

Issues	Aims and Objectives	NPPF	SKDC policy	Evidence or other policy documents	Suggested Neighbourhood Plan Policy
<p>Design Guidance</p> <p>Local List of positive unlisted buildings</p>	<p>Character and Built Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting of the three main settlements</li> <li>Prioritising local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth</li> </ul>	<p><b>NPPF Glossary</b></p> <p><b>Heritage asset:</b> A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).</p> <p><b>Core Planning Principles (para 17)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings;</li> <li>take account of the different roles and character of different areas, promoting the vitality of our main urban areas, protecting the Green Belts around them, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it;</li> <li>conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations;</li> </ul> <p><b>12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</b></p> <p>126. Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into</p>	<p><b>EN1: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT</b></p> <p>South Kesteven’s Landscape Character Areas are identified on the map [following paragraph 4.1.10]. Development must be appropriate to the character and significant natural, historic and cultural attributes and features of the landscape within which it is situated, and contribute to its conservation, enhancement or restoration. All development proposals and site allocations will be assessed in relation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>statutory, national and local designations of landscape features, including natural and historic assets</li> <li>local distinctiveness and sense of place</li> <li>historic character, patterns and attributes of the landscape</li> <li>the layout and scale of buildings and designed spaces</li> <li>the quality and character of the built fabric and their settings</li> <li>the condition of the landscape</li> <li>biodiversity and ecological networks within the landscape</li> <li>public access to and community value of the landscape</li> <li>remoteness and tranquillity</li> <li>visual intrusion</li> <li>noise and light pollution</li> <li>Conservation Area Appraisals and Village Design Statements, where these have been adopted by the Council</li> <li>impact on controlled waters</li> <li>protection of existing open space (including allotments and public open space, and open spaces important to the character, setting and separation of built-up areas)</li> </ol> <p><b>H1 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>New housing development in South Kesteven during the period 2006 – 2026 should be planned and phased to deliver the minimum level of housing development required by the Regional Plan.</p> <p>To achieve the proper distribution of development across the District during the plan period development targets have been set for each town, the Local Service Centres and the rural areas. Any additional housing growth proposed for the District throughout</p>	<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <p>Consultation responses indicate strong support for design guidance.</p> <p><b>Evidence Base Research</b></p> <p>Consideration of local characteristics and historic environment (inc Conservation Area and Listed Buildings as well as positive unlisted buildings) in evidence base research.</p> <p><b>Landscape Character Assessment</b></p> <p>B1 – Any new development should respect the style and scale of the existing properties and villages.</p> <p>Through reviews of planning applications, all development including conversions, extensions and any new development should ensure that the scale of buildings do not change the existing characteristics of the villages and that building materials, including boundary treatments (front / side walls, fences etc) are in keeping with the prevailing materials within each village. The impact of any other developments such as solar or wind generation should be considered with specific reference to the amenity and setting of residential properties.</p> <p>B2 – New development should not significantly affect the existing village envelopes. To avoid change in the character and scale of the villages any new development should be carefully located on previously developed (brownfield) land.</p> <p>B3 – Maintain the distinctive pattern of open spaces within the villages. Efforts should be made to ensure that the undeveloped land within the villages including the greens and other open spaces remain intact to retain the existing character and structure of the villages.</p>	<p><i>Policy HoH1 Supporting Text</i></p> <p><i>Define appropriate uses. Summarise locally important features.</i></p> <p><b>Policy HoH1</b></p> <p><b><i>New development for appropriate uses, which are in accordance with the other policies of this plan, will be supported where it can be demonstrated that opportunities to enrich the landscape and built setting of Hough on the Hill, Gelston and/or Brandon have been incorporated.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Locally important features and characteristics against which any development will be assessed are clearly defined in this Neighbourhood Plan and its evidence base and development which appropriately responds to these will be supported.</i></b></p> <p><i>Policy HoH2 Supporting Text</i></p> <p><i>Summarise outcomes of Conservation Area Appraisal and role of Design Principles/Guide. Also summarise the assessment criteria from SKDC Policy EN1.</i></p> <p><b>Policy HoH2</b></p> <p><b><i>New development should be sympathetic to the existing form, scale and character of its location and be appropriate to its rural context. Development should respond to the character of both the built and natural environment.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Materials and boundary</i></b></p>

