

## Regulation 16 Consultation on the Submitted Malvern Town Neighbourhood Plan RESPONSE FORM

Under Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Malvern Town Council has submitted the draft Malvern Town Neighbourhood Plan to Malvern Hills District Council. In accordance with Regulation 16, Malvern Hills District Council would like to invite comments from organisations and individuals on the Neighbourhood Plan.

This consultation runs for six weeks from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November to 5:00pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

If you wish to comment on the draft Malvern Town Neighbourhood Plan **please complete and return this form no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 to:**

**Email:** [policy.plans@malvern hills.gov.uk](mailto:policy.plans@malvern hills.gov.uk) , or by

**Post:** Planning Policy, Malvern Hills District Council, Planning Services, The Council House, Avenue Road, Malvern, Worcestershire, WR14 3AF.

The personal information you provide on this form will be held and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.

Please note that your name and comments will be made publicly available when displaying the outcome of this consultation and cannot be treated as confidential. Any other details, including signatures, private telephone numbers and email addresses will not be published on the Council's website, but the original representations with personal details redacted will be published. Your details will be retained in order for us to validate your comments. We will use these details to notify you of the progress on the Malvern Town Neighbourhood Plan. If you do not wish to be notified of the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan please let us know by ticking the appropriate box at the end of this response form.

Please fill in your details in the boxes below:

Full Name: John Gillham

Organisation (if applicable): Self

Address (including postcode):

Telephone number:

Email address:

Please state which part of the draft Neighbourhood Plan (i.e. which section, objective or policy) your representation refers to (please use a separate form for each representation):

### **Proposed Neighbourhood Green Space: Hayslan Fields Malvern**

Please use the space below to make comments on this part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The South Worcester Development Plan (SWDP) has designated a number of sites in Malvern as Green Space and that designation has been independently tested both in the examination by the Plan Inspector in 2016 and, in the case of the Hayslan Fields by the Appeal Inspector following rejection, also in 2016, of a planning application.

The Neighbourhood Plan follows this lead by designating the Hayslan Fields as Neighbourhood Green Space. It has been argued that the fact that the fields are in private ownership negates their value as a green asset to the community, but that argument was rejected during the formulation of the SWDP, indeed it was specially cited as a good example of Green Space in private ownership. The independent landscape report commissioned by MHDC for the 2016 Planning Appeal said that "It's not a park but it feels like one".

In the last three decades there have been almost a dozen attempts to develop the fields for housing or otherwise deny the peace and tranquillity that they afford. All these attempts were rejected. The level of deprivation in the Pickersleigh Ward is a matter of public record and some enjoyment of quality green space is often cited as an important Public Health benefit. Even from the public footpaths crossing the field, the relative peace and tranquillity of the Hayslan fields are obvious. In contrast to the surrounding green spaces which are occupied by very valuable - but noisy - games of football at the weekends, it offers peace, whether in its current semi-wild state or when laid to grass as it was for many decades.

The footpaths are also a corridor for children going to and returning from the Grove School where they can let off steam in an open environment well away from the noise, pollution and other dangers of Malvern's crowded rush-hour roads. Local people and visitors can be seen stopping for a chat in a way that is unlikely on a noisy pavement or simply enjoying the lovely views up to the Malvern Hills, an increasingly rare possibility as Malvern becomes more and more developed.

The line of Green Space extending from Manor Park and Woodward's Meadow through the Hayslan Fields to the Malvern Rugby Club and beyond to Worcester is clearly visible from the Hills as part of the visual appeal of Malvern to Tourists who contribute considerably to the income and employment in the town. Of course Malvern needs housing, but it also needs to take care of its amenities such as the Green Spaces designated and tested in the Local plans. **Keep the Green Space designation of these assets intact.**

Please use a separate form for each representation.

#### **Future Notification**

Please state whether you would like to be notified of the decision on the Neighbourhood Plan proposal:

Yes

No

**Signature** ...John Gillham (by E-mail)

**Date** 12/12/2018

Thank you for completing this form.