

Alvington Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Responses December 2019

ID	Full Name	To which part document does the comment relate	Please give reasons for your support / objection:
AL01	Mr David Priddis	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Section 6.4	Section 6.4: (suggest add at end of 6.4 OR possible add to Appendix 22 Para. 4.1 and then refer to that in this Section 6.4): It should also be noted that the parish contains summer roosts of lesser horseshoe bats, including a large maternity roost of over 100 bats. Whilst not (yet) designated as an SSSI, its size means that it is necessary to the continued well-being (favourable condition) of the Horseshoe Bat SAC. Searches need to be made, e.g. at GCER to ensure such sites and their Core Sustenance Zones are conserved. [Note: The locations of this and other roosts are not generally in the public domain but should be available to FoDDC]
AL02		Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Section 6.10	Section 6.10 There is no mention in this section, or indeed in the NDP (?) of the extremely obtrusive visual impact of the Wind Turbine. This seems a serious omission. Whilst it is noted that this produces 'green' energy, the siting of any future similar applications should be examined far more rigorously. The current turbine does not meet the objective of policy NE2, third paragraph and the turbine is obtrusive from neighbouring parishes.
AL03		Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Section 7.3	Section 7.3 I support the ancient bridges noted. In addition is the stone slab (clapper-type) bridge, now a footbridge, over the upper section of the River Cone at ST590021, near Home Farm, Clanna, worthy of mention?
AL04		Habitat Regulations Assessment (Appendix 22) Appendix 22 paragraph 4.1 and sub app 3 paragraph 1	Appendix 22. Add to 4.1 a note: It should also be noted that the parish contains summer roosts of lesser horseshoe bats, including a large maternity roost of over 100 bats. Whilst not (yet) designated as an SSSI, its size means that it is necessary to the continued well-being (favourable condition) of the Horseshoe Bat SAC. Appendix 22. (Sub) App 3, paragraph 1: Suggest amend wording in Vulnerability, 3rd sentence, to read: "The designated sites only cover some of the major maternity and over-wintering roosts."
AL06		Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Section 6	Whilst Policy NE1 mentions generally habitats and also the possible importance of buildings, there is insufficient emphasis on maintaining the necessary supporting habitat for the various species noted. (It is no good maintaining a roost or nesting site if the species concerned has insufficient food or suitable surrounding habitat) Please refer to App. 3 Para. 1 of Appendix 22 of the NDP.
AL08	Ms Jane Hennell British Waterways	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	Thank you for your consultation on the Alvington Neighbourhood Plan. The Canal & river Trust have no comments to make.

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AL11	Mr Rob Niblett Gloucestershire County Council	Transport Comments	The draft document is a sound and thorough piece of work. It pays careful attention the local transport issues affecting Alvington and its environs. It should be noted that the Local Transport Plan is undergoing review and will be available for public consultation on 16 January 2020. It may be helpful to consider the emerging NDP with the emerging LTP consultation, and particularly with regard to the Forest of Dean Connecting Places Strategy, Alvington has an extensive and historic public rights of way network, mainly comprising public footpaths. These could provide a much needed resource for active travel, on foot, with good links to the neighbouring villages of Aylburton and Woolaston.
		Archaeology Comments	No comment
		NDP and Appendix 2, 22 and 23	Ecology (Biodiversity)Comments We note in Appendix 2 (& 22/23) that Forest of Dean District Council have now advised that neither a SEA nor HRA needs to be carried out in association with the plan. We are content to agree with this conclusion. We welcome that the wording of Objective 3 – Natural Environment has been improved by taking up our previous recommendation which was as follows: “To protect and enhance the natural environment in the Parish so that with new development will protect respecting local wildlife and landscape character.” Additionally it is very good to see that our previous recommendations for edits to policy NE1 Protecting and Enhancing Local Wildlife have been taken up in full. These were: to the first sentence – “Development proposals that impact could affect on local wildlife sites and habitats identified on (Map 6 page 22) should demonstrate how adverse impacts on biodiversity will be avoided or if that is not possible adequately mitigated . All developments must protect wildlife and all but the most minor are expected to deliver a net gain for biodiversity. protected and enhanced” and to the Policy Aim – “To protect and enhance important flora and fauna and their natural habitats.”
AL13	Ms Melanie Lindsley The Coal Authority	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	As you will be aware the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the current defined deep coalfield. However the Neighbourhood Plan area does not contain any surface coal resources or recorded risks from past coal mining activity as shallow depth. On this basis we have no specific comment s to make on the Neighbourhood Plan.
AL12	Mr David Stuart Historic England	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	I can confirm that there are no comments on the Plan which we wish to submit.

