

Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan

Background Document BD15 - Basic Conditions Statement

Introduction

This Basic Conditions Statement has been prepared to accompany the Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Development Plan (B&DNP).

Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 requires that a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) must meet the following basic conditions:

- (a) having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the order,
- (b) having special regard to the desirability of preserving any listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest that it possesses, it is appropriate to make the order,
- (c) having special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of any conservation area, it is appropriate to make the order,
- (d) the making of the order contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,
- (e) the making of the order is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area),
- (f) the making of the order does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations, and
- (g) prescribed conditions are met in relation to the order and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order.

This Basic Conditions Statement addresses these requirements in three sections:

- Section 1 demonstrates the conformity of the B&DNP with the NPPF 2021 revision including how the B&DNP will contribute to sustainable development and national policies. It also demonstrates how the plan follows national guidance.
- Section 2 demonstrates the conformity of the B&DNP with the Swale Core Strategy and the emerging local plan revision.
- Section 3 demonstrates compliance with the appropriate EU obligations.

Submitting Body

The Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Development Plan is submitted by Boughton and Dunkirk Parish Councils, which are qualifying bodies as defined by the Localism Act 2011.

Neighbourhood Area

In accordance with part 2 of the Regulations, Swale Borough Council (SBC), the local planning authority publicised the application from the Parish Councils and advertised a consultation period beginning on 5th July 2013 to 16th August 2013. It outlined the reasons why the Parish Councils considered the area to be suitable to be designated as a neighbourhood area and showed a map of the area. The consultation was published on both Councils' websites and the Neighbourhood Plan website and site notices were placed at both Boughton-Under-Blean and Dunkirk Parish halls and at other locations within the two villages. No comments were received.

Officers considered the area proposed to be appropriate and recommended that the designation request be agreed. Members of the Local Development Framework Committee agreed to the designation at their meeting of 19th September 2013.

The Parish Councils confirm that this:

- Neighbourhood Development Plan relates only to Boughton and Dunkirk Parishes and to no other Neighbourhood Areas.
- Is the only Neighbourhood Development Plan in the designated area. No other Neighbourhood Plan exists nor is in development for part or all of the designated area.

Section 1: NPPF Obligations

1.1 National Policy

The Neighbourhood Plan must have appropriate regard to national policy. The following section describes how the B&DNP proposal relates to the National Planning Policy Framework (July 2021).

Sustainable Development

Central themes of the NPPF are the presumption in favour of sustainable development and in the 2021 revisions "The creation of high quality, beautiful and sustainable buildings and places". In this context sustainable development is broadly defined internationally as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The NPPF calls on Neighbourhood Plans to "play an important role in

identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers.”

The NPPF also states that “Development that is not well designed should be refused, especially where it fails to reflect local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes. Conversely, significant weight should be given to:

a) development which reflects local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes; and/or

b) outstanding or innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability, or help raise the standard of design more generally in an area, so long as they fit in with the overall form and layout of their surroundings.”

The NPPF uses three ‘dimensions’ to describe sustainable development: economic, social and environmental, and requires the planning system, and thus the B&DNP, where appropriate, to conform with these:

- to contribute to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and by improving the local supporting infrastructure.
- to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high-quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community’s needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and
- to contribute to protecting and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment; helping to improve biodiversity, making better use of natural resources, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy

In summary, the B&DNP contributes to the achievement of sustainable development by:

- encouraging flexible working in the parish by promoting sites for commercial development and educational use and allocating small sites for new housing, thereby helping meet identified local needs.
- protecting the countryside and local habitats by focusing development within the village boundary and the use, recovery and restoration of previously developed sites.

- protecting community assets that enhance the quality of life in Boughton and Dunkirk villages.
- locating new development within easy walking distance of existing village facilities, close to bus stops to minimise traffic congestion and thus the related emissions and pedestrian safety concerns.
- protecting and enhancing the historic environment of Boughton and Dunkirk by encouraging high quality development that responds to the villages' characters and protecting the open spaces within the built-up area, as well as specifically the rural gap between Boughton and Faversham.

