

# Foston Neighbourhood Development Plan



2016 - 2026

## **Foston's Neighbourhood Plan Policies at a glance**

There are 21 Policies that are to be read in conjunction with;  
Foston's Neighbourhood Development Plan (February 2017),  
Foston Landscape Character Assessment (December 2014),  
Foston's Built Character Assessment (March 2016),  
Foston's Residential, Commercial Building Guidance and  
Renewable Energy Guidance (March 2016).

## 4. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN POLICIES

### Introduction

- 4.1 The policies of the Foston Parish Neighbourhood Plan are set within the context of the National Planning Framework. The scope and content of the Foston Neighbourhood Plan has been shaped by the priorities and aspirations of the Foston community, led by the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

### Planning Context

- 4.2 The following statements provide the context in which the Plan Policies were compiled:
- The procedure for the making of a Neighbourhood Plan is prescribed within the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.
  - The Regulations have informed the preparation of policies for the Foston Neighbourhood Plan, in particular the definition of Foston being a 'smaller village' and therefore a 'less sustainable' development (defined below).
  - Ensuring that the Neighbourhood Plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies of SKDC.

### Sustainability

- 4.3 SKDC's Core Strategy includes the promotion of a more sustainable pattern of development in the region. To achieve this, Local Service Centres have been identified to support the network of smaller settlements outside of the four main market towns. Local Service Centres have been identified based on the ability to provide a range of community services similar to those found in a small town and act as a focal point for the rural communities and the surrounding hinterlands. Those villages not labelled Local Service Centres, ie those with fewer or no services, are deemed 'smaller villages' and are considered less sustainable locations.
- 4.4 Foston has been defined as a 'smaller village' and its nearest Local Service Centre is Long Bennington.

### Neighbourhood Plans

- 4.5 The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the broad parameters within which a Neighbourhood Plan should be prepared. It notes that there are a number of key elements that should be at the heart of Neighbourhood Plan making:
- Neighbourhood Plans give communities direct power to develop a shared vision of the neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need.
  - Neighbourhood Plans can shape and direct sustainable development within their area.
  - The ambition of the Neighbourhood Plan should be aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider area.
  - Neighbourhood Plans should be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and plan positively to support them. They should not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan and should not undermine its strategic policies.

## Policy Objectives

- 4.6 The policies of the Foston Neighbourhood Plan seek to deliver the Vision and Objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan, as derived from the extensive community engagement and participation. These have been defined earlier in the Plan and are summarised below:

*To be a successful and vibrant rural village that values its past but looks to the future.*

1. To recognise the distinctive quality of the landscape of the Parish of Foston, and seek to protect and enhance the local landscape character, its biodiversity, footpaths and bridleways
  2. To promote the safeguarding and enhancement of locally important buildings and features that contribute to the character of the Parish
  3. To allow for a limited amount of new development to meet local needs, having regard to national and local planning policies for development in the countryside
  4. To encourage measures to improve highway safety for all road users.
- 4.7 The Policies are to be read in conjunction with the Building Design Guidance (Appendix 6), the Foston Landscape Character Assessment (December 2014) provided in Appendix 3, and the Built Character Assessment (August 2015) shown in Appendix 2.
- 4.8 The Plan will cover the time period **2016 to 2026**.

## Foston Neighbourhood Plan Policies

- 4.9 The intention of the Neighbourhood Plan Policies is to sustain and enhance the rural setting and landscape character of the Parish. The Policies have been designed to protect views and key features, promote economic and recreational value and protect heritage and conservation. The Policies detailed below are generic to all sites and developments taking place within the Parish. The Policies are grouped into nine categories:

1. Quality of Life
2. Environment and Countryside
3. Heritage and the Built Environment
4. Housing and New Development
5. Business
6. Renewable Energy
7. Leisure, Recreation and Community Facilities
8. Transport
9. Implementation

- 4.10 All 21 Policies are to be read in conjunction with the Design Guidance, the Foston Landscape Character Assessment (December 2014) and the Built Character Assessment (August 2015).

