

From: East and East Midlands Forest Area Enquiries <eandem@forestrycommission.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 June 2022 10:24
To: Anne-Marie Shepherd
Cc: NK - Neighbourhood Planning
Subject: RE: Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 Consultation

CAUTION: External email, think before you click!

Thank you for inviting the Forestry Commission to respond to the consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to respond to individual plans but we have some key points to make relevant to all neighbourhood plans.

Forestry Commission and Neighbourhood Planning

Existing trees in your community

The Forestry Commission would like to encourage communities to review the trees and woodlands in their neighbourhood and consider whether they are sufficiently diverse in age and species to prove resilient in the face of tree pests and diseases or climate change. For example, if you have a high proportion of Ash, you are likely to see the majority suffering from Ash Dieback. Some communities are proactively planting different species straight away, to mitigate the effect of losing the Ash; you can find out more [here](#). Alternatively, if you have a high proportion of Beech, you may find they suffer particularly from drought or flood stress as the climate becomes more extreme. There are [resources](#) available to help you get ideas for other species you can plant to diversify your tree stock and make it more resilient.

Ancient Woodland

If you have ancient woodland within or adjacent to your boundary it is important that it is considered within your plan. Ancient woodlands are irreplaceable, they have great value because they have a long history of woodland cover, with many features remaining undisturbed. This applies equally to Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW) and Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS). It is Government policy to refuse development that will result in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats including ancient woodland, unless “there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists” ([National Planning Policy Framework](#) paragraph 180).

The Forestry Commission has prepared joint [standing advice](#) with Natural England on ancient woodland and veteran trees. This advice is a material consideration for planning decisions across England and can also be a useful starting point for policy considerations.

The Standing Advice explains the definition of ancient woodland, its importance, ways to identify it and the policies that relevant to it. It provides advice on how to protect ancient woodland when dealing with planning applications that may affect ancient woodland. It also considers ancient wood-pasture and veteran trees. It will provides links to Natural England’s [Ancient Woodland Inventory](#) and [assessment guides](#) as well as other tools to assist you in assessing potential impacts.

Deforestation

The overarching policy for the sustainable management of forests, woodland and trees in England is a presumption against deforestation.

Woodland Creation

The UK is committed in law to net zero emissions by 2050. Tree planting is recognised as contributing to efforts to tackle the biodiversity and climate emergencies we are currently facing. Neighbourhood plans are a useful mechanism for promoting tree planting close to people so that the cultural and health benefits of trees can be enjoyed alongside their broader environmental benefits. Any planting considered by the plan should require healthy resilient tree stock to minimise the risk of pests and diseases and maximise its climate change resilience, a robust management plan should also be put in place.

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From: Anne-Marie Shepherd <Anne-Marie_Shepherd@N-KESTEVEN.GOV.UK>
Sent: 16 June 2022 14:32
Cc: NK - Neighbourhood Planning <NeighbourhoodPlanning@n-kesteven.gov.uk>
Subject: Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 Consultation

This Message originated outside your organisation.

Good afternoon,

I understand you were originally consulted during the pre-submission stage of the plan so in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Act I would like to make you aware that Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council have now submitted their draft neighbourhood plan, which means that the statutory publicity period is about to begin.

The plan, supporting information and the response form can be downloaded from the North Kesteven District Council website via:

[Scopwick and Kirkby Green Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 Consultation | North Kesteven District Council \(n-kesteven.gov.uk\)](#)

The publicity period runs from Friday 17 June until Friday 29 July 2022, during which interested parties are invited to make comments on the neighbourhood plan. All comments must be received by 17:00pm on Friday 29 July 2022 and submitted in writing to North Kesteven District Council using the response form.

Completed forms should be returned via email to: NeighbourhoodPlanning@n-kesteven.gov.uk or by post to:

Partnerships Team
North Kesteven District Council
District Council Offices
Kesteven Street
Sleaford
Lincolnshire, NG34 7EF

An independent Examiner, who will report on the plan prior to a local referendum on the final document, will consider all comments received. If you wish to be notified of the District Council's decision on whether to accept the Examiner's recommendation and any future progress with the plan please state this in your representation. Please note that all representations received will be made available to the public.

For further information, please contact the Partnerships team at the District Council via e-mail at or by phone on 01529 414155.

Kind regards,

Anne-Marie



Anne-Marie Shepherd

Senior Partnerships Officer

Tel: 01529 414155

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