 16 and Page 19 will have to be removed from the VDS.</p> | <p>Amend Figure 17 (Page 16) and Figure 24 (Page 19) by removing the red line from the maps.</p> |
| <p>Para.5.0.7 requires some amendment to make it clear that the VDS is not defining the confines for the two settlements in the Parish.</p> | <p>Amend Para 5.0.7 (Page 11) to read as follows:</p> <p>'The Parish is bounded by open countryside which is protected by <u>through Policy RA6 Open Countryside of the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part 2</u>, the use of village confines for planning development purposes. This has successfully preserved its character and is valued by villagers. A comparison between <u>the extent of</u> the village confines and the Tithe Maps of 1839 show that very little has changed in 180 years – see Settlements Patterns, below.</p> |

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The following editorial changes are also suggested:

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| <p>The Local Wildlife Sites are erroneously identified as 'County' and should amended to reflect this</p> | <p>Amend para 5.0.,5 (Page 11) and key to map at appendix 2 (Page 39) as follows; 'County <u>Local Wildlife Sites</u>'</p> |
| <p>Make reference to 'Local Green Spaces' for accuracy in the 'Open Spaces' Section 8 and accompanying Appendix 3.</p> | <p>Page 22 Amend the Title from 'Open Spaces' to '<u>Local Green Spaces</u>'</p> <p>Amend Para 8.1 to read ' A number of open spaces important to the Parish have been designated <u>as 'Local Green Space'</u> through the Parish Annex initiative under DDC's <u>Community and Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part 2</u> in line with...</p> <p>Amend Para 8.7 to ' The designation of these <u>Local Green open Spaces</u> under the Parish Annexe initiative means that no additional Open Space Guidelines are proposed.</p> <p>Appendix 3 amend the title to read 'Tree Preservation Orders & <u>Local Green Open Spaces</u> within Stowe Nine Churches'</p> <p>Amend para 6.3.3 (Page 17)</p> <p>...<u>Local Plan Part 2 (see 'Open Spaces-Local Green Spaces'</u></p> |
| <p>Subject to Members agreeing to adopt the Part 2 Local Plan (see report elsewhere on this agenda) it will replace all of the saved policies of the 1997 Local Plan, therefore it would be necessary to make changes to Appendix 8 to reflect this. .</p> | <p>Amend Appendix 8, paragraph 3 (Page 47) as follows: 'together with the remaining "saved" policies of the Daventry District Local Plan 1997. <u>Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part 2'</u></p> |