## 1. QUALITY OF LIFE

4.11 The four policies in this section support all four of the Plan's objectives listed above.

### Policy FNP01 – Supporting development that respects the character, scale and historic features of the Parish

Development proposals will be supported where they are appropriate to the character, existing scale, natural, historic and cultural attributes and features of the Parish's landscape. Developments must respect the landscape character of the Parish and its settlements, as defined within the Landscape Character Assessment and Built Character Assessment, and incorporate features which contribute to the conservation, enhancement or restoration of these features.

4.12 The Foston Neighbourhood Plan supports development which recognises the distinctive quality of the landscape of the Parish of Foston, and seeks to protect and enhance the local rural landscape character, its biodiversity, footpaths and bridleways.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Inclusion of 'visual intrusion' as a criteria for the assessment of new developments in policy EN1, including the 'protection of existing open space (including the setting and separation of built-up areas)' and 'local distinctiveness and sense of place'. |

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### Policy FNP02 – Maintaining the rural character of the Parish

Development proposals will be supported where they maintain the important features which define the character and setting of the Parish and which are set out within the Foston Landscape Character Assessment and Built Character Assessment. In particular, development which would impact on key views into and out of the Neighbourhood Plan area, should demonstrate that these features have been sensitively and appropriately considered and incorporated and/or mitigated as necessary.

4.13 Key to the quality of life in the Parish, is retaining the rural and tranquil outlook and open views as outlined in the Landscape Character Assessment and evidenced throughout the consultation process.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Inclusion of 'visual intrusion' as a criteria for the assessment of new developments in policy EN1, including the 'protection of existing open space (including the setting and separation of built-up areas)' and 'local distinctiveness and sense of place'. See Objectives 11 & 12. |

#### **Policy FNP03 – Protection of existing community facilities**

The Neighbourhood Plan supports the protection of existing community facilities and services that meet the needs of local residents, businesses and visitors and will not support any developments which remove community facilities. Only where it can be shown that the facilities are no longer needed or viable or where acceptable alternative provision exists or is proposed concurrently, will development for non-community uses be considered.

4.14 Foston enjoys a strong community spirit which requires safeguarding as evidenced throughout the consultation process, including a range of community facilities.

| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| SKDC Core Strategy | Policy EN1 states that all new development will be assessed in relation to 'local distinctiveness and sense of place, public access to and community value of the landscape, protection of existing space (including allotments, public open space, open spaces important to the character, setting and separation of built-up areas)'.                                                               |
| NPPF Policy        | Para 69 explains the important role in facilitating social interaction and inclusive, healthy communities. Key objective to achieve places which promote opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages that do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. |

#### **Policy FNP04 – Safety and Security**

Support will be given to development proposals that are in accordance with the other policies in this Plan and which adequately take into account the safety and security of the users of the facilities and of the wider community.

4.15 It is imperative that the environment within the Parish remains safe with low crime levels.

| Conforms with: |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| NPPF Policy    | Para 58 and 69 states that Neighbourhood Plans should ensure development creates safe and accessible environments where crime, disorder and the fear of crime do not undermine quality of life of community cohesion. |

## **2. ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTRYSIDE**

4.16 Objective 1 is particularly pertinent for the two policies within this section.

#### **Policy FNP05 – Nature conservation and protection of landscape**

Development proposals will be supported where they include specific measures to retain features of high nature conservation or landscape value, including mature trees, species-rich hedgerows, ponds and existing areas of woodland. Improvement of the connectivity between wildlife areas and green spaces will be encouraged to enhance the green infrastructure of the Parish.

In particular, new development should, wherever possible maintain existing hedgerows, trees and woodland and encourage the planting of new trees and hedgerows. Where new trees are proposed, these should wherever possible, be appropriate disease resistant species.

