



Chapter 7 – Melton’s Environment – Protected and Enhanced – **Policy EN2 – Biodiversity and Geo-diversity**

Name	User ID	Issue or comment	Officer Response	Proposed Amendment
Robert Ian Lockey	ANON-BHRP-4H3G-2	This is not a plan or a policy. What exactly is the council proposing to do?	The Council will use Policy EN2: Biodiversity and Geo-diversity in the determination of all future planning applications.	
Angus Smith	ANON-BHRP-4HZK-D	This is clear.	Noted	
Mr John Brown	ANON-BHRP-4H4Z-P	Wildlife and the environment are very important and should be considered at all times. Village boundaries should remain the same.	The decision not to take village envelopes forward into the new Local Plan was made in order to reduce the development pressure on open areas within villages and allow sustainable growth. Outside of new allocations in villages, Policy SS3 allows for additional development subject to it meeting criteria which promote sustainability.	
Mark Colin Marlow	ANON-BHRP-4HEJ-Q	I would like to see these ideas put into action.	Noted. The Council will use Policy EN2: Biodiversity and Geo-diversity in the determination of all future planning applications.	
John A Herlihy	ANON-BHRP-4HU3-G	words again	Noted	
Maira Hart	ANON-BHRP-4HU7-M	Habitat fragmentation should be avoided and that sensitive nature is given the opportunity to survive. There is an interlinking of Great Crested Newt habitats along the north side of Long Clawson through to Hose; there is also a population south of Long Clawson with linkages through the historic area of Castle Field, the playing field and	The Great Crested Newt habitats at Long Clawson are mapped and will need to be taken into consideration in the design and layout of any new development in the village.	

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		the Manor House pond area. The wildlife corridors between these areas need to be conserved.		
CHRISTINE LARSON	ANON-BHRP-4HUU-J	It is essential that habitat fragmentation should be avoided and that sensitive nature is given the opportunity to survive. There is an interlinking of Great Crested Newt habitats along the north side of Long Clawson through to Hose; there is also a population south of Long Clawson with linkages through the historic area of Castle Field, the playing field and the Manor House pond area. The wildlife corridors between these areas need to be conserved.	The Great Crested Newt habitats at Long Clawson are mapped and will need to be taken into consideration in the design and layout of any new development in the village.	
Clawson in Action - residents' group set up to Keep Clawson Long and Rural and working to support the production of a Long Clawson Neighbourhood Plan	ANON-BHRP-4HBM-Q	It is essential that habitat fragmentation should be avoided and that sensitive nature is given the opportunity to survive. There is an interlinking of Great Crested Newt habitats along the north side of Long Clawson through to Hose; there is also a population south of Long Clawson with linkages through the historic area of Castle Field, the playing field and the Manor House pond area. The wildlife corridors between these areas need to be conserved.	The Great Crested Newt habitats at Long Clawson are mapped and will need to be taken into consideration in the design and layout of any new development in the village.	
Susan Herlihy	ANON-BHRP-4HE3-Z	It will require a substantial financial commitment to ensure this is done properly and effectively.	Developer contributions will be sought for the enhancement of and creation of new habitat.	
Deborah Caroline Adams	ANON-BHRP-4H38-K	I am objecting as it is quite clear from the map of the proposed North Melton SUE that there will be no "net gains for nature" there! The Country Park will be surrounded by development.	In addition to Policy EN1, Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood requires a protection zone between Melton Country Park and any future development. It also requires the provision of new wildlife corridors specifically at Melton Country Park.	
Clair Ingham	ANON-BHRP-4HMZ-F	Seems sensible	Noted.	
Melanie Steadman	ANON-BHRP-4HFE-K	D - De culvert watercourses - bring it on! Do not allow development where there are endangered or protected species, mitigation is not enough. I would suggest that the disused railway lines could be incorporated into some sort of cycle, rambling network across the county, perhaps linking up with other resources outside the borough, eg, The Viking Way at Denton, The Grantham Canal or the Jubilee Way in Belvoir woods	Policy EN3: The Melton Green Infrastructure Network seeks to enhance the Newark to Market Harborough disused railway line as a primary green infrastructure area. In addition Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood requires the provision of new corridors of green infrastructure particularly at the disused railway line.	
Thorpe Park Residents Association	ANON-BHRP-4H67-N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Melton Country Park and its surrounding area is a rich environment for wildlife and is of significant ecological value. A good number of Britain's most endangered species inhabit the area, both within the park boundaries and on surrounding land, and would be at threat</li> </ul>	Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood requires a protection zone between Melton Country Park and any future development. It also requires the provision of new wildlife corridors specifically at Melton	