	<p>account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●● the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;</li> <li>●● the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;</li> <li>●● the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and</li> <li>●● opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.</li> </ul> <p>129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.</p> <p>131. In determining planning applications, local planning authorities should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●● the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;</li> <li>●● the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and</li> <li>●● the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.</li> </ul> <p>132. When considering the impact of a</p>	<p>the plan period should be distributed in a similar manner following the framework set out below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plan for a modest level of development within the more sustainable villages identified as <b>Local Service Centres</b> to enable them to continue to function as sustainable local centres.</li> <li>● <b>Restrict new housing development in all other areas to affordable local need housing, agricultural / forestry workers accommodation and conversions in accordance with policy SP1 spatial strategy.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>H3: AFFORDABLE HOUSING</b> In addition, the Council will seek to identify suitable opportunities to deliver about 10 rural affordable housing units each year through the allocation of rural exception sites within or adjacent to the smaller villages which are not identified as Local Service Centres or towns.</p> <p><b>In addition to allocated sites, rural exception schemes which are located in or adjacent to a smaller village will be considered acceptable where the scheme clearly meets a proven need for local affordable housing. Such houses should be available in perpetuity for local need. Sites should be suitable for development in all other respects and meet all other policy requirements for development.</b></p> <p>Together with Registered Housing Providers (RHPs) and land owners the council aims to deliver additional affordable housing in the rural area to meet identified local need. To achieve this, the Council will investigate and identify specific sites or areas of search to allocate specifically for local affordable housing development (exception sites).</p> <p>In negotiating the level of affordable housing on sites, the Council will have regard to the overall viability of individual development schemes. An Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document will set out in detail how these requirements will be calculated on a site by site basis.</p> <p><b>Other Policy Documents</b></p>	<p><b>SKDC Conservation Area Appraisal (Draft)</b></p>	<p><i>treatments should sympathetic to the character of the part of the Neighbourhood Plan area in which they are proposed.</i></p> <p><i>Development which has been designed in accordance with the Hough on the Hill Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidance/Principles (date) will be supported.</i></p> <p><i>HoH3 Supporting text</i></p> <p><i>(clarify list and definition of heritage asset in the supporting text)</i></p> <p><b>Policy HoH3: Conservation Area</b></p> <p><b>New development will be permitted within the Conservation Area where:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>It aims to make a positive contribution to character and local distinctiveness of the Conservation Area.</i></li> <li>● <i>It is sympathetic to the site's context and to the characteristics which are unique to the Hough on the Hill Conservation Area.</i></li> <li>● <i>It does not cause harm to the character or appearance of the Conservation Area or its setting.</i></li> <li>● <i>It uses materials which are appropriate to the Conservation Area.</i></li> <li>● <i>It's scale and form are appropriate to the Conservation Area and its setting..</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Policy HoH4</b></p>
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	<p>proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.</p> <p>133. Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●● the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and</li> <li>●● no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and</li> <li>●● conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and</li> <li>●● the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.</li> </ul> <p>134. Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the</p>	<p><b>SKDC Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document (June 2013)</b> Box2</p> <p>Site selection shall have regard to the local landscape character. The LVIA or landscape and visual assessment/appraisal shall show how the location takes into account local landscape character and addresses the points outlined in paragraph 3.2.8 above.</p>		<p><b>Development which would result in the loss of all or part of a heritage asset will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that the public benefits would be outweighed by this harm.</b></p> <p><i>HoH5 Supporting Text</i></p> <p><i>Include list of buildings/reference to buildings.</i></p> <p><b>HoH5 Listed Buildings</b></p> <p><b>New development will be supported where it would improve, restore or maintain the fabric of a listed building,</b></p> <p><b>Development which would have a negative or harmful impact on a listed building or its setting will not be supported unless a clear justification is presented that there would be substantial public benefits which would outweigh the loss or harm to the building.</b></p> <p><i>HoH6 Supporting Text</i></p> <p><i>(clarify list and definition of non-designated heritage assets/locally distinctive buildings in the supporting text)</i></p> <p><b>Policy HoH6: Positive Unlisted Buildings or buildings on the Local List</b></p> <p><b>New development will be supported where it would improve, restore or maintain a positive unlisted building/locally listed building or any other structure of local significance as identified within any other appropriately evidenced list.</b></p>
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		<p>public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.</p> <p>135. The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.</p> <p>136. Local planning authorities should not permit loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred.</p>			<p><i>Development which would have a harmful impact on a building or structure of this type or its setting will not be supported unless a clear justification is presented which explains how the benefits would outweigh the loss or harm.</i></p> <p><b>Policy HoH7</b></p> <p><b>Affordable housing will be supported within the village where:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>It meets a defined local need;</i></li> <li>• <i>It is within or adjacent to the existing village envelopes of the Parish;</i></li> <li>• <i>It is on a previously-developed site or it can be clearly demonstrated that there are no other more sustainable sites available;</i></li> <li>• <i>It has been designed in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan Design Principles/Guidance (date); and</i></li> <li>• <i>It is in accordance with the other design policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.</i></li> </ul>
<p>Design Guidance</p>	<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting jobs and supporting sustainable economic development</li> </ul>	<p>20. To help achieve economic growth, local planning authorities should plan proactively to meet the development needs of business and support an economy fit for the 21st century.</p> <p>28. Planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new</p>	<p><b>E1 EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT</b></p> <p>To meet the objectives of the Council's Economic Development Strategy and the Sustainable Community Plan the Council will ensure that a portfolio of land and buildings, with a range of sizes, uses and locations, with access to a good transport network is available to ensure a successful, competitive and well-balanced business environment.</p> <p>The Council's objective to broaden and</p>		<p><b>Policy HoH8</b></p> <p><b>Proposals for appropriate rural diversification within the Parish will be supported where;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>It is in accordance with the design and natural environment policies of the</i></li> </ul>



