

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF THE KINVER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

EXAMINER: Wendy Burden BA (Hons) DipTP MRTPI

[REDACTED]
Kinver Parish Council

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South Staffordshire Council

Examination Ref:01/WB/KNP

16 March 2023

KINVER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN EXAMINATION

Following the submission of the Kinver Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan/KNP) for examination, I would like to clarify some initial procedural matters.

1. Examination Documentation

I can confirm that I am satisfied that I have received a complete submission of the Plan and accompanying documentation, including the Basic Conditions Statement, the Consultation Statement and the Regulation 16 representations, to enable me to undertake the examination.

Subject to my detailed assessment of the Plan, I have not at this initial stage identified any very significant and obvious flaws in it that might lead me to advise that the examination should not proceed.

2. Site Visit

I will aim to carry out a site visit to the neighbourhood plan area in the week beginning 3 April 2023. The site visit will assist in my assessment of the draft Plan, including the issues identified in the representations.

The visit will be undertaken unaccompanied. It is very important that I am not approached to discuss any aspects of the Plan or the neighbourhood area, as this may be perceived to prejudice my independence and risk compromising the fairness of the examination process.

I may have some additional questions, following my site visit, which I will set out in writing should I require any further clarification.

3. Written Representations

Under paragraph 9(1) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), the general rule is that the examination should take the form of the consideration of written representations. At this stage, I consider the examination can be conducted solely by means of the written representations, without the need for a hearing. Nevertheless, I will reserve the option to convene a hearing should a matter or matters come to light where I consider that a hearing is

necessary to ensure the adequate examination of an issue, or to ensure that a person has a fair chance to put a case.

4. Further Clarification

Following my site visit, I may have some questions which seek clarification on matters within the KNP and which I will wish to put to Kinver Parish Council (KPC) and/or South Staffordshire Council (SSC). If this is necessary, the questions will be set out in a further letter. I understand that in view of the forthcoming local elections, I may not receive any response to such questions until after 4 May 2023.

5. Examination Timetable

As you will be aware, the intention is normally to conduct the examination (including the site visit) with a view to providing a draft report (for 'fact checking') within around 6 weeks of submission of the Plan. However, in view of the forthcoming local elections, I do not envisage that my report will be submitted to the Council before 30 May 2023. In any event, the IPE office team will endeavour to keep you updated on the anticipated delivery date of the draft report.

If you have any process questions related to the conduct of the examination which you would like me to address, please do not hesitate to contact the office team in the first instance.

In the interests of transparency, may I prevail upon you to ensure that a copy of this letter is placed on both the Kinver Parish Council and South Staffordshire Council websites.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Your sincerely

Wendy Burden

Examiner