

Oundle Neighbourhood Plan examination

Note from Examiner

I am appointed as the independent Examiner of the Neighbourhood Plan and my examination is already under way. I am primarily relying on the written material - the Submission Plan and other supporting documentation - that the Town Council submitted to East Northamptonshire Council, together with the representations that were made to it.

I have called a public hearing – which is only part of my examination – as there are certain matters on which I need clarification. I have therefore prepared an Agenda and invited those parties who I want to hear from (they made representations in the consultation period). I will lead discussion of the topics.

The hearing takes place in public but is NOT a public meeting. Nor is it a Public Inquiry or Examination in Public, that some may associate with other planning procedures. I am not assessing the Soundness of the plan, rather its compliance with the Basic Conditions and defined legal requirements. I am not expecting parties to be legally represented, though parties can be if they wish to.

I am not expecting new material on or before the day, apart from any specific material I have asked for; though if parties have resolved any differences then I am most happy to hear where they have got to on the day and to listen to suggested modifications.

I will chair the hearing, at the start of which I will explain more fully how the morning will proceed; and there will be a moment for the public or attendees to ask me questions about the process but not address me on the plan or its merits. I am not expecting members of the public or others attending to take an active part. But it is important that the proceedings take place in public.

The hearing is for my benefit and so I will be asking the invited parties questions and will open up a discussion to help me understand the issues being raised and how I might deal with them. I am not expecting parties to ask questions of other participants and they will need to ask me if they wish to do so. Only those I have invited may take part in the discussions.

John Parmiter FRICS FRSA MRTPI
Independent Examiner
October 2019