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AL07	Highways England	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	Thank you for providing Highways England with the opportunity to comment on the submission version of the Alvington Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 15 Consultation. Highways England is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network (SRN) which in this instance consists of the A40 which runs some distance to the north of the plan area. As with the Regulation 14 consultation earlier this year, we are satisfied that the proposed plan policies are unlikely to result in development which will impact significantly on the SRN and we have no comments to make. However, this response does not prejudice any future responses Highways England may make on site specific applications as they come forward through the planning process, and which will be considered by us on their merits under the appropriate policy at the time. We wish you well in progressing the plan and would appreciate being kept informed.
AL10	Anita Bolton Environment Agency	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	Thank you for your consultation on the Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Submission Document (2016-2026), received on 23 October 2019. We have no additional comments to make at this stage, and would reiterate those provided in our response to the Regulation 14 consultation, as reiterated below. We do not offer detailed bespoke advice on policy but advise you ensure conformity with the adopted Local Plan 2018 (which includes adopted versions of the Core Strategy (2012) and the Allocations Plan (2018)), and refer to guidance within our area neighbourhood plan “pro-forma guidance”. Notwithstanding the above, it is important that these plans offer robust confirmation that development is not impacted by flooding and that there is sufficient waste water infrastructure in place to accommodate growth. We would only make substantive further comments on the plan if you were seeking to allocate sites in flood zone 3 and 2 (the latter being used as the 1% climate change extent). Where an ‘ordinary watercourse’ is present this would need to be assessed and demonstrated as part of the evidence base within a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) i.e. to inform the sequential testing of sites and appropriate / safe development. We would not, in the absence of specific sites allocated, offer a bespoke comment at this time. You are advised to utilise our attached area guidance and pro-forma which should assist you moving forward with your Plan.

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AL09	Ms Lucy Bartley Wood E&I Solutions UK Ltd on behalf of National Grid	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Grid's electricity and gas transmission apparatus which includes high voltage electricity assets and high-pressure gas pipelines. National Grid has identified that it has no record of such apparatus within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Electricity Distribution The electricity distribution operator in Forest of Dean Council is Western Power Distribution. Information regarding the transmission and distribution network can be found at: www.energynetworks.org.uk Appendices - National Grid Assets Please find attached in: • Appendix 1 provides a map of the National Grid network across the UK.
AL14	Joanna Goodman	Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan	I would like to add the following comments under the consultation period for the 'Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan' finishing today. 1) Given the building scientific research on climate change and how our wildlife is struggling. I feel that more green spaces need protecting to preserve the natural habitats that are vitally important to biodiversity. Gardens and villages are very important for wildlife because the wider countryside is now a hostile environment for them. We are surrounded by monoculture so these areas are vitally important to all wildlife which has been marginalised by all the intensive agriculture we find today. We all need to do our bit in supporting the environment and leave our village in a better state for future generations. So I believe we should focus on identifying these spaces and keeping these spaces for both wildlife and us to enjoy. As for historical orchards - I know the plan references that historically many orchards were present in the village and also goes on to highlight a few specific ones that officially remain but I feel this doesn't represent all the historical orchard land. Britain has lost just over 2 thirds of their orchards since the 1960's. These are precious habitats that we as a community should look to give protective status to and view them as important spaces that can be enjoyed by wildlife and the community for generations to come. Once it is lost it is lost we can't get habitat back. These orchards also have cultural heritage value to the villagers and local residents and it would be really nice if we could look to have a community project to adopt, restore and preserve these spaces. If lost any type of mitigation that is made to replace it won't be a patch on the original land and be highly reduce in terms of biodiversity as these sites have taken decades to evolve.
AL15	Victoria Kirkham	Natural England	Natural England does not have any specific comments on the Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan.

