



# The Copdock & Washbrook

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2023-2037**

**BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT**

**February 2024**



**Copdock and Washbrook Parish Council**

Prepared for Copdock and Washbrook Parish Council by  
Places4People Planning Consultancy  
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## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the formal submission of the Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Plan (CWNP) for Examination, there is a requirement for the Parish Council, as the 'qualifying body' to illustrate that they have complied with a series of 'basic conditions' as set out in the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). This Statement accompanies the submission to the local planning authority, Babergh District Council, of the Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Plan under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations"). Regulation 15 requires a submission neighbourhood development plan to be accompanied by *"a statement explaining how the proposed neighbourhood development plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the 1990 Act"*.
- 1.2 This statement has been prepared in order to confirm compliance with these basic conditions as follows:
- Section 2** identifies the legislative requirements for the 'basic conditions'
- Section 3** identifies how the Plan Objectives and Policies are in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and the Strategic Policies of the adopted Local Plan.
- Sections 4** confirms that the neighbourhood plan is compatible with the Convention Rights.
- It is considered that the Neighbourhood Plan complies with the requirements of the basic conditions as set out in Paragraph 8(1)(a) of Schedule 4B of the Act.
- 1.3 Following, rejection of the previous version of the Neighbourhood Plan at Referendum on 24 March 2022, the Parish Council supported by the steering group has re-drafted the Plan. The March 2024 Referendum Plan had been the subject to examination and, following amendments required by the Examiner, met the Basic Conditions.
- 1.4 The new Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in the context of current national and local strategic planning policies and this Basic Conditions Statement therefore, reflects the content of the Submission version of the new Neighbourhood Plan.

## 2. Legal Requirements

2.1 Paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) identifies the "Basic Conditions" that the neighbourhood plan must comply with.

2.2 Paragraph 8 (1) states that the examiner must consider:

- (a) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions (see subparagraph (2)),
- (b) whether the draft neighbourhood development plan complies with the provision made by or under sections 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act,
- (d) whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the neighbourhood area to which the draft neighbourhood development plan relates, and
- (e) such other matters as may be prescribed.

2.3 Paragraph 8 (2) states that a draft neighbourhood development plan meets the basic conditions if:

- (a) having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood development plan,
- (d) the making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,
- (e) the making of the neighbourhood development plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area),
- (f) the making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations, and
- (g) prescribed conditions are met in relation to the neighbourhood development plan and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the neighbourhood development plan.

The requirements of Paragraph 8(2)(b), (2)(c) (3), (4) and (5) are not of relevance to the compliance with the basic conditions test.

2.4 Paragraph 8 (6) stipulates that the examiner is not to consider any matter that does not fall within subparagraph (1) apart from considering whether the draft neighbourhood plan is compatible with the Convention rights.

2.5 On 28 December 2018 the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018 came into force. Amongst other things, these Regulations amend the basic condition prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) which stated:

- The making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

The Regulations substitute this with a new basic condition which states:

- The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

## Meeting the Legal Requirements

Compliance with the individual elements of the legal requirements is set out below.

**Table 1 – Compliance with legal requirements**

Requirement	Interpretation	CWNP response
4B 8 (1)(a) Whether the Draft NP meets the Basic Conditions	This requires the NP to demonstrate compliance with paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the T&CP Act.	This is considered in detail in later sections of this Statement.
4B 8 (1)(b) Whether the Draft Order Complies with Sections 38A & 38B of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	This requires the draft order to comply with Sections 38A & 38B of the Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Section 38A sets out the "Meaning of Neighbourhood Development Plan".	Compliance with Sections 38A and 38B is demonstrated in the following rows.
	Section 38A(1) "any qualifying body is entitled to initiate a process for the purpose of requiring a Local Planning Authority in England to make a Neighbourhood Development Plan."	The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted by Copdock and Washbrook Parish Council, a qualifying body (as defined in the Localism Act 2011).
	Section 38A(2) A "Neighbourhood Development Plan is a plan which sets out policies (however expressed) in relation to the development and use of land in the whole or any part of a particular neighbourhood area specified in the plan."	The NP sets out Policies that relate to the development and use of land for the Neighbourhood Area covering the Parish of Copdock and Washbrook, as designated by Babergh District Council on 28 September 2018.  The boundary of the Neighbourhood Area is shown in the NP.
	Section 38A, Paragraphs (3) - (12)	These paragraphs are not of relevance to the submission phase of the NP.
	Section 38B1(a) The Neighbourhood Development Plan "Must specify the period for which it is to have effect."	The plan period of the NP is from 2023 to 2037.
	Section 38B1(b) A Neighbourhood Development Plan "may not include provision about development that is excluded development."	The NP does not contain policies relating to excluded development as defined in Section 61K of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
	Section 38B1(c) A Neighbourhood Development Plan may not relate to more than one neighbourhood area	The NP does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area. It solely relates to the Neighbourhood Plan Area as designated by Babergh District Council on 28 September 2018.