1.3 B&DNP accordance with the NPPF Core Planning Principles

There were 12 core planning principles put forward in the NPPF 2021 which were a useful guide during the plan preparation. Table I, below, lists these core planning principles and maps them to the Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan's Policies.

NPPF 2021 Core Principle	B&DNP Policies/Decision Criteria
Plan-led based on a positive local vision	The Plan has developed a vision for Boughton and Dunkirk villages and the surrounding areas of the two parishes, based on surveys and workshops, and developed principles and objectives that will help deliver the community's aspirations. Background Documents BD1 and 2 summarise the process and the responses.
Enhance and Improve places in which people live	The Plan has policies for new housing (H1, H2, H5, H6, E1 to E10), which specify high development standards. The Plan has policies to protect the local environment and green space while encouraging growth and amenity improvement (BE3, E4, E6, E7, E8, E9, AS2). The Plan seeks to reduce pollution and inconvenience caused by road congestion (policies T1 to T4).
Economic development & delivery of homes and infrastructure	In addition to new, affordable, social and open market housing (Policies H1, H2) the Plan addresses high development standards (E1 to E10), which also cover the protection and improvement of local amenity, and development is sited to protect green space and the surrounding countryside.
Promote the character and vitality of communities	Maintaining the vitality of the community is at the heart of B&DNP. Policies E1 to E10 maintain character, whilst policies BE1, BE2 and EP1 encourage appropriate development through business and education. Sustainable, well integrated housing is promoted through policies H1 and H2.
Climate change, flood risk and reduced carbon usage	The Plan sites new development close to essential village services (Policy H2) and encourages the use of renewable energy (Policy E10). Policies seek to improve walking and cycling (Policy CWB3).
Conserving and enhancing the natural environment	Protection of the countryside is a core aim of B&DNP. The Plan includes environment policies (Policies E1 to E10, AS2, AS9) to protect the landscape and rural nature of Boughton and Dunkirk villages, the surrounding countryside and the important rural setting of the Boughton Street Conservation Area in accordance with the principles of the Conservation Appraisal.

Using brownfield land	The Plan gives high priority to the use and regeneration of brownfield land (Policies E7 and BE1)
Promoting mixed use	The Plan includes policies that promote mixed, business, education and residential uses whilst maintaining green spaces (Policy BE1).
Conserving heritage	Preservation and restoration of heritage sites is an essential component of the B&DNP vision and principles. Conservation is supported by policies BE2, E4 to E10, AS9.
Encourage sustainable transport	The plan includes small developments within easy walking distance of all essential village facilities (Policies H1 and H2) and includes policy CWB3 to encourage walking and cycling. Assessment of the impact of development on traffic flow is an integral part of policies T1 to T4.
Health and social and cultural wellbeing	The Plan specifies small developments that are easily integrated socially, designed to maintain a demographic balance, close to essential health, education and cultural facilities (Policies H1 and H2), and supports community well-being (Policies CWB1 to CWB4)

Section 2: Conformity of the B&DNP with Swale Borough Council planning strategy

The NPPF paragraph 184 requires neighbourhood plans to be prepared in general conformity with the ‘strategic’ policies in the development plan for the local area. The next section illustrates how the vision, principles, objectives and policies of the B&DNP both conform to and help to support the core policies Borough’s adopted Borough Local Plan, which are the context in which the Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan was produced, and have regard to the policies and proposals of the emerging local plan review.