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		<p>from any proposed development. (19 of the 60 species that appear on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan Red List, inhabit the area.) • The current draft Local Plan states: "The Borough Council will seek to achieve net gains for nature. It will protect and enhance biodiversity, ecological networks and geological conservation interests throughout the Borough and beyond its boundaries by supporting proposals which: ♣ contribute to the provision of coherent wildlife networks ♣ promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats as listed in the UK and Leicestershire Local Biodiversity Action Plans" "The Borough Council will support the need for the appropriate management and maintenance of existing and created habitats through the use of planning conditions, planning obligations and management agreement" (p113). • The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. Any development in the vicinity of the Country Park would contravene that guidance.</p>	Country Park.	
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**Policy EN2: What changes would you like to see made to this policy?**

<b>Name</b>	<b>User ID</b>	<b>Issue or comment</b>	<b>Officer Response</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>
Robert Ian Lockey	ANON-BHRP-4H3G-2	This should identify what the council proposes to do within plan timescales and resource limitations.	The Plan timetable is published in the Local Development Scheme on the Council’s website and updates are available on the Melton Local Plan website <a href="http://www.meltonplan.co.uk">www.meltonplan.co.uk</a>	
Mark Colin Marlow	ANON-BHRP-4HEJ-Q	I would insist on specific surveys on wildlife, not just protected species, but all wildlife that might be affected by development.	Phase 1 Habitat Surveys have been carried out on all reasonable alternative sites and will be carried out on any additional sites considered for allocation in the Published Plan.	
Anthony Thomas	ANON-BHRP-4HFX-6	Wind Turbines must not be located anywhere near an area where wildlife is abundant, or anywhere they may be seen from 500 metres away or within 3 kilometres of a dwelling.	Policy EN10: Energy Generation from Renewable Sources, seeks to manage wind energy development in the Borough. The Melton and Rushcliffe Landscape Sensitivity Study 2014 provides the evidence to support those areas identified as suitable for wind energy development in Policy EN10. The policy requires that cumulative effects and other criteria including residential amenity, designated nature conservation interests and ecology are taken into account.	
Environment Agency	ANON-BHRP-4HFU-3	Paragraph D - would advise this reads - ‘Re-naturalises rivers and streams where ever possible through removal of hard engineered structures such as reinforced banks, weirs and culverts.’ Whilst culverts can be detrimental, hard engineering in general can be detrimental to the habitat value of rivers and streams and should be	Noted.	Policy to be amended to take account of suggestion changes to wording.

