

THUNDRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2018- 2033

BASIC CONDITIONS STATEMENT

1. Introduction

1.1 In accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations 2012 (as amended), this plan must satisfy “basic conditions” before it can come into force. The plan must:

- Have appropriate regard to national planning policy
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development
- Be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the local area.
- Not breach and otherwise be compatible with European Union (EU) obligations, including human rights requirements
- The making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

1.2 In addition, the Neighbourhood Plan must meet the prescribed legal requirements. This statement confirms that the Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan, 2018 - 2033, submitted by Thundridge Parish Council and its supporting Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee, meets all the necessary requirements.

2. Legal Requirements

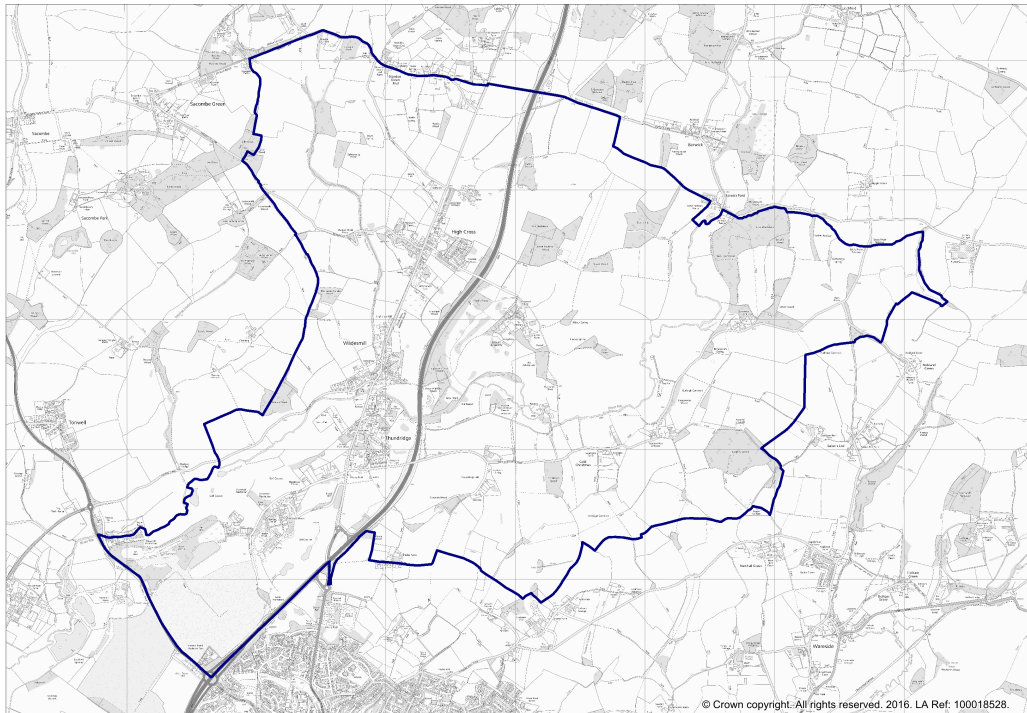
2.1 The Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan (hereinafter called the Neighbourhood Plan) is submitted by Thundridge Parish Council, the qualifying body, which is entitled to submit a neighbourhood plan for its own parish. The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by the Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (TNPAC) and overseen by Thundridge Parish Council.

2.3 The policies laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan relate to planning matters and have been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements and processes set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2018 (as amended)

2.4 The Neighbourhood Plan identifies the period as 2018-2033. This period was chosen as it was aligned with the end date of the East Herts District Plan 2011-2033. Notably, the Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

2.5 The Neighbourhood Plan relates to the Thundridge Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. The Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area and there are no other neighbourhood plans in place within the neighbourhood area.

Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan Designated Area



2.6 In order to ensure that the last of the Basic Conditions listed in paragraph 1.1 above are complied with, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report was submitted to East Herts Council by Thundridge Parish Council. Following consultation with the three prescribed statutory bodies, East Herts Council determined that:

a. In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, the District Council, as the responsible authority, has determined that an environmental assessment of the emerging Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan is not required as it is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. In making this determination, the District Council has had regard to Schedule 1 of the Regulations and has carried out consultation with the consultation bodies;

and

b. The emerging Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a significant effect upon a Natura 2000 designation and therefore does not require an HRA. This took into account the Habitats Regulations Assessment carried out for East Herts District Plan 2018.