2.1 Conformity with Swale’s Settlement Strategy as set out in the approved Local Plan

Paragraph 4.3.9 of Swale’s approved Local Plan says: *Evidence strongly points to the principle of steering the largest scales of growth to reflect the existing largest concentrations of population, where services, employment and transport choices are present. This means that the urban centres and the larger well-connected villages occupy the higher settlement tiers, whilst those with strong environmental character, poorer access to services and/or limited capacity for change generally occupy the lower. Settlements are assigned to the tiers as shown in Table 4.3.1, (see extract below) with the strategy directing amounts of development on a descending scale; in other words, the lower the tier of settlement, the reduced amount of development envisaged.*

Settlement tier	Role	Name of Settlement
Rural Local Service Centres	<i>Provides most or all of the following: primary health care, education, organised sport and recreational facilities, food and other shopping, pub, post office and place of worship. Mostly, accessible by frequent (hourly) bus and/or train services. Usually on main transport corridors which contributes to the range of services. Likely to be serving passing, home, visiting and surrounding rural populations for day-to-day services, with some sharing of services with nearby smaller settlements. Populations will travel to other centres for more major shopping, leisure and employment needs.</i>	<u>Boughton,</u> Eastchurch, Iwade, Leysdown, Newington, Teynham.
Other villages with built-up area boundaries	<i>A variety of settlements. The more sustainable provide primary education, recreation area, a shop, and accessible by bus or train (of reasonable frequency). Currently less sustainable villages will be without one or more of these services, with little or no public transport or relatively remote from their nearest urban centre or main transport corridor. Single or occasional clusters of villages may contain limited day to day services for their home communities, whilst others lack these services or are only able to improve them with new investment. Populations will travel to other centres for more major shopping, leisure and employment needs, whilst less sustainable locations will need to travel to meet even day to day needs.</i>	Bapchild, Bayview, Borden, Bredgar, Conyer, Doddington, <u>Dunkirk,</u> Eastling, Hartlip, Lewson Street, Lower Halstow, Lynsted, Neames Forstal, Newnham, Oare, Painter's Forstal, Rodmersham Green, Selling, Sheldwich Lees, Upchurch and Warden Bay.

2.2 In relation to the rural service centres, the Local Plan says: “these villages vary in the scale of opportunities available and in their relationships with nearby communities.”

2.3 For Boughton, it says: “There are some minor opportunities for development, but its setting and the valued habitats and landscapes around the village constrain its major expansion. Given its population, local services are not as extensive as other centres and could be enhanced. Although not a service centre, the future and health of nearby Dunkirk is closely linked with that of its larger neighbour and both will be considered through a Neighbourhood Plan.”

2.4 The Swale Local Plan already includes three sites for housing development in Boughton:

Colonel's Lane, Boughton	<p>Two sites, estimated to be capable of accommodating a total of 21 houses:</p> <p>Through an integrated landscape strategy achieve a high standard of substantial landscaping and built design to create attractive views of the site from the A2. Could require a new access adjacent to Chestnut Cottage, which is located in Boughton Street conservation area. Development will need to consider the impact of the development upon the setting of the conservation area and ensure the development preserves or enhances its setting.</p> <p>Lying close to the A2 Watling Street, a planning application for development proposals on this site will need to have considered the possibility of archaeological remains.</p>
Bull Lane, Boughton	<p>One site estimated to be capable of accommodating a total of 16 houses:</p> <p>Through an integrated landscape strategy, create a new attractive village edge and achieve its integration within adjacent open landscapes with substantial landscape and good built design that minimises visual impact on local landscape designation.</p>

2.5 B&DNP response: The B&DNP plans for 47-49 new dwellings to be built by 2031. This number includes already allocated sites for new build of a total of 37 houses on sites in Bull Lane and Colonels Lane as already allocated in the Local Plan, with the addition of a further 10-12 houses or bungalows adjacent to the Colonels Lane site. These numbers represent a small contribution to the Borough housing stock, but will result in a significant, but sustainable increase in the size of Boughton village.