		<p>development. To promote a strong rural economy, local and neighbourhood plans should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●● support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas, both through conversion of existing buildings and well designed new buildings;</li> <li>●● promote the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses;</li> <li>●● support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors, and which respect the character of the countryside. This should include supporting the provision and expansion of tourist and visitor facilities in appropriate locations where identified needs are not met by existing facilities in rural service centres; and</li> <li>●● promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.</li> </ul>	<p>diversify the employment bases of the District will be delivered by identifying development opportunities and sites for specific employment sectors within Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings, and by encouraging appropriate employment, tourist related opportunities and appropriate diversification schemes in rural areas.</p> <p>Specific sites will be allocated for employment land use in the Site Specific Allocations and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan based on the following hierarchy:</p> <p>Within the rural areas new employment development that meets a local need will generally be supported within local service centres, providing that the proposals will not have an adverse impact on the character and setting of the village, or negatively impact on neighbouring land uses through visual, noise, traffic or pollution impacts.</p> <p>Outside Local Service Centres, rural diversification proposals will be supported where it can be demonstrated that it is necessary to meet the needs of farming, forestry, recreation, tourism or other enterprises and has an essential requirement for a rural location. Such proposals would need to demonstrate that they will help to support or regenerate a sustainable rural economy.</p> <p><b>Policy SAP4: Business Development in the Countryside (Including Rural Diversification Schemes)</b></p> <p>Outside the towns and Local Service Centres proposals for the following types of small business schemes will be supported, provided that it is demonstrated that the business will help to support, or regenerate the rural economy: Farming; Forestry; Equine; Rural enterprise; Sport and Recreation; Tourism.</p> <p>Proposals must demonstrate that they meet all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be of a scale appropriate to the rural location.</li> <li>• be for a use(s) which is(are) appropriate or necessary in a rural location.</li> <li>• provide local employment opportunities which make a</li> </ul>		<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan; and</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>It is located on previously developed land or a clear justification that no other more sustainable sites are available is provided.</i></b></li> </ul>
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			<p>positive contribution to supporting the rural economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the use / development respects the character and appearance of the local landscape, having particular regard to the Landscape Character Assessment.</li> <li>will not negatively impact on existing neighbouring uses through noise, traffic, light and pollution impacts.</li> <li>avoids harm to areas, features or species which are protected because they are important for wildlife, biodiversity, natural, cultural or historic assets, including their wider settings.</li> </ul> <p>Schemes will also be required to ensure that the development meets the requirements of national and local planning policies which control the form, scale, design and impact of new development.</p> <p>Any new building or extension to an existing building will only be permitted where it is clearly demonstrated that it is an essential element of the viability of the business proposal. The scale, design and construction of any new building or extension must be appropriate to its rural setting and fully justified by the business proposal.</p>		
<p>Local Green Space</p>	<p><b>Green Spaces</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting greenspace, and supporting nature conservation and biodiversity</li> </ul>	<p>– Paragraph 109 of Section 11 in the NPPF requires that the planning system should ‘contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by’ - ‘minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;</p>	<p><b>EN1: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT</b></p> <p>South Kesteven's Landscape Character Areas are identified on the map [following paragraph 4.1.10]. Development must be appropriate to the character and significant natural, historic and cultural attributes and features of the landscape within which it is situated, and contribute to its conservation, enhancement or restoration.</p> <p>All development proposals and site allocations will be assessed in relation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>statutory, national and local designations of landscape features, including natural and historic assets</li> <li>the condition of the landscape</li> <li>biodiversity and ecological networks within the landscape</li> <li>protection of existing open space (including allotments and public open space, and open spaces important to the character, setting and separation of built-up areas)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <p>Very strong support for Loveden Hill to be designated as Local Greenspace through consultation. Other potential sites identified.</p> <p><b>Landscape Character Assessment</b></p> <p>C1 - Maintain existing hedgerows, trees and woodland and where possible encourage the planting of new trees and hedgerows. Where appropriate, the Parish Council should encourage enhancements to the biodiversity of the area through the retention of existing vegetation and promotion of new planting, where possible using seeds / cuttings established from local sources. The responsibility for implementing this will be largely with private landowners.</p> <p>C2 - Monitor trees for signs of disease. As trees are such a highly valued resource,</p>	<p><b>Policy HoH9:</b></p> <p><i>The Neighbourhood Plan designates Loveden Hill as a Local Green Space as shown on the Proposals Map.</i></p> <p><b>NB This policy will need to be supported by a summary paper assessing the site and presenting case in favour for its designation. If more than one site is to be proposed, these can be added to this policy and also onto the Proposals Map and supporting justification document.</b></p> <p><b>Policy HoH10</b></p> <p><i>New development must be appropriate to the character, natural, historic and cultural attributes and features of the</i></p>