4.17 A priority is to protect and enhance wildlife (flora and fauna) in and around the Parish.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| SKDC Core Strategy | EN1 assesses all new development on 'the condition of the landscape, biodiversity and ecology networks in the landscape'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| NPPF Policy        | <p>Para 109 states that planning should protect and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity. Furthermore planning should prevent both new and existing development putting biodiversity at an unacceptable risk.</p> <p>Para 117 explains that policies should minimise impacts on biodiversity by planning for biodiversity at a landscape-scale, promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species population.</p> <p>Para 118 states opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments should be encouraged with permission being refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland.</p> |

#### Policy FNP06 – Improving access to the countryside

New development for appropriate uses, which seeks to maintain or improve access to the countryside, will be supported, where it is in accordance with the other policies of the Plan. In particular, the following improvements will be sought:

- New development should ensure that access to existing permissive rights of way are maintained.
- Wherever practical new development should provide linkages to existing footpaths and rights of way or create new routes if feasible.

The following infrastructure improvements may be provided for through the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), where feasible, if/when this is adopted by South Kesteven District Council:

- Improvements to existing footpath signage to ensure they are easily identified and accessible all year round.

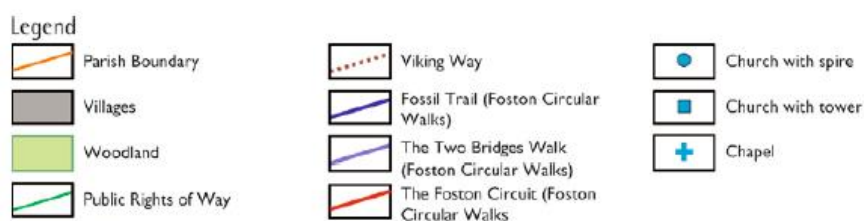
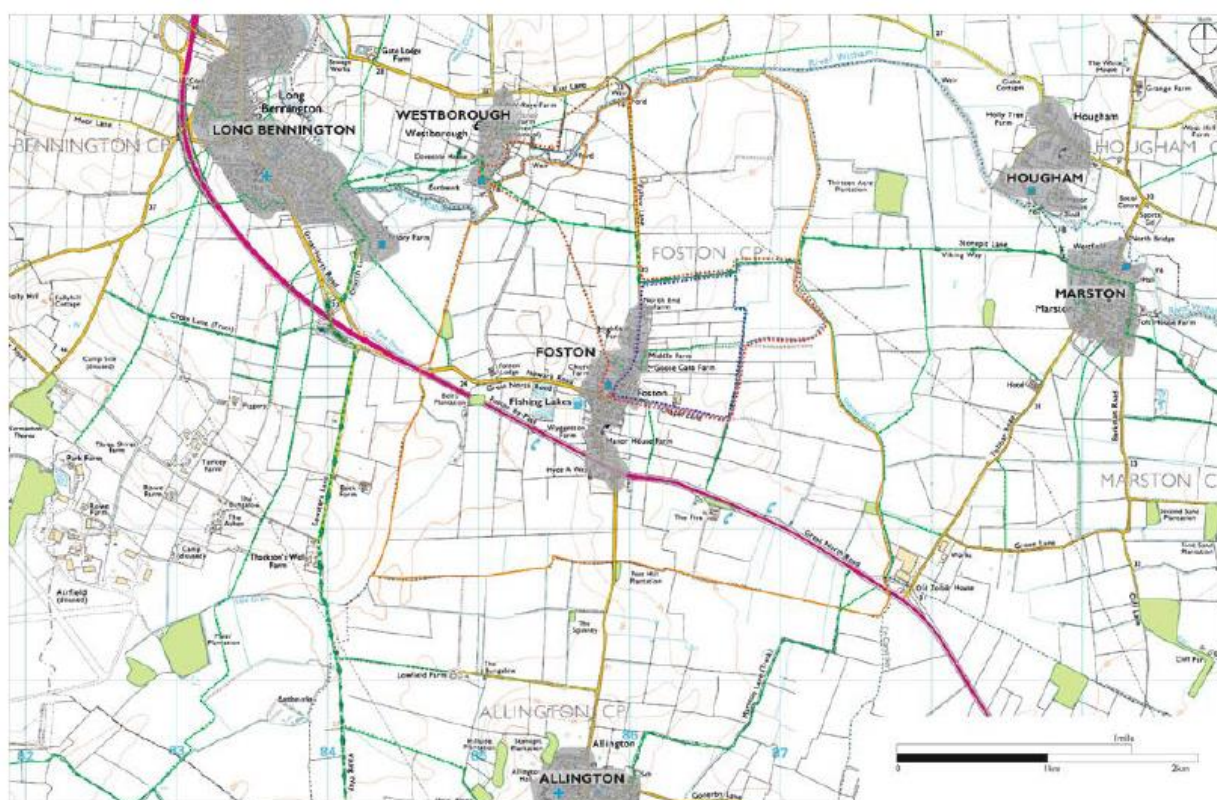