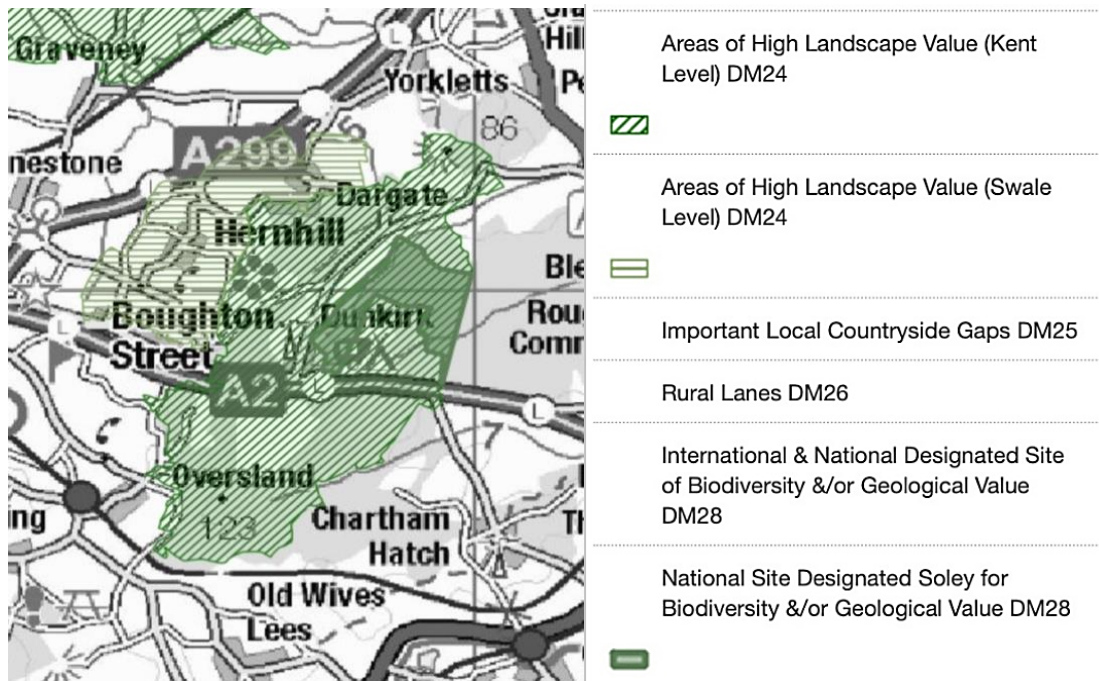
Areas of High Landscape and Biodiversity Value

2.6 Special Landscape Areas were first designated 30 years ago (as Kent-wide strategic policy) and their detailed boundaries defined by successive Local Plans. In the Local Plan they are described as Areas of High Landscape Value - Kent Level, one of which - Blean Woods, is in the B&DNP area.

2.7 In the Local Plan there are further areas described as Areas of High Landscape Value; Swale Level one of which is land between Boughton Street, Hernhill, Dargate and Staplestreet. Within these Local Landscape Areas, Swale Policy DM 24 requires development proposals to be considered in relation to the extent to which they would protect the local landscape character and enhance the future appearance of the designated landscape and, where relevant, its nature conservation interest.

2.8 Areas of High Landscape Value (Kent and Swale Level) are designated as significant for both conservation and enhancement of the landscape where there should be avoidance, minimisation, and mitigation of adverse landscape impacts as appropriate.

2.9 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are areas which have been given special protection under the European Union’s Habitats Directive. They provide increased protection to a variety of wild animals, plants and habitats. SACs are designated at the Blean complex due to its ancient oak and *hornbeam* woodland and because it supports a good population of the rare *heath fritillary* butterfly.