efforts should be taken by the landowners and those using footpaths etc. to assist in the monitoring and identification of diseased trees. Information on identifying such diseases could be made available to residents (possibly through links to existing on-line resources). In order to maintain the level of tree cover in the longer term, the planting of disease resistant species to replace those under threat should be positively encouraged.

C3 - Maintain the character, setting and views of the parish. The views to and from the rural, undeveloped landscape have been identified as intrinsic and special aspects of the area. The character of the landscape and setting of villages and natural features, in particular Loveden Hill, are all highly valued. Care should be taken to maintain the character of the landscape, the setting of the villages and the quality and nature of the views. When reviewing planning applications the Parish Council should consider the appropriateness or otherwise of any development with a view to avoiding change to the unspoilt and open nature of the area and views to and from it. To avoid harm, larger scale buildings and structures which will be out of keeping with the openness and unencumbered views should be avoided.

C4 – Local Green Space Review – Through public consultation, a number of open spaces have been identified as being distinct and significant in the local area. Loveden Hill has been highlighted as an important local feature within the landscape and the historic significance as well as physical attributes are both highly valued by local residents. The Parish Council might usefully consider whether or not the hill could be designated as a scheduled ancient monument and also, due to its local value, consider applying for the hill to be designated as a Local Green Space under the provisions set out in the NPPF. Other areas such as the open spaces within Brandon could also be reviewed to assess appropriate designations.