Fig 8 – Public rights of way, churches and areas of woodland

4.18 Safeguarding and improving access to the countryside via public footpath and bridleway connections is required. Foston Parish includes a network of footpaths, tracks and bridleways which are well used by the local community and visitors. These routes are identified within the Landscape Character Assessment and their popularity was confirmed through the Neighbourhood Plan consultation process. The Neighbourhood Plan is supportive of opportunities to maintain and improve access to the countryside.

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| Conforms with: |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| NPPF Policy    | <p>Para 69 wants policies and decisions to promote safe and accessible developments with clear pedestrian routes which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.</p> <p>Para 75 states that policies should protect and enhance public rights of way and access. LA's should seek opportunities to provide better facilities for users, e.g. adding links to existing rights of way networks.</p> |

### 3. HERITAGE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

4.19 All four of the Plan's objectives are reflected in the two policies in this section, although Objective 2 is the primary objective covered.

#### Policy FNP07 – Design of new development for listed and unlisted properties

**New development (including replacement and extended development) will be supported where it would improve, restore or maintain the fabric of a listed or positive unlisted building. Development which would have a negative or harmful impact on a listed building or its setting will not be supported unless a clear justification is presented that there would be substantial public benefits which would outweigh the loss or harm to the building.**

4.20 An aspiration of the Neighbourhood Plan is to respect Foston's past and preserve the historic fabric of the Parish. Therefore there will be a presumption in favour of the retention of heritage assets, and loss is a last resort option in most cases. The definition of a heritage asset is outlined in the Built Character Assessment and a full list of heritage assets is outlined in Appendices 1 and 2. Both listed buildings and 'positive unlisted buildings' or buildings on the 'local list' are included in the policy.

#### Policy FNP08 – Design of locally listed buildings and structures of significance

**New development (including replacement and extended development) will be supported where it would improve, restore or maintain a positive unlisted building/locally listed building or any other structure of local significance as identified within any other appropriately evidenced list. Development which would have a harmful impact on a building or structure of this type or its setting will not be supported unless a clear justification is presented which explains how the benefits would outweigh the loss or harm.**

4.21 The Built Character Assessment contains references to a number of 'positive unlisted buildings'. These buildings are defined as those which make *"a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the area."*

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Policy EN1 does assess all new development against 'historic character, local distinctiveness and sense of place, quality of their settings and statutory, national and local designations of landscape features including natural and historic assets'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| NPPF Policy        | <p>Para 126 states that LA's should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation on enjoyment of the historic environment. It also states that LA's should take into account the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of historic environments can bring; the desirability of new developments making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness and; opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.</p> <p>Para 133 explains that proposals which will lead to substantial harm or total loss of designated heritage assets, LA's should refuse consent, unless there is other material consideration.</p> <p>Para 135 states that the effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application.</p> |

#### 4. HOUSING AND NEW DEVELOPMENT

4.22 All four objectives are key foundations of the three Policies in this section.

##### Policy FNP09 – New housing development

**New housing will be supported within the village where:**

- It meets an identified local need;
- It is within or adjacent to the existing village envelope;
- It is on a previously-developed site or it can be clearly demonstrated that there are no other more sustainable sites available;
- It has been designed in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan Design Principles/Guidance; and
- It is in accordance with the other design relevant policies of the Neighbourhood Plan.