2.6 The determination by the District Council was effective from the 28 September 2019 and can be found by following this link:

<http://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=1273&J=3>

3. Key Requirements

3.1 The National Policy Planning Framework 2019 (NPPF) calls for neighbourhood plans to support the delivery of strategic policies (Paragraph 13) and apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development (Paragraph 11)

3.2 The preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan has been led by TNPAC, which was made up of volunteers, overseen by the Thundridge Parish Council with advice and drafting support from a planning consultancy practicing predominantly in East Hertfordshire. The policies laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan provide a practical framework for the guidance of the Local Planning Authority in making decisions on planning applications in the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

3.3 The Neighbourhood Plan aims to meet the needs and demands of the local community, conserving the rural feel of the parish and to further enhance the wellbeing of new and existing residents, as well as ensuring that all development is sustainable.

3.4 In accordance to the NPPF, it is of importance that the planning policies have three overarching objectives that are both interdependent and dependent. These objectives are economic, social and environmental objectives (Paragraph 7 and 8).

3.5 The economic objective refers to building a ‘strong responsive and competitive economy’ through supporting growth and innovation, identifying and co-ordinating the provision of infrastructure, and ensuring that there is sufficient land of the right types in the right places (Paragraph 8a).

3.6 The social objective is to build and support a strong, vibrant and healthy community, by ensuring that the number of homes is sufficient in terms of quantity and is able to meet the needs of the current and future generations, fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces which reflect the present and future needs; as well as supporting communities’ health, social and cultural well-being (Paragraph 8b).

3.7 The environmental objective ensures that the natural, built and historic environment is protected and enhanced, biodiversity is improved, waste and pollution is minimised and that natural resources are used prudently (Paragraph 8c).

3.8 While preparing the Neighbourhood Plan, Thundridge Parish Council and TNPAC ensured that the policies satisfy the criteria that the NPPF provides. This is laid out below.

3.9 Economic Policies

Policies THFS3, THFS4, THFS5 and THFS6 all address the need to further improve and enhance Thundridge’s local economy through improving local businesses infrastructure and promoting home working.

3.10 Social Policies

Policies THFS1 and THFS2 identify the needs of the community, seeking to establish assets of value to the community, while policies THE5 and THE6 highlight Local Green Spaces and recreational open spaces that should be protected for future generations. Policies THH1 to THH6 look at the housing needs of the current and future population.

3.11 Environmental Policies

Policies THE1 to THE9 explain how the environment will be protected through identifying green spaces and significant views, enhancing local biodiversity and ensuring that mitigation and adaption techniques are in place to combat the detrimental effects of climate change. In addition, policies THH7 to THH10 provide design guidance for new housing development.

4. Contributing to achieving sustainable development

4.1 The NPPF reaffirms that the overall aim of the planning system is to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development (Paragraph 7). There is a presumption that all policies laid out in the Neighbourhood Plan are sustainable:

- Providing a framework detailing the new housing developments in the parish up to 2033
- Ensuring that there are effective measures implemented for the protection of green spaces for current and future generations to enjoy
- Promoting the production of renewable energy on a small domestic scale
- Promoting and supporting the development of in-fill sites in the village
- Ensuring that the existing employment area is improved
- Promoting the protection and conservation of local biodiversity.

5. Conformity with Strategic Policies in the Local Plan

5.1 At the time of preparing this document, the current development plan was the East Herts District Plan October 2018. These policies are referred to in the Neighbourhood Plan.

5.2 The Neighbourhood Plan policies are in accordance with the following relevant strategic policies in the East Herts District Plan 2018:

INT 1, DPS 1-5, GBR 1-2, VILL 2,4, HOU 1-4, ED 1-2, DES 2,4, TRA 1,3, CLFR 1,2, NE 1-4, HA 1,2,8, CC 1-2, WAT 1,2,5,6, EQ 4

5.3 The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in consultation and co-operation with the local planning authority, East Herts Council.

5.4 There is duty and a commitment by the District Council to review its planning policies whenever the need is demonstrated. Accordingly, Thundridge Parish Council

will monitor and review the Neighbourhood Plan, in order to ensure that the policies, laid out in the plan, remain in general conformity with the development plan.

6. Compatibility with Human Rights and EU legislation

6.1 The proposals and policies in the Neighbourhood Plan are compatible with the human rights legislation and all the existing requirements of European Law.

7. Summary

7.1 It is a legal requirement that Thundridge Parish Council and TNPAC submit this statement. It confirms that the submitted Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions required of a neighbourhood plan as defined in current neighbourhood planning legislation.