Requirement	Interpretation	CWNP response
	<p>Section 38B(2)</p> <p>Only one Neighbourhood Development Plan may be made for each neighbourhood area.</p>	<p>There are currently no other NP's in place in this neighbourhood area.</p>
	<p>Section 38B(3)</p> <p>If to any extent a policy set out in a Neighbourhood Development Plan conflicts with any other statement or information in the plan, the conflict must be resolved in favour of the policy.</p>	<p>There are no conflicts within the NP</p>
	<p>Section 38B(4)(a)</p> <p>Regulations made by the Secretary of State may make provisions for "restricting the provision that may be included in Neighbourhood Development Plans about the use of land."</p> <p>These Regulations are set out in Statutory Instrument 2012 No 637, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 have been used to inform the process of making the NP.</p>
	<p>Section 38B(4)(b)</p> <p>Regulations made by the Secretary of State may make provisions "requiring Neighbourhood Development Plans to include such matters as are prescribed in the Regulations."</p>	<p>A screening process was carried out by the local planning authority, to determine whether a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) or Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) would be required in support of the Neighbourhood Plan. In both cases it was considered that the Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant environmental effects and that no European sites would be affected by the policies described in the NP, therefore the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment or Appropriate Assessment (Habitats Regulations) is not required.</p>
	<p>Section 38B, which include paragraphs 38B(4)(c), 5 &amp; 6,</p>	<p>The remaining requirements of Section 38B are not of relevance to this Basic Conditions Statement</p>
<p>4B 8 (1)(d) Whether The Referendum Should Extend Beyond The NP Area</p>	<p>This requires the examiner to consider whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the NP Area to which it relates.</p>	<p>The NP relates solely to land that falls within the Parish of Copdock and Washbrook.</p>

Requirement	Interpretation	CWNP response
4B 8 (1)(e) Other Matters 3.28.	This requires the examiner to consider such other matters as may be prescribed	There are no other prescribed matters.
Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018	These Regulations require an Appropriate Assessment of the Plan to be carried out should the SEA and HRA Screening Opinion deem it necessary.	The SEA Screening Opinion concluded that a full SEA was not required. The HRA screening concluded that no potential impacts were identified and therefore it was not necessary to proceed to the Appropriate Assessment stage.



### 3. Compliance with Basic Conditions

3.1 Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act sets out the basic conditions that must be met by a draft Neighbourhood Plan. Subsections (a), (d), (e), (f), and (g) are of relevance to this statement. The Regulations state that the neighbourhood plan will have met the basic conditions if it:

- Has regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State;
- Contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
- Is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area; and
- Is compatible with European Union (EU) and European Convention on Human Right (ECHR) obligations.

#### National Policy

3.2 The Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Development Plan must have appropriate regard to national policy. The following section describes how the Plan relates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which was published by the Government . It is the latter version of the NPPF that has been used as the basis to assess the Neighbourhood Plan in terms of its regard to national policies. The NPPF is framed around a basic premise of achieving sustainable development, comprising three main dimensions: economic, social and environmental. It requires the planning system to have regard to three overarching objectives:

- a) "an economic objective – to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure;*
- b) a social objective – to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and*
- c) an environmental objective – to protect and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy."*

3.3 The NPPF contains thirteen topic-based chapters in which more detailed policy guidance is set out for plan making and decision taking. Table 2, below, identifies how the Plan meets the basic condition of having regard to the NPPF by assessing the Plan against the principles for each of the NPPF topic-based chapters.