2.10 B&DNP response: These special landscape areas are given protection in the B&DNP.

2.11 Core Policies of the Swale Local Plan and the emerging local plan review and their relation to the B&DNP

One of the place-based objectives of the Swale Local Plan was to address identified needs in our rural communities so that they are sustained in ways that also respect their scale and character. Its vision requires a settlement strategy that will direct the greatest scale of growth to the most sustainable locations, as represented by a hierarchy of settlements - the main urban areas as the main focus for development, Rural Service centres (of which Boughton is one, providing for local housing and/or employment needs for their home and surrounding communities, and other villages with built-up area boundaries (which includes Dunkirk) providing development on minor infill within the built-up area boundaries.

Policies of the Local Plan “Core Strategy”, identified by Swale Borough Council, that apply to this Neighbourhood Plan and their relationship to the B&DNP are summarised as follows:

Core Planning Policies in the Local Plan – Bearing Fruits	B&DNP Policies that support the core strategy
<p>ST1: Delivering sustainable development in Swale - the broad issues.</p> <p>ST2: Development targets for jobs and homes 2014-2031 - Objectively Assessed Needs.</p> <p>ST3: The Swale settlement strategy - the Borough’s settlement hierarchy with Sittingbourne, as the principal town for the Borough, the main focus for development followed by the urban centres of Faversham and Sheerness then the Rural Local Service Centres and other villages with built up confines. The policy sets out the circumstances in which development in the countryside would be permitted.</p>	<p>The Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development in the framework of national and local planning policies, and in particular recognising and working within the Swale settlement strategy and Local Plan whereby the following principles apply:</p> <p>The Rural Local Service Centres (of which Boughton is one) will provide the third focus for growth in the Borough and the primary focus for the rural area. At sites relating well to the existing settlement pattern and the character of the surrounding countryside, development will provide for local housing and/or employment needs for their home and surrounding communities, whilst supporting existing and new services. (Policies H1, H2, BE1)</p> <p>Other villages with built-up area boundaries, as shown on the 'Local Plan Proposals Map, (which includes Dunkirk) will provide development on minor infill and redevelopment sites within the built-up area boundaries where compatible with the settlement's character, amenity, heritage or biodiversity value (Policies E7, E8, E9, E10, BE1).</p> <p>On sites adjacent to a built-up area boundary, related to the existing settlement pattern and the character of the surrounding countryside, modest development will be permitted that meets a recognised community need that cannot be met elsewhere and reinforces or enhances the settlements sustainable characteristics (Policies E7, E9, E10, BE1).</p> <p>Locations outside the built-up area boundaries shown on the Local Plan Proposals Map fall in the open countryside where development will not normally be permitted, unless supported by national planning policy and able to demonstrate that it would contribute to protecting and where appropriate enhancing the intrinsic value, tranquillity and beauty of the countryside, its</p>

	buildings, and the vitality of rural communities. (Policies E1, E2, E4, E9)
ST4: Meeting the Local Plan development targets	The B&DNP was not required to contribute to the overall targets, but nonetheless, to assist in addressing the need for new housing, in conjunction with the three sites at Bull Lane and Colonels Lane carried forward from the current Local Plan, an additional site at Colonels Lane, suitable for 10-12 homes is proposed. (Policy H2)
CP1: Building a strong competitive economy	Policies BE1, BE2 and BE3 set out the criteria against which development proposals for employment related uses will be assessed. They seek to encourage sustainable expansion of present enterprises either on present sites or alternative sites, bring back into viable use neglected or redundant buildings and ensure that any commercial development does not have a negative impact upon parking or traffic flow within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
CP2: Promoting sustainable transport	<p>The B&DNP supports this policy by promoting a balanced approach to an improved transport infrastructure, with an emphasis on balancing development pressures against the effect on traffic flow. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy T1 - any new developments will be limited by the capacity and nature of the road network to accommodate them. • Policy H2 - locating housing sites close to essential village facilities to encourage walking and cycling. • Policy T3 - any new developments to have sufficient dedicated on-site parking spaces to avoid the need for parking on adjacent roads • Policy T4 - encouraging car sharing, creation of a properly surface and managed car parking area Brenley Lane and resisting lorry parking proposals there.
CP3: Delivering a wide choice of high-quality homes	<p>The B&DNP supports this policy with policies for affordable, social and open-market housing (Policy H1) and with an emphasis on meeting the local needs expressed in the consultations. (Policy H2)</p> <p>The Plan specifies developments that are easily integrated socially, designed to maintain a</p>