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Consultation on revised Policy NE3			
ANE1	Planning and Local Authority Liaison team, Coal Authority	revised Policy NE3	<p>Thank you for the notification of the 19 February 2020 consulting the Coal Authority on the above Neighbourhood Development Plan and new Policy NE3.</p> <p>The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body which works to protect the public and the environment in coal mining areas. Our statutory role in the planning system is to provide advice about new development in the coalfield areas and also protect coal resources from unnecessary sterilisation by encouraging their extraction, where practical, prior to the permanent surface development commencing.</p> <p>As you will be aware the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the current defined deep coalfield. However the Neighbourhood Plan area does not contain any surface coal resources or recorded risks from past coal mining activity at shallow depth. On this basis we have no specific comments to make on the new policy wording proposed for the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
ANE2	Anita Bolton Environment Agency	revised Policy NE3	<p>Thank you for consulting on the Revised Policy NE3. Following the clarification note submitted via the Examiner, we have no further comments to make.</p>
ANE3	Rob Niblett Gloucestershire County Council	revised Policy NE3	<p>Thank you for consulting Gloucestershire County Council on this matter. We have no comments make on it.</p>
ANE4	Chrystèle Garnier-Kusiak Highways England	revised Policy NE3	<p>Thank you for providing Highways England with the opportunity to comment on the submission version of the Alvington Neighbourhood Plan revised policy NE3 Consultation. Highways England is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network (SRN) which in this instance consists of the A40 which runs some distance to the north of the plan area.</p> <p>As with the Regulation 14 consultation earlier this year, we are satisfied that the proposed plan policies are unlikely to result in development which will impact significantly on the SRN and we have no comments to make. However, this response does not prejudice any future responses Highways England may make on site specific applications as they come forward through the planning process, and which will be considered by us on their merits under the appropriate policy at the time.</p> <p>We wish you well in progressing the plan and would appreciate being kept informed.</p>
ANE5	David Stuart Historic England	revised Policy NE3	<p>Thank you for your consultation on the proposed amendments to the submitted version of the Alvington Neighbourhood Plan. There are no comments on these amendments which we wish to submit.</p>

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ANE6	Matt Verlander National Grid	revised Policy NE3	<p>National Grid has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to Neighbourhood Plan consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">About</p> <p>National Grid</p> <p>National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) owns and maintains the electricity transmission system in England and Wales. The energy is then distributed to the electricity distribution network operators across England, Wales and Scotland.</p> <p>National Grid Gas plc (NGG) owns and operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. In the UK, gas leaves the transmission system and enters the UK's four gas distribution networks where pressure is reduced for public use.</p> <p>National Grid Ventures (NGV) is separate from National Grid's core regulated businesses. NGV develop, operate and invest in energy projects, technologies, and partnerships to help accelerate the development of a clean energy future for consumers across the UK, Europe and the United States. Proposed development sites crossed by or in close proximity to National Grid assets</p> <p>An assessment has been carried out with respect to National Grid's electricity and gas transmission assets which include high voltage electricity assets and high-pressure gas pipelines.</p> <p>National Grid has identified that it has no record of such assets within the Neighbourhood Plan area.</p> <p>National Grid provides information in relation to its assets at the website below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www2.nationalgrid.com/uk/services/land-and-development/planning-authority/shape-files/ <p>Please also see attached information outlining guidance on development close to National Grid infrastructure.</p> <p>Distribution Networks Information regarding the electricity distribution network is available at the website below: www.energynetworks.org.uk</p> <p>Information regarding the gas distribution network is available by contacting: lantprotection@cadentgas.com</p> <p>Further Advice Please remember to consult National Grid on any Neighbourhood Plan Documents or site-specific proposals that could affect our assets.</p>
ANE7	K Urch	revised Policy NE3	Having conducted a thorough review, I support the Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan Revised Policy NE3 as submitted.
ANE8	Victoria Kirkham Natural England	revised Policy NE3	Natural England does not have any specific comments on the Alvington Neighbourhood Development Plan.