**Table 2 - Compatibility of the Plan’s objectives and policies against the NPPF Core Principles**

NPPF Theme Section	CWNP Objectives	CWNP Policies
5. Delivering a sufficient supply of homes	1. Provide housing that meets the local needs of Copdock and Washbrook 2. Enable opportunities for the provision of affordable housing that meets the needs of those with a connection with the village 3. Encourage the incorporation of energy saving measures in new homes 4. Provide new homes that meet the accessibility and space requirements for the lifetime of residents	Policy C&W 1 - Spatial Strategy Policy C&W 2 - Affordable Housing on Rural exception Sites Policy C&W 3 - Housing Mix
6. Building a strong, competitive economy	5. Maintain and improve employment opportunities that do not result in detrimental impacts on local infrastructure, the environment and residents’ amenity 6. Improve opportunities for home working	Policy C&W 4 - Employment Sites Policy C&W 5 - New Businesses and Employment Policy C&W 6 - Farm Diversification
7. Ensuring the vitality of town centres	12 Protect and enhance community facilities and services that meet the day to day needs of residents	Policy C&W 15 - Protecting existing services and facilities
8. Promoting healthy and safe communities	13 Ensure that development does not result in a detrimental impact on infrastructure including sewers and surface water and watercourse flooding 15 Improve road safety	Policy C&W 15 - Protecting existing services and facilities Policy C&W 16 - Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities Policy C&W 17 - Public Rights of Way
9. Promoting sustainable transport	14 Reduce the impact of traffic passing through the village 15 Improve road safety 16 Protect and enhance the village public rights of way network	Policy C&W 1 - Spatial Strategy Policy C&W 17 - Public Rights of Way
10. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure	13 Ensure that development does not result in a detrimental impact on infrastructure including sewers and surface water and watercourse flooding	Policy C&W 15 - Protecting existing services and facilities
11. Making effective use of land	All objectives apply	Policy C&W 1 - Spatial Strategy
12. Achieving well-designed and beautiful places	11 Ensure new development is of a high-quality design and of a scale and design that reflects local character	Policy C&W 13 - Design Considerations Policy C&W 14 - Sustainable Construction Practices

NPPF Theme Section	CWNP Objectives	CWNP Policies
13. Protecting Green Belt land	There is no Green Belt in the Neighbourhood Area	
14. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change	13 Ensure that development does not result in a detrimental impact on infrastructure including sewers and surface water and watercourse flooding	Policy C&W 13 - Design Considerations Policy C&W 14 - Sustainable Construction Practices
15. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment	7. Protect and enhance the local landscape and significant views 8. Maintain and improve the biodiversity assets of the parish 9. Mitigate the impact of development on designated habitats including the Stour and Orwell estuaries	Policy C&W 7 - Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity Policy C&W 8 - Local Green Spaces Policy C&W 9 – Biodiversity Policy C&W 10 - Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Policy C&W 11 - Protection of Important Views and Landscape Character
16. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	10 Protect and enhance designated heritage assets	Policy C&W 12 - Heritage Assets
17. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals	Minerals planning is excluded from what neighbourhood plans can cover	

## How the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan policies achieve sustainable development

3.4 The table below identifies the purpose of each policy in the Plan and its intended outcome in relation to achieving sustainable development as defined by the NPPF.