4.23 Some limited new housing development is required to meet local needs, although this is minimal, as evidenced in the Housing Needs Survey undertaken by SKDC in November 2014. Any development, residential or commercial, should be sensitively sited and not compromise the historic fabric nor the natural environment of the Parish. Furthermore, it should not negatively impact the recreational amenities of the Parish.

4.24 Housing for the purposes of downsizing and starter homes (ie lower cost and smaller properties) is identified as an appropriate use within the Parish, where this conforms to the planning policies of SKDC. Foston has not been identified by SKDC as an ‘area of search’ for potential affordable housing site.

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| Conforms with:                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| SKDC Core Strategy                    | Policy SP1 states that in smaller rural villages there should be no development. The only exception being (among others) affordable housing.<br>Policy H1 explains that in all other villages there will be a restriction on new housing development to affordable local need housing.<br>Policy H3 explains that the council seeks to identify sustainable opportunities to deliver about 10 rural affordable housing units each year through the allocation of rural exception sites within or adjacent to the smaller villages which aren’t identified as local service centres (LSCs).                                                                                                                                   |
| SKDC Site Allocation and Policies DPD | Policy SAP2 outlines that outside towns and LSCs there is a need for local affordable housing to be met through the development of rural exception schemes. Funding prioritises villages identified as ‘areas of search’ for sites suitable to meet the identified need for affordable housing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| NPPF Policy                           | Para 50 sets out the delivery of a wide choice of high quality housing by creating sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities. LA’s should promote this by planning for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and needs of the community (eg young families, older people, people with disabilities). Furthermore it states the need to reflect local demand and, where affordable housing is identified as needed, to create policies to meet this need.<br>Para 54 states that in rural areas LA’s should be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development which reflects local need, particularly affordable housing, including through rural exception sites |

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|  | where appropriate. |
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#### **Policy FNP10 – New housing design**

Design of new and replacement development should be sympathetic to the existing form, scale and character of its location and be appropriate to its immediate context. Development should respond to the character of both the built and natural environment. This includes effective management of water on-site to minimise the amount of run-off and need to be discharged into existing drains.

Materials and boundary treatments should be sympathetic to the character of the part of the Neighbourhood Plan area in which they are proposed.

Development which has been designed in accordance with the Foston Neighbourhood Plan Design Guidance/Principles will be supported.

4.25 The design of new and replacement development should be in keeping with the village. It should conform to the Built Character Assessment and the Design Guidelines.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Policy EN1 states that new development should be assessed in relation to 'local distinctiveness and sense of place, historic character, patterns and attributes of the landscape and quality of character and their setting'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| NPPF Policy        | Para 57 states the importance to achieve high quality design and inclusive design for all developments.<br>Para 58 states that local and neighbourhood plans should develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected in the area. It states that development should function well and add to the overall quality of the area, establish a strong sense of place, respond to the local character and history and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials.<br>Para 64 states that permission should be refused for development of poor design that fails to take opportunities for improving the character and quality of an area. |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Policy EN2 outlines that all planning applications should be accompanied by a statement of how surface water is to be managed, and in particular where it is to be discharged. On-site attenuation and infiltrations will be required as part of new development wherever possible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

#### **Policy FNP11 – Encouraging high quality infill**

Proposals for individual dwellings on infill and redevelopment sites will be supported subject to proposals being of high quality and meeting all relevant requirements set out in other policies in this plan and the SKDC Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Policies DPD, and where such development:

- Fills a small restricted gap in the continuity of existing frontage buildings or other sites within the built up area of the village where the site is closely surrounded by buildings.
- Will not involve the outward extension of the village into areas of open countryside.
- Is not considered to be unneighbourly development that requires unsuitable access, reduces privacy of adjacent properties or is inconsistent with the character and existing pattern of development
- Retains important views out of the village