8. Appendices

8.1 The following tables indicate how the policies in the Thundridge Neighbourhood Plan are in accordance with:

Appendix A: The strategic objectives in the East Herts District Plan 2017-2033

Appendix B: The strategic policies in the East Herts District Plan 2017-2033.

Appendix A: Neighbourhood Plan Policy Map to the Strategic Objectives in East Herts District Plan 2017–2033

District Plan Strategic Objectives	TH E1	TH E2	TH E3	TH E4	TH E5	TH E6	TH E7	TH E8	TH E9	TH FS1	TH FS2	TH FS3	TH FS4	TH FS5	TH FS6	TH FS7	TH H1	TH H2	TH H3	TH H4	TH H5	TH H6	TH H7	TH H8	TH H9	TH H10
1. Mitigate the effects of climate change									✓							✓										✓
2. Encourage safe and vibrant mixed communities										✓						✓	✓									
3. Balance the housing market																	✓		✓	✓		✓				
4. Protect the countryside & historic environment and promote good design	✓		✓	✓	✓												✓			✓	✓					
5. Foster entrepreneurship												✓	✓	✓	✓											
6. Improve access and sustainable transport																✓	✓									
7. Maintain and improve existing facilities and provide new facilities						✓				✓	✓															
8. Improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities.						✓																				
9. Protect and enhance environmental assets including biodiversity		✓			✓		✓	✓																		
10. Provide necessary infrastructure															✓	✓										

Appendix B: Neighbourhood Plan Policy Map to the Strategic Policies in East Herts District Plan 2017–2033

District Plan Strategic Policies	TH E1	TH E2	TH E3	TH E4	TH E5	TH E6	TH E7	TH E8	TH E9	TH FS1	TH FS2	TH FS3	TH FS4	TH FS5	TH FS6	TH FS7	TH H1	TH H2	TH H3	TH H4	TH H5	TH H6	TH H7	TH H8	TH H9	TH H10
INT1 Sustainable Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DPS1 Housing, Employment and Retail Growth													✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
DPS2 Development Strategy											✓						✓									
DPS3 Housing Supply																	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				
DPS4 Infrastructure Requirements								✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
DPS5 Neighbourhood Planning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
GBR1 Green Belt																										
GBR2 Rural Area Beyond the Green Belt																										
VILL2 Group 2 Villages	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
VILL4 Village Employment Areas												✓	✓	✓												

District Plan Strategic Policies	TH E1	TH E2	TH E3	TH E4	TH E5	TH E6	TH E7	TH E8	TH E9	TH FS1	TH FS2	TH FS3	TH FS4	TH FS5	TH FS6	TH FS7	TH H1	TH H2	TH H3	TH H4	TH H5	TH H6	TH H7	TH H8	TH H9	TH H10
HOU1 Type and Mix of Housing																		✓	✓	✓						
HOU2 Housing Density																	✓	✓	✓			✓				
HOU3 Affordable Housing																	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
HOU4 Rural Exception Affordable Housing Sites																					✓					
ED1 Employment												✓	✓	✓												
ED2 Rural Economy													✓													
DES2 Landscape Character				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓									
DES4 Design of Development																		✓	✓				✓	✓		
TRA1 Sustainable Transport																✓	✓	✓	✓							
TRA3 Vehicle Parking Provision																									✓	
CFLR1 Open space, Sport and Recreation						✓				✓	✓															
CLFR2 Local Green Space					✓																					
NE1 Int, National & Locally Designated							✓																			

District Strategic Policies	Plan	TH E1	TH E2	TH E3	TH E4	TH E5	TH E6	TH E7	TH E8	TH E9	TH FS1	TH FS2	TH FS3	TH FS4	TH FS5	TH FS6	TH FS7	TH H1	TH H2	TH H3	TH H4	TH H5	TH H6	TH H7	TH H8	TH H9	TH H10	
Nature Conservation																												
NE2 Nature Conservation Interest (non-designated)						✓		✓	✓																			
NE3 Species and Habitats								✓																				
NE4 Green Infrastructure						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																		
HA1 Designated Heritage Assets		✓																										
HA2 Non-Designated Heritage Assets			✓																									
HA8 Historic Parks and Gardens		✓																										
CC1 Climate Change Adaption																												✓
CC2 Climate Change Mitigation									✓	✓																		✓
WAT1 Flood Risk Management										✓																		