**Table 3 - How the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan policies achieve sustainable development**

Policy	Purpose	Outcome
C&W 1	To provide a strategy for the location of new development within the neighbourhood plan area.	Ensures that new development is located close to existing village facilities and minimises the loss of agricultural land in remote locations.
C&W 2	Provides a mechanism for the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs.	Will help people with a local connection remain in the village rather than move away to find affordable homes.
C&W 3	Sets requirements for house sizes.	Seeks to redress an imbalance in the size of homes in the village in order to support an identified need for homes for smaller families,
C&W 4	Protects existing employment sites from loss to other uses	Contributes towards building a strong and competitive economy
C&W 5	Promotes appropriate development of business and employment uses	Contributes towards building a strong and competitive economy
C&W 6	Enables the reuse of redundant agricultural buildings for economic purposes	Contributes towards building a strong and competitive economy
C&W 7	Designates an area of Local Landscape Sensitivity	Contributes to protecting and enhancing the natural environment
C&W 8	Designates spaces that meet the NPPF Local Green Space criteria.	Protects spaces that have an identifiable local importance to the village.
C&W 9	Provides criteria for the assessment of the potential impact of development on	Contributes to protecting and enhancing the natural environment, including helping to improve
C&W 10	Provides a mechanism for the management and mitigation for potential impacts on European wildlife sites	Contributes to protecting and enhancing the natural environment, including helping to improve biodiversity
C&W 11	Identifies important views within the Plan Area that should be protected.	Protects and enhances the character and setting of the village.
C&W 12	Enables the preservation and enhancement of the village's heritage assets.	Provides a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage.
C&W 13	Provides design criteria for the consideration of the impact of development proposals.	Preserves and enhances the distinctiveness, character and sense of place of the village's built environment.
C&W 14	Promotes the incorporation within development proposals of measures that reduce energy consumption	Supports an increase in the use of renewable and low carbon energy.
C&W 15	Supports the retention and improvement of community facilities and services in the village	Maintains existing village services and reduce the need to drive out of the village for day to day needs.
C&W 16	Supports the improvement and protection of open space, sport and recreation	Ensures that adequate and suitable sports and recreation facilities are provided in the
C&W 17	Promotes improvement to the public rights of way network	Contributes to health and wellbeing.

### General conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan

- 3.5 The Neighbourhood Plan must demonstrate that it is in general conformity with the development plan for the local authority area concerned. The development plan currently in force is the Babergh Core Strategy (February 2014) and the saved policies of the Babergh Local Plan (Babergh Local Plan Alteration No.2 adopted June 2006).

Babergh District Council has prepared a new joint local plan with Mid Suffolk District Council to cover the two local planning authority areas. Part 1 of the Joint Local Plan was adopted by the District Council in November 2023. It contains the strategic policies for the area and a number of local policies.

Unlike the earlier examined neighbourhood plan, the new plan has been assessed against the strategic policies of Part 1 of the Joint Local Plan.

### Compatibility of the Neighbourhood Plan with the Strategic Policies of the Development Plan

- 3.6 The Government's Planning Practice Guidance states:

"Strategic policies will be different in each local planning authority area. When reaching a view on whether a policy is a strategic policy the following are useful considerations:

- whether the policy sets out an overarching direction or objective
- whether the policy seeks to shape the broad characteristics of development
- the scale at which the policy is intended to operate
- whether the policy sets a framework for decisions on how competing priorities should be balanced
- whether the policy sets a standard or other requirement that is essential to achieving the wider vision and aspirations in the Local Plan
- in the case of site allocations, whether bringing the site forward is central to achieving the vision and aspirations of the Local Plan
- whether the Local Plan identifies the policy as being strategic"

- 3.7 The table below provides details of the strategic policies in the Part 1 Joint Local Plan, a link to the Neighbourhood Plan policy (where relevant) and a narrative of conformity of the Neighbourhood Plan with the development plan.

**Table 4 – Conformity of neighbourhood plan policies with the strategic policies of the adopted local plan**

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
SP01 Housing Needs	C&W1 – Spatial strategy	The emerging Joint Local Plan identifies the minimum housing requirement for each district. The Neighbourhood Plan does not conflict with this requirement.
SP02 Affordable Housing	C&W2 – Affordable Housing on Rural exception Sites C&W3 – Housing Mix	The emerging Joint Local Plan sets a requirement of 35% affordable housing on large sites or 25% on brownfield sites. The Neighbourhood Plan does not conflict with this requirement.
SP03 The sustainable location of new development	C&W1 – Spatial strategy	The emerging Joint Local Plan does not identify a hierarchy of settlements across the two districts, this will be covered by the Part 2 Plan to be prepared. This policy also relies on new housing development coming forward through neighbourhood plans, extant planning permissions and windfall sites. The Neighbourhood Plan does not conflict with this requirement.
SP04 Provision for Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople	No specific policies apply	The Neighbourhood Plan does not conflict with this requirement.
SP05 Employment Land	C&W4 - Employment Sites C&W5 – New Business and Employment	The emerging Joint Local Plan identifies strategic sites for employment uses. It supports additional employment sites being developed along strategic transport corridors. There are no strategic employment sites in the Neighbourhood Area and the Neighbourhood Plan