4.26 No large-scale sites have been identified for potential development, therefore it is anticipated that any new development will be on an individual scale and on plots considered to be infill.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Policy EN1 sets criteria concerning the built environment and aims to ensure development is appropriate to its character and context, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local distinctiveness and sense of place</li> <li>2. Historic character, patterns and attributes of the landscape</li> <li>3. The layout and scale of buildings and designed spaces</li> <li>4. The quality and character of the built fabric and their settings</li> </ol> |

## 5. BUSINESS

4.27 Objective 3 plays a primary role in the development of these Policies.

### Policy FNP12 – Encouraging employment

New employment development will be encouraged through the appropriate extension of existing employment sites and through the conversion of buildings to other uses, especially vacant and under-used agricultural buildings. In every case, this is subject to traffic, environmental, amenity and landscape considerations and the scale must be appropriate to the surroundings.

4.28 The Plan supports increased employment in the Parish. The conversion of former agricultural buildings has enabled farm diversification, led to the sustainable re-use of vacant buildings and has provided opportunities for the establishment and development of small businesses which generate wealth and employment opportunities for local people. This is a trend which the Parish Council would like to continue in the Plan area as part of the maintenance of Foston as a vibrant and balanced community. Any development is subject to the proper consideration of residential amenity for nearby houses, visual impact on the countryside and highway safety issues.

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| Conforms with: |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| NPPF Policy    | Para 28 which states that planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development.. |
| SKDC           | SKDC's priority of 'growing the economy'.                                                                                                                                                       |

### Policy FNP13 – Telecommunications infrastructure

New telecommunication infrastructure proposals will be supported, subject to design and location considerations, aimed at:

- Ensuring an acceptable impact on the character and landscape of the locality
- Safeguarding against any unacceptable adverse impact on amenity of neighbours.

4.29 A key requirement for businesses to operate within Foston is a robust, reliable and fast telecommunication infrastructure.

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| Conforms with: |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| NPPF Policy    | Para 42 states that high quality communication infrastructure is essential and that the development of high speed broadband technology and other communications networks also play a vital role in enhancing the provision of local community facilities and services. |

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| Para 43 says that Local Authorities should support the expansion of electronic communication networks. |
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## 6. RENEWABLE ENERGY

4.30 These three Policies are developed with all four Plan Objectives in mind.

4.31 Renewable energy and the transition to a low carbon economy are supported through the National Planning Policy Framework, Planning Practice Guidance for Renewable and Low Carbon Energy and policy EN3 of the SKDC Core Strategy. The latter defines renewable energy as energy that comes from:

- Solar thermal (solar hot water systems);
- Active photovoltaic energy (PV);
- Geo-thermal water heating;
- Wind turbines;
- Energy crops and biomass;
- Energy from human sewage and agricultural plant and animal waste but not energy from domestic or industrial waste, except methane from existing landfill sites;
- Ground source heat pumps; or
- Combined heat and power plants.

4.32 The Neighbourhood Plan encourages energy efficiency, and where appropriate, energy production from renewable and low carbon sources which serve the local area. It supports renewable energy projects that are appropriate in scale to the topography of the Parish and the historic fabric of the village, and that are sensitively sited when considering the existing form and character of its proposed location. Consideration to the wider environmental and business policies of the Plan should also be made.

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### Policy FNP14 – Domestic renewable energy

**New development for domestic-scale energy production from renewable and low carbon sources will be supported where:**

- They relate to an existing or proposed residential property in the village;
- They are residential/domestic in scale;
- They would serve only a local/domestic need for energy generation; and
- They are in accordance with the Design, Environment and Transport policies of the Neighbourhood Plan, including the Neighbourhood Plan Design Principles/Guidance.

