

## Acton Neighbourhood Plan – REG16 Consultation

### Comments by Acton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (ANPSG) on REG16 representations- December 2023

Serial	Respondent	Acton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group comment
1	Suffolk County Council	<b>Para 3.5</b> –No objection to the proposed amendment.
2	Babergh District Council	<p>No objection to factual updates which reflect the latest position with the Joint Local Plan</p> <p><b>Housing Figure:</b> Position is noted.</p> <p><b>Views:</b> no objection to suggested amendments.</p> <p><b>Rural Exception Sites:</b> No objection to suggested amendments.</p> <p><b>Cycling and Walking Strategy</b> – no objection to the inclusion of a link to the strategy in a footnote</p> <p><b>Figure 3b</b> – the building referred to is outside of the Neighbourhood Area and the base map is taken from parish online so we may not be able to remove the yellow dot. However, instead we could update the map key accordingly.</p> <p><b>Maps</b> – no objections to the suggested amendments to map descriptions and headings.</p> <p><b>Design Code</b> – The QB can ask AECOM to update the document to reflect the September 2023 NPPF and the adoption of part 1 of the JLP, however this may be dependent upon the contractual arrangements between Locality and AECOM.</p>
3.	Natural England	No further comment
4.	Historic England	No further comment
5.	Environment Agency	General advice – No further comment
6.	National Highways	No further comment
7.	Avison Young obo National Grid	No further comment
8.	Avison Young obo National Gas	No further comment

9.	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	To clarify, Policy ACT4 refers to 10% Biodiversity Net Gain as a minimum with an aspiration to 20%.
10.	Water Management Alliance	No further comment
11.	Lavenham Parish Council	Support noted and opportunities for future collaboration are welcomed.
12.	Resident - Purser	<p><b>Page 5; Figure 2</b> – This is the Neighbourhood Area Map taken from Babergh District Council’s mapping tool. It’s understood that no more up-to-date version at this scale is yet available.</p> <p><b>Page 8; para 2.5</b>–Suggest the removal of the words ‘pedestrian foot’ leaving just “paths”, may aid clarity.</p> <p><b>Page 10; para 2.7</b> The state of the house before the final 1960s demolition is not clear. It is recorded that the son, William, abandoned his father’s rebuilding of it, and some parts were demolished in 1825, but it was used in WW2 to house US Army hospital staff, so was still viable then. “Remains” seems to imply a ruin, which we don’t believe to be the case. Although the previous sentence, which states “It remained unfinished at his death and was <i>finished</i> by William”, was derived from Suffolk Heritage commentary, this is not otherwise referenced and is contradicted elsewhere (e.g. <a href="https://littlewoldingfieldhistorysociety.wordpress.com/tag/acton/">https://littlewoldingfieldhistorysociety.wordpress.com/tag/acton/</a>). Simply saying that it was “<i>inherited</i>” by William might be more reliable on reflection.</p> <p><b>Page 12; Para 2.13</b> – BDC will clarify the latest position.</p> <p><b>Page 15; para 2.25</b>–Do not believe the suggested rewording is an improvement.</p> <p><b>Page 15; para 2.26</b> - Do not agree with suggested change. The existing wording adequately represents the position. It is not intended as an exhaustive list and the example animals included are pertinent, highlighting protected species and the rurality of the parish. Deer are more prevalent in the north of the NA. A more complete SBIS species list is referenced in the plan.</p> <p><b>Page 26; para 2.26</b> –the reference to this comment appears to be incorrect. If the comment is meant to relate to p15 para 2.26, we do not agree that birds of prey are only occasionally sighted. Buzzards, red kites and kestrels are resident and frequently seen in the area.</p>

**Page 17; para 2.28 line 2**–Stylistic comment. Happy with the existing terminology used.

**Page 19; para 2.35** - Do not feel the suggested addition adds anything to understanding.

**Page 20; para 2.36**- The national speed limit varies according to the type of vehicle, hence why 60mph is not quoted. (for vans it is 50 mph).

**Page 24; para 2.43** – This comment seems to suggest a greater emphasis on agricultural activity because of its extensive use of land in the area. However, this section is describing the number and types of businesses in the area, so in this context, the increased emphasis on agricultural activity doesn't seem appropriate. Factually, the farming of the land is indeed largely contracted-out now, but we have no information about the residences of contracted staff.

**Page 40 para 7.3 DC/02751** – paragraph 7.7e) provides detail on this issue which was up to date at the point of submission. Since that time the land has legally passed to a new charity known as Acton Field Trust, the Parish Council is the trustee of the charity. The field to be known as Acton Field will be managed by a Management Committee. The objects of the charity shall be for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish of Acton in the County of Suffolk and the neighbourhood thereof and of those working studying or otherwise for the time being located within the said area to promote all or any of the following charitable purposes:

- To maintain a public open space and to provide in the interests of social welfare facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation for the use of the public with the object of improving the conditions of the life of such persons; and/or
- To promote the protection of wildlife and the protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment; and/or
- To advance education, skills and capacity among such persons.

**Page 41; para 7.3 DC/03126** – the comments are not considered relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan

**Para 7.4 and 7.7 (para 4)** - These are important for the understanding of the history and earlier status of the site but are now of less relevance since it is not available for development. (See comments above)

		<p><b>Page 83; Para 9.14;</b> The farm associated with Acton Hall has seen some diversification, but still has agriculture as its primary use and it is not noted as an industrial estate for this reason. Policy ACT 13 applies to its development.</p> <p><b>Page 86; para 9.25;</b> Whilst this is a fact, the current facilities included in the plan are accurate and devising the settlement hierarchy is a function of the Local Plan.</p> <p><b>Page 91; para 10.3:</b> The area is known locally as “Acton Industrial Estate” although it is noted BDC use “Bull Lane Employment Area”.</p> <p><b>Page 110;</b> - Marsh Walk LGS; It not considered that this impacts upon the LGS assessment.</p> <p><b>Census Data:</b> The data profile was updated as far as new data was available between Pre-Submission and Submission stages. If additional census data is now available that was not previously (at parish level) then this can be updated post-examination if the Examiner feels it is necessary to do so.</p> <p>Any grammatical, factual or mapping errors can be addressed as ‘consequential changes’ post examination when any modifications required by the Examiner are made to the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
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