Local Plan Strategic Policy	Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Comment
		enables the provision of suitable additional employment development.
SP06 Retail and Town Centre Uses	No specific policies apply	The emerging Joint Local Plan policy relates to defined town centres, which does not include Copdock and Washbrook.
SP07 Tourism	No specific policies apply	The emerging Joint Local Plan policy supports the development of appropriate tourism enterprises. The Neighbourhood Plan does not conflict with this aspiration.
SP08 Strategic Infrastructure Provision	C&W 10 - Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation C&W13 - Design Considerations	The emerging Joint Local Plan policy identifies specific strategic infrastructure projects and also requires development to make community infrastructure levy contributions. The Neighbourhood Plan provides appropriate measures to support the strategic policy.
SP09 Enhancement and Management of the Environment	C&W 7 - Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity C&W 10 - Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation	The emerging Joint Local Plan policy supports the enhancement and management of natural and local environment and provides for the mitigation of effects on protected habitat sites. The Neighbourhood Plan policies generally support the strategic policy and specifically sets requirements for the mitigation of impacts through site specific or general mitigation.
SP10 Climate Change	C&W13 - Design Considerations C&W14- Sustainable Construction Practices	The emerging Joint Local Plan policy sets requirements for the mitigation of the impacts of climate change. The policies of the Neighbourhood Plan support the intent of the Joint Local Plan.

## 4. Compatibility with European Union Obligations and Human Rights

### Environmental Impact and Habitat Regulations

- 4.1 Section 4B 8 (2)(f) states that a draft Neighbourhood Plan will meet the basic conditions if, the making of the Neighbourhood Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations and the making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 4.2 European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken for certain types of plan or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) that this is to be determined by a screening process which should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations). The results of this process must be set out in an SEA Screening Statement, which must be publicly available.
- 4.3 In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Regulations, as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018, Copdock and Washbrook Parish Council requested Babergh District Council, as the responsible body, to consider whether an environmental assessment of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan is required. The District Council subsequently made this determination following consultation with the statutory consultees. The determination is set out in reports "Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination" and the "Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Plan Habitats Regulations Screening Determination" both dated June 2023. The outcome of this exercise was that the need for both were 'screened-out'.

### Human Rights

- 4.4 The public consultation process for the Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Plan has been wide and inclusive and has included direct engagement with the local community. The policies contained within the plan do not disadvantage any minority group or group with protected characteristics.
- 4.5 The overall purpose of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is to improve the quality of life for people living and working now and in the future in the parish from an environmental, social and economic point of view. The aims and policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have been formulated in response to local people's views and in the light of evidence gathered for the parish, in order to meet the needs expressed and address the issues identified. In order to confirm that the Neighbourhood Plan does not have any unintended consequences for particular groups, the strategic aims and the policies in the Plan have been systematically scrutinised to ensure that they do not disadvantage any potentially vulnerable groups. The Equality Act 2010 places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity, and to foster good relations between persons who have a "protected characteristic" and those who do not. "Protected characteristics" are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
- 4.6 This section assesses the Submission Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that Copdock and Washbrook Parish Council is satisfying its statutory duties in this regard. An assessment has been made on whether the objectives and the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan have a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics. The purpose of each of the objective and the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan are provided, and their likely impact on persons with protected characteristics is assessed.



## Impact of Objectives of Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Development Plan on Persons with Protected Characteristics