### Policy FNP15 – Community-led renewable energy

**Community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy will be supported where they are in accordance with all Foston Neighbourhood Plan policies, specifically those linked to Environment and Countryside, Heritage and the Built Environment and Transport, including the Neighbourhood Plan Design Principles/Guidance.**

### Policy FNP16 – Business-led renewable energy

**Initiatives which would support local businesses and industry to develop renewable and low carbon energy where the primary function is to support their operations will be supported providing that they also accord with other Policies in the Neighbourhood Plan.**

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| Conforms with:                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| SKDC Core Strategy                    | Policy EN3 states that proposals to generate energy from renewable sources will be granted subject to other core strategy policies and being able to mitigate the emissions/impacts arising from the installation and the removal of the facilities and reinstatement of the site. |
| SKDC Site Allocation and Policies DPD | <i>SKDC Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document (June 2013)</i><br>Site selection shall have regard to the local landscape character. The LVIA or landscape and visual assessment/appraisal shall show how the location takes into account local landscape character.          |
| NPPF Policy                           | Para 95 states that LAs should support the move to low carbon energy.<br>Para 97 states that LAs should promote renewable energy sources, design policies to maximise renewable energy development.                                                                                |

## 7. LEISURE, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

4.33 The two Policies in this section support all four of the Plan's objectives listed previously.

### Policy FNP17 – New sport and outdoor recreation facilities

**Planning permission for new or enhanced sport and outdoor recreation facilities will be supported, subject to the development:**

- **not adversely impacting on residential amenity by means of noise, disturbance or additional traffic generation.**
- **not having any adverse impact on the character or setting of the immediate locality, and**
- **not being in conflict with other Policies in the Plan**

4.34 The Parish has a number of recreational facilities which are key to the community spirit and positively contribute to the health and well-being of the community. Furthermore, the consultation process highlighted how highly valued these and other community facilities are by residents. The Neighbourhood Plan supports the maintenance and development of such recreational facilities.

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| Conforms with:                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| SKDC Core Strategy                    | Policy EN1 reinforces the protection of existing sports fields.<br>Policy SP4 supports the opportunity to gain open space within a new development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| SKDC Site Allocation and Policies DPD | Policy SAP10 states the requirements for informal greenspace and sport space per 1000 population. These requirements should also be applied to new developments provision of open space. Furthermore it states that all existing open space will be protected unless there is sufficient material considerations.                                                                                                                 |
| NPPF Policy                           | Para 28 reinforces the need to retain and develop sport venues in rural areas.<br>Para 70 supports the delivery of social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs by planning positively for the provision of shared space such as sport venues etc., and guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities.<br>Para 73 states that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for |

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|  | <p>sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.</p> <p>Para 74 maintains that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless there is significant material consideration.</p> |
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### **Policy FNP18 – Retail and community facilities**

**Support will be given for new retail, community facilities, services and employment generating uses subject to:**

- **Compliance with requirements of other policies in the Plan**
- **The development proposed being of a scale and type appropriate to serving the local community and safeguarding the status of Foston as a smaller village (as identified by reference to the SKDC Core Strategy Spatial Portrait of the District)**
- **The development being acceptable in terms of impact on traffic, the environment and safeguarding amenity of neighbouring residents**
- **It being located on previously developed land or sites containing existing agricultural or commercial building**
- **A clear justification being produced outlining why the proposed site is more appropriate.**

4.35 Retail facilities are limited within Foston, and the Neighbourhood Plan supports the development of additional facilities within the village which are appropriate and relevant to the community. The consultation process evidences this support.

