

Responder no.:**REDACTED COMMENTS*****Disclaimer:***

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FEEDBACK STARTS BELOW:

We agree with the findings of the preliminary site search carried out in 2016 which identifies the buildings at Horsebridge Farm as being potentially suitable for residential use. The follow-up assessment recognises that the buildings have "considerable potential" for development as an extension to the existing small settlement of Horsebridge. However the potential for the residential reuse of buildings at Horsebridge Farm is dismissed by the emerging NP as being contrary to Local Plan (LP) policies COM2 and LE16. No further assessment of the site's potential has been carried out. We are therefore concerned by the inappropriate wording of Policy E3 and wishes to point out the the objectives listed in para 3.1 of the draft Plan do not logically follow the preceding statement on Kings Somborne characteristics. We consider that the potential reuse of the former farm buildings at Horsebridge Farm for residential use accords with national and local planning policies. LP policy COM2 is supportive of development which accords with LP policy LE16. LP policy LE16 is supportive of residential reuse of rural buildings where efforts to consider alternative uses have been made. This is the case in respect of Horsebridge Farm. There is an opportunity for the emerging NP to reflect this policy approach. Planning permission has previously been granted for the reuse of the buildings for employment purposes. However this consent was not implemented as it would not be viable. The NPFF also supports the reuse of heritage assets for the "optimal viable" use.

Policy H6 as drafted is inappropriate in that it seeks to stop development that could be in accord with development Plan policy (ref CM feedback on E3) with government policy and in some cases which may be Permitted Development not requiring planning permission.

Ref Horsebridge Farm. The reuse of existing buildings in accordance with best practice could help conserve important heritage assets for future generations, improve farmyard appearance and settings and also reduce the need for greenfield site development elsewhere. It is noted that the draft NP acknowledges that the level of housing provision set out in draft NP policy H1 "does not preclude any additional housing sites that have been specifically identified in this plan (windfalls). In addition, emerging NP policy F7 (which promotes the reuse of unused agricultural buildings and encourages "working from home") is also supported . Therefore, even if having considered matters further, the Parish do not resolve to make specific provision for the residential reuse of buildings at Horsebridge Farm, we hope that the Parish will be able to support proposals for the sustainable reuse of redundant farm buildings.