

06 November 2015

James Garside
Neighbourhood Planning Officer
Lewes District Council
Southover House,
Southover Road,
Lewes, BN7 1AB

Dear James,

Subject: Hamsey Neighbourhood Development Plan 2015-2030

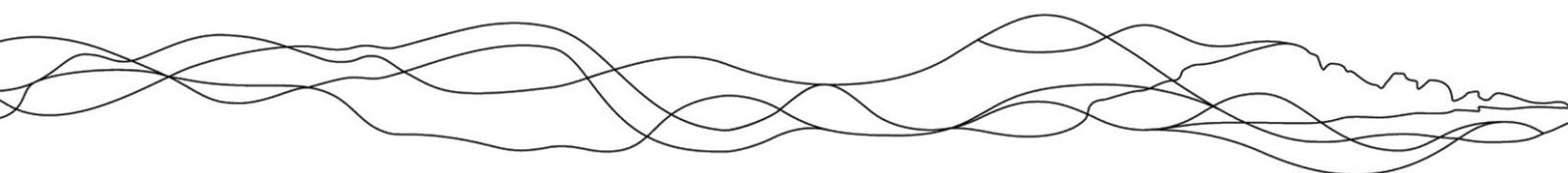
This representation sets out the South Downs National Park Authority's (SDNPA) formal response to the submission version of the Hamsey Neighbourhood Plan. Please can these comments be passed onto the appointed Independent Examiner.

The SDNPA welcomes the submission of the Hamsey Neighbourhood Plan which is the result of considerable hard work by the parish council and local community. The SDNPA commends the neighbourhood plan steering group in preparing a very clear and well-structured document with lots of useful maps and photos. The SDNPA only wishes to make a limited number of comments which we consider will help with the clarity of the document and assist applicants and decision-makers using it in future.

For clarity the Plan should make clear that the SDNPA is the Local Planning Authority for part of neighbourhood area and the following modifications are sought:

- Page 7 – SDNPA officers will also determine applications in the parish
- Page 9 – Paragraph 1.7, the SDNPA will also make (adopt) the Plan
- Page 11 – para. 2.3 final sentence “The SDNPA is also preparing a Local Plan that will cover the entire national park including parts of Hamsey Parish.”
- Page 11- para.2.7 “part of the ~~district's~~ statutory development plan and will be used by the local planning authorities”
- Page 12 – para. 3.3.2, the SDNPA also designated part of the Neighbourhood Area

Policies are generally numbered and set out in bold text, this approach should be used consistently throughout the document. It would be helpful to give each policy a title, some have this and some do not. It would also be helpful to include some introductory text to each chapter of policies.



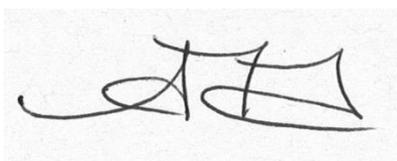
There are a number of instances where we consider policies could be clarified to enable efficient and effective decision-making:

- Policy H2 Community Function - needs some clarity on what 'community related activities' would meet the requirements of this policy.
- Policy RSI needs to clarify how the policy will apply to development proposals.
- Policy LE2 Local services – the planning system has limited control over the retention of businesses and local services. This policy should be reviewed.
- Policy LE5 – clarification is needed for what is meant by 'small scale integrated' new buildings.

Typos / errors

- Page 13 – para 3.3.3, use different terminology to 'Local Plan' – suggest community plan
- Page 14 – para 4.1, 2nd bullet is missing a space

Yours sincerely,



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