***parish's landscape. Developments must respect the landscape character of the parish and its settlements, as defined within the Landscape Character Assessment (October 2013) and incorporate features which contribute to the conservation, enhancement or restoration of these features.***

***In particular, new development should, wherever possible:***

- Maintain existing hedgerows, trees and woodland and encourage the planting of new trees and hedgerows. Where new trees are proposed, these should wherever possible, be appropriate disease resistant species.***

***Policy HoH11***

***Maintain the important features which define the character and setting of the parish and which are set out within the Hough on the Hill Landscape Character Assessment (October 2013). In particular, development which would impact on views into and out of the villages and hamlets, should demonstrate that these features have been sensitively and appropriately considered and incorporated and/or mitigated as necessary.***

<p>Renewable Energy Provision</p>	<p><b>Renewable Energy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging, where appropriate, domestic-scale energy production from renewable and low carbon sources</li> </ul>	<p><b>Core Planning Principles (para 17)</b></p> <p>support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change, and encourage the reuse of existing resources, including conversion of existing buildings, and encourage the use of renewable resources (for example, by the development of renewable energy);</p> <p>10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</p> <p>96. In determining planning applications, local planning authorities should expect new development to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•• comply with adopted Local Plan policies on local requirements for decentralised energy supply unless it can be demonstrated by the applicant, having regard to the type of development involved and its design, that this is not feasible or viable; and</li> <li>•• take account of landform, layout, building orientation, massing and landscaping to minimise energy consumption.</li> </ul> <p>97. To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy, local planning authorities should recognise the responsibility on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources. They should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a positive strategy to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources;</li> <li>• design their policies to maximise renewable and low carbon energy development while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts;</li> <li>• consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources;</li> <li>• support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy, including developments outside such areas being taken</li> </ul>	<p><b>EN3 RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION</b></p> <p>The District Council will grant planning permission for proposals to generate energy from renewable sources, subject to the proposals according with the other Core Strategy policies, national guidance and complying with the following criteria:</p> <p>The proposal can be connected efficiently to existing national grid infrastructure, unless it can be demonstrated that energy generation would be used on-site to meet the needs of a specific end user.</p> <p>The proposal should make provision for: the mitigation of the real emissions/impacts arising from the installation of the renewable energy generation the removal of the facilities and reinstatement of the site, should the facilities cease to be operational.</p>	<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <p>Majority support in questionnaire for small scale renewables if they are not visually intrusive</p>	<p><b>Policy HoH12</b></p> <p><i>New development for domestic-scale energy production from renewable and low carbon sources will be supported where:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>They relate to an existing or proposed residential property in the village;</i></li> <li>• <i>They are residential/domestic in scale;</i></li> <li>• <i>They would serve only a local/domestic need for energy generation; and</i></li> <li>• <i>They are in accordance with the Design and Natural Environment policies of the Neighbourhood Plan, including the Neighbourhood Plan Design Principles/Guidance (date).</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Policy HoH13</b></p> <p><i>Community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy will be supported where they are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In accordance with the Design and Natural Environment policies of the Neighbourhood Plan, including the Neighbourhood Plan Design Principles/Guidance (date).</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Policy HoH14</b></p>
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		forward through neighbourhood planning;			<i>Initiatives which would support local businesses and industry to develop renewable and low carbon energy and whose primary function is to support their operations will be supported.</i>
Improved access to the countryside	<p><b>Leisure and Recreation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving recreational opportunities for residents and visitors of all ages to enjoy</li> </ul>	<p>11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p> <p>109. The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;</li> <li>recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;</li> <li>minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;</li> <li>preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and</li> <li>remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.</li> </ul> <p>112. Local planning authorities should take into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land. Where significant development of agricultural land is demonstrated to be necessary, local planning authorities should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to</p>	<p><b>EN1: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT</b></p> <p>South Kesteven's Landscape Character Areas are identified on the map [following paragraph 4.1.10]. Development must be appropriate to the character and significant natural, historic and cultural attributes and features of the landscape within which it is situated, and contribute to its conservation, enhancement or restoration.</p> <p>All development proposals and site allocations will be assessed in relation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>statutory, national and local designations of landscape features, including natural and historic assets</li> <li>local distinctiveness and sense of place</li> <li>historic character, patterns and attributes of the landscape</li> <li>the layout and scale of buildings and designed spaces</li> <li>the quality and character of the built fabric and their settings</li> <li>the condition of the landscape</li> <li>biodiversity and ecological networks within the landscape</li> <li>public access to and community value of the landscape</li> <li>remoteness and tranquillity</li> <li>visual intrusion</li> <li>noise and light pollution</li> <li>Conservation Area Appraisals and Village Design Statements, where these have been adopted by the Council</li> <li>impact on controlled waters</li> <li>protection of existing open space (including allotments and public open space, and open spaces important to the character, setting and separation of built-up areas)</li> </ol>	<p><b>Landscape Character Assessment</b></p> <p>A1 - Maintain footpaths by ensuring they are easily identified and accessible year round. Efforts should be made to ensure signs are located at specific junctions or changes in direction and that, particularly where footpaths cross fields in production, a clear and accessible route is maintained. It is noted that the responsibility for implementing this may fall to individual landowners and efforts should be made to maintain dialogue with the relevant parties.</p> <p>A2 - Review the permissive rights of way. To encourage access to the countryside efforts should be made to retain access to existing permissive rights of way and review, where appropriate, the option to have these formally designated as public rights of way. Where possible circular off road routes should be encouraged for the safety and enjoyment of all users.</p> <p>A3 - Consider an increased number of bridleways. This would assist in avoiding unsafe use of roads (for riders and drivers). Where possible liaise with landowners to review the use of existing tracks and field margins to create new, safe, off-road bridleway routes.</p>	<p><b>Policy HoH15</b></p> <p><i>New development for appropriate uses, which seeks to maintain or improve access to the countryside, will be supported, where it is in accordance with the other policies of the plan. In particular, the following improvements will be sought through the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), where feasible, if/when this is adopted by South Kesteven District Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Improvements to footpath signage to ensure they are easily identified and accessible all year round.</i></li> <li><i>Wherever possible, new development should ensure that access to existing permissive rights of way are maintained.</i></li> <li><i>Wherever viable, provide linkages to existing footpaths and rights of way or create new routes if feasible.</i></li> </ul>