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		removed as and when the opportunities arise to help improve river habitat and help deliver WFD objectives.		
Deborah Caroline Adams	ANON-BHRP-4H38-K	I would like to see MBC actually adhere to these policies.	Noted. The Council will use Policy EN2: Biodiversity and Geo-diversity in the determination of all future planning applications.	
Anthony Paphiti	ANON-BHRP-4HBV-Z	There will be a need to ensure that independent expert advice is taken in the case of any project that may impact upon local wildlife habitats. Local government officers are not impartial and often lack the requisite expertise to provide a sound and fair assessment.	Leicestershire County Council Ecology Team is consulted on all applications which impact on wildlife designations and provide planning officers with the expertise necessary to make an informed decision on planning applications.	
Thorpe Park Residents Association	ANON-BHRP-4H67-N	To maintain the current levels of biodiversity it is essential to retain significant and sustainable wildlife corridors to the north and east of the Country Park.	Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood requires a protection zone between Melton Country Park and any future development. It also requires the provision of new wildlife corridors specifically at Melton Country Park.	
Bottesford Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	ANON-BHRP-4HUB-Y	In addition to provision of rural wildlife corridors the continuous fencing in built up areas needs gaps for hedgehogs and other wildlife to move around. It is understood that gravel boards are now available with hedgehog sized holes.	Noted.	Policy to promote and support the use of fencing which incorporates holes for wildlife movement.
Richard Simon	ANON-BHRP-4HZC-5	In addition to wildlife corridors the impacts of developments across animal routes must be considered by providing ways through the maze of garden fences.	Noted.	Policy to promote and support the use of fencing which incorporates holes for wildlife movement.
Bottesford Parish Council	ANON-BHRP-4H1W-G	In addition to provision of rural wildlife corridors the continuous fencing in built up areas needs gaps for hedgehogs and other wildlife to move around. It is understood that gravel boards are now available with hedgehog sized holes.	Noted.	Policy to promote and support the use of fencing which incorporates holes for wildlife movement
Anthony Edward Maher	ANON-BHRP-4HUS-G	Make these points in detail before planning consent is given. Outline planning permission seems to allow the developer too much scope for changing layouts and detail.	Noted. The Council will use Policy EN2: Biodiversity and Geo-diversity in the determination of all future planning applications.	
Mick Jones	ANON-BHRP-4H6N-C	Remove E-E or put it in other words.	No explanation or alternative provided with this comment.	
Asfordby Parish Council	ANON-BHRP-4HGY-8	Asfordby Parish Council has made good progress with the preparation of the Asfordby Parish Neighbourhood Plan. It has successfully applied to Melton Borough Council to be designated a Neighbourhood Area, and a Parish Profile and other evidence has been prepared. Local residents and school children have already had a chance to influence the Plan. Consultation on a Pre-Submission	Noted.	Policy EN2 amended to say: “....supporting proposals..provided they do not harm: <u>K) Biodiversity and geo-diversity designations identified in a Neighbourhood Plan.</u> ”

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		version of the Neighbourhood Plan has recently ended and the plan is due to be submitted very soon. National Planning Practice Guidance gives advice on the relationship between the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans (Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 12-013-20140306). The Guidance states that 'where a neighbourhood plan has been made, the local planning authority should take it into account when preparing the Local Plan strategy and policies, and avoid duplicating the policies that are in the neighbourhood plan.' It is very likely that the Asfordby Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made' in advance of the adoption of the Melton Local Plan. Accordingly, the Parish Council expects the new Melton Local Plan to do more to recognise the status of the Asfordby Parish Neighbourhood Plan and ensure that Local Plan Policies are consistent with it and do not duplicate its policies or proposals. In particular, we expect new Melton Local Plan policy EN2 to reflect the protection offered by the Asfordby Parish Neighbourhood Plan to the Asfordby Hill Local Wildlife Site.		
Woodland Trust	ANON-BHRP-4HHX-8	We would prefer a slight amendment replacing "veteran trees" with "ancient and veteran trees". An ancient tree is a tree which is important because of its great age, whereas a veteran tree is a tree which is not so old but, because of the environmental conditions to which it has been exposed, displays many of the features of an ancient tree. There are two sets of paragraphs labelled A, B, C etc within the policy and it might be less confusing if one of these were labelled 1, 2, 3 etc	Noted.	Policy EN2 amended to replace "veteran trees" with " <u>ancient and veteran trees</u> ".  Paragraph labelling amended A) to K)
Mr DAVID WILSON	ANON-BHRP-4HHF-P	A much wider wild life corridor established and protected from future development with the country park fanning out from the town rather than being effectively circled and turned into a large town park rather than country park	Policy SS5: Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood requires a protection zone between Melton Country Park and any future development. It also requires the provision of new wildlife corridors specifically at Melton Country Park.	
Mary Anne Donovan	ANON-BHRP-4HUR-F	I would add that this policy is heavily dependent on site and area assessments that must be conducted at a level of their importance and based on a time schedule which allows them to assess the biodiversity requirements for a legitimate period of time, at least a year.	All applications for full planning permission require a Biodiversity Survey and Report (Ecological Survey) / Protected Species Survey and Report where the proposed development may have possible impacts on designated sites and important habitats and/ the site contains or is close to a known location for a protected species, or b) there is a high probability that a protected species will be present.	