

Mr David Clarke
Planning Policy at Malvern Hills District Council
Planning Services,
The Council House,
Avenue Road,
Malvern
WR14 3AF

20th January 2020

Dear Mr Clarke

RE: Abberley Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 Consultation

Worcestershire County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the above consultation.

If you would like to discuss any of these comments please do not hesitate to contact Natasha Friend (email:

 in the first instance.

Yours Sincerely,

Emily Barker

Emily Barker
Planning Services
Manager

Business,
Environment and
Community
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

Planning Services Manager

Transport Policy

Please note all development should adhere guidelines set out in the Worcestershire Streetscape Design Guide. Furthermore, all new community facilities should be accessible by walking / cycling and have pedestrian links from key residential areas and finally all new employment sites should include cycle parking (see Worcestershire Streetscape Design Guide for details).

Worcestershire Children First

No further comments from education other than those submitted as part of the reg14 consultation:

Worcestershire Children First note the comments in the recently submitted Draft Abberley Neighbourhood Development Plan. Where planned housing development has been identified, we will continue to monitor housing growth in and around the local area and respond appropriately to ensure a sufficiency of school places, in line with current published policies.

We will continue to work with schools serving the local area to protect and enhance school assets and playing fields, in line with Government policies on the delivery of statutory education provision.

Archive and Archaeology Service

The Archive and Archaeology Service find the Abberley Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan clear and well-structured and presents an understanding of the significance of landscape character and of the value that heritage brings to local landscape character and the wider environment. The plan recognises that the Neighbourhood Area has a range of designated and non-designated heritage assets – however, we can see no reference to a County Historic Environment Record Search; a recommended evidence base – and has identified locally valued heritage assets for inclusion in a potential future Local List.

The Draft Plan, in combination with the Abberley Design Guide is favourable to character led design that takes into consideration the local vernacular. We are pleased to see reference to the character of settlement beyond principle settlement boundaries –notably the parishes traditional farmsteads – and signposting of the Worcestershire Farmsteads Assessment Framework.