		that of a higher quality.			
Roads and transport  Other infrastructure	<b>Infrastructure</b>  Seeking improvements to transport, utility infrastructure and digital connectivity  Roads and transport	<b>5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure</b>  42. Advanced, high quality communications infrastructure is essential for sustainable economic growth. The development of high speed broadband technology and other communications networks also plays a vital role in enhancing the provision of local community facilities and services. 43. In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband. They should aim to keep the numbers of radio and telecommunications masts and the sites for such installations to a minimum consistent with the efficient operation of the network. Existing masts, buildings and other structures should be used, unless the need for a new site has been justified. Where new sites are required, equipment should be sympathetically designed and camouflaged where appropriate.	<b>SP3: SUSTAINABLE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT</b> In considering development proposals within the District, the council will ensure that the objectives of the most recent local transport plan for Lincolnshire are met. As part of the growth agenda for Grantham the delivery of traffic relief, including heavy goods vehicles, from the town centre will be a priority and any major development proposals within these areas will be expected to contribute towards delivering these schemes. The provision of an east-west relief road between the A1 and the A52 to the south of Grantham will be brought forward as part of the Southern Quadrant SUE to the town. The North West Quadrant sustainable urban extension will provide for the completion of the Pennine Way Link between the A52 and the B1174.  The Council will also encourage the creation of a sustainable, modern transport network across the district by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promoting the location of development in areas which are particularly accessible by public transport, cycling and walking, whilst recognising that development which is necessary in rural areas may only be accessible by the motor car;</li> <li>• promoting a balanced mix of land uses and patterns of development which reduces the need to travel by car;</li> <li>• promoting and assisting journeys by public transport, cycling, mobility aids and walking, by making them accessible, safe, convenient and as attractive as possible (this may be secured either through the use of conditions or planning obligations);</li> <li>• securing transport statements and travel plans where appropriate and requiring the preparation of transport assessments for all developments that are likely to have significant transport implications to determine the measures</li> <li>• required on the surrounding highway network to ensure adequate access by</li> </ul>	<b>Consultation</b>  Support for items such as play facilities on playing field and improved broadband and transport improvements.  <i>Further evidence-based justification for need may be required – this could perhaps be included as part of the Delivery Strategy.</i>	<b>Policy HoH16</b>  <i>All new development must provide necessary and appropriate new facilities on site or contribute to off-site facilities as required by the Delivery Strategy.</i>  <i>If a CIL approach is not adopted by South Kesteven District Council, necessary improvements will be sought in negotiation with developers on a case by case basis based upon the need set out within the Landscape Character Assessment.</i>  <b>NB: The Delivery Strategy sets out what developers are expected to provide in relation to their proposals. The above policy provides the link between the Plan and the Delivery Strategy requirements.</b>  <b>The Delivery Strategy would be a live document updated over the Plan period. Monitoring procedure, delivery mechanisms and infrastructure requirements may therefore change. Three types of infrastructure (physical, social and landscaping perhaps). Delivery Strategy could perhaps be weighted to indicate if it is necessary or preferred?</b>