	demographic balance, close to essential health, education and cultural facilities.
CP4: Requiring good design	The Plan has policies for new housing (Policies H1 and H2), which specify high development standards. New developments are sited close to essential village services and Policy E10 expects high levels of resource efficiency to be demonstrated in any application for development. Policies E1, E2, E3, E4, E5 and E9 seek protection and enhancement of the environmental quality of the area and specify that proposals for new or extended development should demonstrate how they have had regard to and reflect the guidelines for the landscape character area in which they fall. Policies E9 and E10 require that any full planning application for development must contain sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposal is of high-quality design and appropriate to its surroundings. Proposals for development within or visible from the Conservation Areas and their setting must have regard to the principles set out in the Boughton Conservation Area Appraisals.
CP5: Health and wellbeing	The plan has human health and wellbeing at its heart – fostering access to amenities, healthier forms of transport, and mixed and cohesive communities designed for social interaction. Policies CWB1 aims to promote exercise and footpath trails. Policies CWB2 and CWB4 focus on improving sports facilities, and Policy CWB 3 aims to ensure bridleways and footpaths are maintained in good order and where possible provide cycle trails. Policy E3 aims to protect green spaces from development.
CP6: Community facilities and services to meet local needs	The B&DNP supports this policy by encouraging the provision of sports facilities and community facilities (Policies CWB1, CWB2, CWB3 and CWB4) and the creation of an integrated and connected network of green spaces (Policy E3) to provide a framework for growth - helping serve the recreational needs of the community, enhancing biodiversity and providing green routes for pedestrians and cyclists.

<p>CP7: Conserving and enhancing the natural environment - providing for green infrastructure</p>	<p>The Plan includes policies (E1, E2, E3, E4 and E6) to protect the landscape and tranquil rural nature of the villages, the surrounding countryside, and particularly the protection of the landscape in the area between the A2 and Boughton Village by its designation as Local Green Space. Policies E9 and AS1 to AS9 set out guidelines for a number of Landscape Areas. Policy E9 seeks to maintain the traditional pattern of growth which characterises the parishes of Boughton and Dunkirk, which is one of small scale and gradual change. Policy E3 identifies and seeks to protect from development several incidental green spaces within the villages.</p>
<p>CP8: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p>	<p>Preservation and restoration of heritage sites is an essential component of the B&DNP vision and principles. Conservation Area Appraisals for the three Conservation Areas are woven into the plan, and are included as Background Document BD8 and are supported by the other environment policies (E1 to E10 and AS9) as well as the policies on traffic and transport (T1 and T2) which seek to reduce the adverse effects of traffic on our villages. Preservation of historic built landscapes and the setting of the Conservation Area covered by Policies E6 and E9 in accordance with the Boughton Street Conservation Appraisal.</p>

2.12 The plan has been developed in close consultation with Swale Borough Council, and a Statement of Common Ground has been agreed, which follows.

Section 3: EU Obligations

3.1 Environmental Impact and Habitat Regulations

The plan includes new housing site allocations but as none of the development proposals affect Special Areas of Conservation a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was judged not to be required as part of the preparation of the neighbourhood development plan, thereby fulfilling EU obligations.

A neighbourhood plan also has to be compatible with EU and European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) obligations. It is confirmed that the B&DNP has been prepared with regard to the fundamental rights and freedoms as guaranteed under the ECHR.



