

Independent Examination of the Clapham Neighbourhood Development Plan

Question raised in Examination

The following question was raised by the independent examiner during the examination of the Clapham Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Dear Jennifer and Chris

As you will know I have been appointed to carry out the examination of the Clapham Neighbourhood Plan. The examination is proceeding on the basis of the consideration of written material and I do not think that it will be necessary for me to call a public hearing. However there is a matter that I have reservations upon which I would invite further submissions.

Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will be part of the development plan. As such it will be used by many different people who need to have clarity as to what policies apply and where they apply. In 3 policies, reference is made either "to land outside the recognised village boundary" (Policy BT6), or "development within the settlement boundary" (Policy HD4) or the "recognised village envelope" (Policy HD6). I imagine that all three refer to the same areas of the village but the authors have used different descriptions. There does need to be clarity as to where the policies apply. I am minded to include in my recommendation a requirement that the Plan includes a map showing the areas where the respective policies will apply. However I feel that it would be better for the Parish Council to propose the boundary for my consideration, that I may then refer to in my recommendations. I would hope that the line can be first agreed with the South Downs National Park Authority.

In the meantime I will continue working on my examination but will await the Parish Council's response to this request, hopefully with the endorsement of SDNPA, before concluding my report.

In the interests of openness and transparency I would be pleased if a copy of this email could be posted on the Parish Council and the SDNP websites along with the response.

Kind regards

John Slater BA(Hons) DMS MRTPI

John Slater Planning