			<p>all modes of transport;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>encouraging the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for the purposes of businesses and for other service provision (this may be identified through travel plans); and supporting the retention and enhancement of service provision in local service centres.</li> <li>Where appropriate, developer contributions will be sought towards the provision of necessary improvements.</li> </ul>		
<p>New Housing Development</p>	<p><b>Affordable Housing</b></p>		<p><b>SP1: SPATIAL STRATEGY (restricts development in the countryside)</b></p> <p>In all other villages and the countryside development will be restricted. Proposals will only be considered acceptable if they are sites for:</p> <p>A. affordable housing (rural exception or allocated sites)          B. agriculture, forestry or equine development          C. rural diversification projects          D. local services &amp; facilities          E. replacement buildings (on a like for like basis); or          F. conversions of buildings provided that the existing building(s):          contribute to the character &amp; appearance of the local area by virtue of their historic, traditional or vernacular form; are in sound structural condition; and are suitable for conversion without substantial alteration, extension or rebuilding, and that the works to be undertaken do not detract from the character of the building(s) or their setting</p> <p>In all cases planning permission will only be granted on a less sustainable site where it has been proven that there are no other more sustainable options available or there are other overriding material considerations.</p> <p>All cases will also be subject to all relevant policies within the remainder of the core strategy or other relevant development plan documents.</p> <p><b>Policy SAP2: Rural Exception Affordable Housing</b>  <i>Extract from</i>          Outside the towns and Local Service Centres</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>

			<p>the need for local affordable housing will be met through the development of rural exception schemes. In order that funding can be prioritised to those villages where a need has already been identified, the Council has identified a number of small villages as “areas of search” for sites which may be suitable to meet the identified need for local affordable housing. (N.B. Hough is not identified on this list)</p> <p><b>Rural exception schemes may be acceptable in other villages not listed above.</b></p> <p>Such schemes must be supported by clear up-to-date evidence that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need within that village for the affordable housing being proposed.</li> <li>• That no other more suitable site is available within the village</li> </ul> <p>Consideration of the suitability of a site to meet a local housing need will be based upon it satisfying all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the site is located within the built up part of the village. If no such sites are available consideration may be given to a site adjoining the village, provided that it is demonstrated that all other options have been considered.</li> <li>• That the site is small-scale, capable of accommodating only the amount of housing needed.</li> <li>• Avoids areas which are protected because they are important for wildlife, biodiversity, natural, cultural or historic assets.</li> <li>• Avoids sites which are at risk of flooding or which could increase the impact of flooding elsewhere.</li> <li>• Have no or limited visual impact on the character of the village and surrounding landscape.</li> <li>• That the site can be safely accessed.</li> </ul> <p>Schemes will also be required to ensure that the development meets the requirements of national and local planning policies which control the form, scale, design and impact of new development.</p> <p>All affordable housing development provided as an exception must remain affordable in perpetuity.</p>		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Involving local people in an ongoing process of plan-making, monitoring and delivery</li></ul>					<b>TBC</b>
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