Neighbourhood Plan Objectives	Outcome for persons with Protected Characteristics
<p><b>Housing</b></p> <p>1 Provide housing that meets the local needs of Copdock and Washbrook</p> <p>2 Enable opportunities for the provision of affordable housing that meets the needs of those with a connection with the village</p> <p>3 Encourage the incorporation of energy saving measures in new homes</p> <p>4 Provide new homes that meet the accessibility and space requirements for the lifetime of residents</p>	<p>Provides for new homes to be provided in the village and that they respond to local needs. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.</p>
<p><b>Business and Employment</b></p> <p>5 Maintain and improve employment opportunities that do not result in detrimental impacts on local infrastructure, the environment and residents' amenity</p> <p>6 Improve opportunities for home working.</p>	<p>Promotes the retention and improvement of job opportunities in the Plan Area. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.</p>
<p><b>Natural Environment</b></p> <p>7 Protect and enhance the local landscape and significant views</p> <p>8 Maintain and improve the biodiversity assets of the parish</p> <p>9 Mitigate the impact of development on designated habitats including the Stour and Orwell estuaries.</p>	<p>Protects and enhances the natural environment for the benefit of residents. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.</p>
<p><b>Built Environment and Design</b></p> <p>10 Protect and enhance designated heritage assets</p> <p>11 Ensure new development is of a high-quality design and of a scale and design that reflects local character.</p>	<p>Promotes the preservation of the character and historic assets of the village. Neutral impact for persons with protected characteristics.</p> <p>Promotes development that is designed in a way to minimise impact on the environment and meets the needs of the community. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.</p>
<p><b>Infrastructure and Services</b></p> <p>12 Protect and enhance community facilities and services that meet the day to day needs of residents</p> <p>13 Ensure that development does not result in a detrimental impact on infrastructure including sewers and surface water and watercourse flooding</p>	<p>Ensures that capacity of infrastructure and services is maintained and enhanced. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.</p>
<p><b>Highways and Movement</b></p> <p>14 Reduce the impact of traffic passing through the village</p> <p>15 Improve road safety</p> <p>16 Protect and enhance the village public rights of way network</p>	<p>Promotes the management and improvement of then highways network, including improved safety. Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.</p>

## Impact of Copdock and Washbrook Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies on Persons with Protected Characteristics

Policy	Purpose	Outcome
C&W1	To provide a strategy for the location of new development within the neighbourhood plan area.	Ensures that the Neighbourhood Plan is positively prepared for the amount and location of new development required in the village during the plan period.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W2	Provides a mechanism for the delivery of affordable housing to meet local needs.	Contributes to meeting affordable housing needs in suitable locations in close proximity to the village centre.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W3	Sets requirements for house sizes.	Ensures that new homes are constructed to meet the current needs of users.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W4	Protects existing employment sites from loss to other uses	Ensures that opportunities for local employment remain the Neighbourhood Area.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W5	Promotes appropriate development of business and employment uses	Ensures that opportunities for local employment remain the Neighbourhood Area.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W6	Enables the reuse of redundant agricultural buildings for economic purposes	Enables opportunities for farm diversification.  Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics.
C&W7	Designates an area of Local Landscape Sensitivity	Ensures that locally significant landscapes are protected from the impact of development.  Neutral impact on persons with protected characteristics.
C&W8	Designates spaces that meet the NPPF Local Green Space criteria.	Ensures that locally identified green spaces that meet the national criteria are protected from inappropriate development.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W9	Provides criteria for the assessment of the potential impact of development on habitats and natural features.	Protects habitat features from the impact of inappropriate development.  Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W10	Provides a mechanism for the management and mitigation for potential impacts on European wildlife sites	Protects internationally important designated sites from the impact of development.  Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
C&W11	Identifies important views within the Plan Area that should be protected.	Protects the Neighbourhood Area from unsympathetic development.  Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W12	Enables the preservation and enhancement of the village's heritage assets.	Protects designated assets from inappropriate development.  Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W13	Provides design criteria for the consideration of the impact of development proposals.	Reduces detrimental impact of development on the village and its environment and infrastructure.  Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W14	Promotes the incorporation within development proposals of measures that reduce energy consumption.	Helps contribute to minimising the impacts of climate change.  Neutral impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W15	Supports the retention and improvement of community facilities and services in the village.	Promotes the provision of services in the village for the day-to-day needs of residents.  Broadly positive for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W16	Supports the improvement and protection of open space, sport and recreation facilities.	Ensures that Copdock and Washbrook has open space facilities to serve the local population.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.
C&W17	Promotes improvement to the public rights of way network	Ensures opportunities for access to the countryside remain.  Broadly positive impact for persons with certain protected characteristics.

Certain protected characteristics are not affected by the Neighbourhood Plan, namely gender reassignment, race, religion, or sexual orientation. For persons with these characteristics, the Plan has a neutral effect. Where policies in the Plan would adversely affect persons with these protected characteristics, they would not be differently affected than persons without these characteristics. For example, if a person with these protected characteristics were disadvantaged by a policy, it would have the same consequence for a person without the protected characteristic who wished to do the same thing. Similarly, if a person with one of these protected characteristics were to benefit from a policy, it would have the same benefit for a person without the protected characteristic in the same circumstances.