**Statement of Common Ground between Boughton and Dunkirk
Neighbourhood Planning Team, Boughton and Dunkirk Parish Councils
and Swale Borough Council.**

MEETING MINUTES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Reason for the Statement of Common Ground	Date / Reference
NP designation was agreed at the Local Development Framework Panel meeting.	19/09/2013. Page 50 of the B&DNP: Designation letter.
Clare Dethier appointed to advise NP Team	Meeting minutes 13/06/2013.
Advice on constitution before adoption.	Meeting minutes 11/12/2013.
Conservation Area Assessments	Meeting minutes 02/04/2015.
Julie Davis appointed to advise NP Team (replaced Claire Dethier).	Meeting minutes 24/06/2015.
Meeting with James Freeman to receive advice on NPs: Affordable Housing; Conservation Area Assessments finalisation; Site Allocations; Education implications.	18/12/2015. Meeting minutes 16/12/2016 & 17/02/2016.
Conservation Area Character Assessments	2016 BD8
Rural Landscape Area Assessments	2016 BD9
Landscape Character Assessments	2016 BD10
Site selection methodology in compliance with locality best practice.	30/01/2016. Call for sites BD13.
The NP is prepared in conformity with adopted Local Plan and gives due regard to the emerging LPR.	17/07/2017: adoption date of Bearing Fruits 2031.
Submission of draft NP for consideration.	Early 2019 [now amended but available on request].
Jill Peet appointed to advise (replaced Julie Davis).	May 2021 Meeting minutes 11/06/2021.
Health Check application made.	Meeting minutes 20/07/2021.
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting and also undertook a tour of the villages to better understand the NP designation area.	Meeting minutes 08/07/2021.
SBC undertook a SEA scoping exercise for the NP concluding a full SEA was not required. This was confirmed by the relevant statutory consultees.	08/09/2021. Consultation Statement BD17 Appendix 6.
Remote meeting with Jill Peet and the B&DNP Team to discuss the Health Check report.	Meeting minutes 04/10/2021.

Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to further discuss the Health Check report; team tasks were assigned.	Meeting minutes 21/10/2021.
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to discuss and to advise on amending the Housing section.	Meeting minutes 22/11/2021.
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to discuss and advise on amending sections: Introduction, Aim, Vision Statement and Key Objectives, Traffic and Transportation. The first part of the Housing section needs further amendments, Jill to advise on some policy points at the next meeting.	Meeting minutes 31/01/2022.
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to discuss and advise on amending sections: Business and Employment, Community Wellbeing and Health, Educational Provision. Further tasks were assigned in order help complete various outstanding points.	Meeting minutes 22/02/2022.
Jill Peet and Frances Holliday [NP team member] met remotely to advise on the Equalities Impact Assessment form and Statement of Common Ground [to be completed once Plan is finalised].	25/02/2022.
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to discuss and advise on amending sections: Housing and Environment. Further tasks were assigned in order help complete various outstanding points.	28/03/2022
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to advise on finalising sections: Housing and Environment. Further discussion took place and tasks were assigned in order help complete various outstanding points.	14/04/2022
SBC SPD Parking Standards. B&DNP Team amended these to better suit the parishes.	14/04/2022 See BD4
Equalities Impact Assessment form completed.	14/04/2022 See BD15
B&DNP Housing policy H1 requires all dwellings to be Buildings regulations Part M compliant against advice from SBC.	14/04/2022 See BD5
The NP Team members are against strategic development proposals between Faversham and Boughton. Despite strong community feeling, the NP Team reluctantly accept this cannot be addressed through the NP.	14/04/2022

It was agreed that the NP team will work with SBC to agree a locally important countryside gap through the local plan process.	16/05/2022
Jill Peet attended B&DNP Team meeting to discuss and advise on finalising the NP prior to submission.	16/05/2022

Name	Designation	Date
Jeff Tutt 	Chairman, B&DNP Team	17/05/2022
Jill Peet 	Planning Policy Manager, Swale Borough Council	16/05/2022

Equality Impact Assessment

Lead officer:	Jeff Tutt [chairman]
Decision maker:	Boughton & Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan Team
People involved:	Boughton & Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan Team
Decision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy, project, service, contract • Review, change, new, stop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Plan • New
Date of decision: The date when the final decision is made. The EIA must be complete before this point and inform the final decision.	TBA
Summary of the decision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims and objectives • Key actions • Expected outcomes • Who will be affected and how? • How many people will be affected? 	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver sustainable development 2. Increase housing supply, including affordable housing 3. Improve local neighbourhoods 4. Support vulnerable people 5. Tackle disadvantage and improve quality of life <p>Key action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out a suite of Neighbourhood Plan policies to deliver the above <p>Expected outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the above objectives <p>Who will be affected and how?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan delivering local and sustainable community objectives <p>People affected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The communities of Boughton and Dunkirk parishes
Information and research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the information and research that has informed the decision, including sources and key findings. • Include information on how the decision will affect people with different protected characteristics. 	<p>Background documents & consultation response. NPPF 2021, NPPG and all other relevant legislation.</p> <p>Key findings are set out in the evidence base.</p> <p>The Plans objectives do not discriminate but actively support all protected characteristics.</p>
Consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has there been specific consultation on this decision? • What were the results of the consultation? 	<p>Consultation:</p> <p>Public Community and Statutory Consultations (including SBC)</p> <p>Community paper questionnaires</p> <p>Online questionnaire</p> <p>Open days</p> <p>Leaflet drops</p> <p>Consultation results:</p> <p>Information from both parishes required to draft the Neighbourhood Plan to suit the communities' needs and aspirations.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the consultation analysis reveal any difference in views across the protected characteristics? Can any conclusions be drawn from the analysis on how the decision will affect people with different protected characteristics? 	<p>The consultation analysis revealed no difference in views across the protected characteristics</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will not adversely affect people with different protected characteristics. The Neighbourhood Plan actively seeks to deliver greater inclusivity through its housing policies.</p>
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Is the decision relevant to the aims of the equality duty?	
Guidance on the aims can be found in the EHRC's PSED Technical Guidance - https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/advice-and-guidance/equality-act-technical-guidance	
Aim	Yes/No
1) Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation	No
2) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it	Yes
3) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it	No

Assess the relevance of the decision to people with different protected characteristics and assess the impact of the decision on people with different protected characteristics.		
When assessing relevance and impact, make it clear who the assessment applies to within the protected characteristic category. For example, a decision may have high relevance for young people but low relevance for older people; it may have a positive impact on women but a neutral impact on men.		
Characteristic	Relevance to decision High/Medium/Low/None	Impact of decision Positive/Negative/Neutral
Age	Medium	Positive
Disability	Medium	Positive
Gender reassignment	None	Neutral
Marriage and civil partnership	None	Neutral
Pregnancy and maternity	None	Neutral
Ethnicity	None	Neutral
Religion or belief	None	Neutral
Gender	None	Neutral
Sexual orientation	None	Neutral
Other socially excluded groups ¹	None	Neutral

<p>Conclusion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider how due regard has been had to the equality duty, from start to finish. 	<p>Summarise this conclusion in the body of your report</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan has been created for the benefit of the whole community, including those with different protected characteristics, those geographically isolated from services, with low literacy skills, living in poverty and with low incomes.</p>
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¹ Other socially excluded groups could include those with literacy issues, people living in poverty or on low incomes or people who are geographically isolated from services

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be no unlawful discrimination arising from the decision (see PSED Technical Guidance). <p>Advise on the overall equality implications that should be taken into account in the final decision, considering relevance and impact.</p>	<p>I can confirm that no discrimination has taken place in designing the document and the decisions taken.</p> <p>The NP Team are aware of the need to consider all sectors of the communities including those areas with protected characteristics.</p>
<p>Date of EIA form completion</p>	<p>14/04/2022</p>