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| Conforms with:                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| SKDC Core Strategy                    | <p>Policy SP2 talks about the protection, retention and enhancement of 'Local Service Centres' (LSCs). Community service proposals will be supported and the loss of these services will not be supported. Foston is not deemed an LSC.</p> <p>Policy SP1 states that in all villages not deemed an LSC, development will be restricted, unless for (and it includes) 'local services and facilities'.</p> <p>Policy E1 states that outside LSCs, rural diversification will be supported where it meets the need of farming, tourism, recreation and has an essential requirement for a rural location and economy.</p>                |
| SKDC Site Allocation and Policies DPD | <p>Policy SAP1 states that applications for the change of use of community facilities which would result in the loss of community use will be resisted unless it is clearly demonstrated that there are alternative facilities in the same village, the existing use is no longer viable or there is no realistic prospect of the premises being re-used for alternative business or community facility use. The proposal should also demonstrate that consideration has been given to the re-use of the premises for alternative community facilities, and the potential impact closure may have on the village and its community.</p> |
| NPPF Policy                           | <p>Para 28 supports sustainable economic growth in rural areas to create jobs and prosperity. Furthermore it promotes the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as shops, meeting places, sport venues, etc.</p> <p>Para 70 explains that planning policies and decisions should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space community facilities e.g. local shops, public houses, meeting venues, etc, and</p>                                                                                                                                                          |

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|  | other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities. They should guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services where this would reduce the community's ability to meet day-to-day needs. It wants to ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community. |
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## 8. TRANSPORT

Objective 4 has been a key influence in the development of the two Policies in this section.

### Policy FNP19 – Sustainable transport

**All new development should provide or incorporate appropriate and proportionate new sustainable and safe transport initiatives on-site or contribute to off-site facilities as required by the Delivery Strategy. In particular, this is associated with commercial development, including diversification and larger scale production.**

**If a CIL approach is not adopted by South Kesteven District Council, necessary improvements will be sought in negotiation with developers on a case by case basis based upon the need set out within the Delivery Strategy and in line with the aspirations of the Plan (for example s106 Agreements).**

4.36 It is a requirement for any new development to provide or contribute to sustainable and safe transport provision and improvement within the Parish (e.g. traffic calming, parking, cycling, walking, equestrian). This relates particularly to increased levels of traffic, especially HGVs, and the speed of traffic through the village. The Parish Council intends to continue working with Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) and Highways England to find solutions for traffic problems linked to existing and new development.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Policy SP3 outlines the need for 'securing transport statements/travel plans' where appropriate, requiring the preparation of transport assessments for all developments that are likely to have significant transport implications and so determine the measures required on the surrounding highway network. |
| NPPF Policy        | Para 32 states that all developments which generate a significant amount of movements will need to provide a Transport Statement/Assessment.                                                                                                                                                                   |

### Policy FNP20 – Service facilities on the A1

**Improvement and / or redevelopment of the existing strategic highway focussed services on the A1 will be supported for similar purposes, particularly where such improvements will also provide a wider range of services of benefit to the local community. Such development should also ensure safe highway and pedestrian connections and ensure that amenity of local residents is not further harmed by virtue of noise, visual intrusion or general disturbance. In addition, widening, resurfacing, lighting or other improvement proposals should be carefully designed to avoid intrusion into the landscape, noise and light pollution.**

4.37 The existing service facilities on the A1 in the Parish are acknowledged as being beneficial for the residents, providing services and an employment opportunity. The services might benefit

in the future from further investment and upgrade to better serve the requirements of A1 road users and the nearby villages which utilise that strategic route. The improvement of those facilities for the consequential betterment of the Parish is therefore considered to be a legitimate objective of the Neighbourhood Plan. Consideration for pedestrian/cycle access is desired as they lie on the south-side of A1, away from the hub of the Parish.

## 9. IMPLEMENTATION

### Policy FNP21 - Implementation

**All new commercial and business development must provide necessary and appropriate new facilities on-site or contribute to off-site infrastructure and facilities, as required either by means of planning condition, s.106 or use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and / or the Delivery Strategy.**

**If a CIL approach is not adopted by South Kesteven District Council, necessary improvements will be sought in negotiation with developers on a case-by-case basis based upon the need set out within the Delivery Strategy and in line with the aspirations of the Plan (for example s106 Agreements).**

4.38 The Neighbourhood Plan includes a Delivery Strategy which establishes the evidenced need for infrastructure within the Parish, prepared on behalf of the Parish Council in response to local consultation. If a CIL is adopted by SKDC, the Parish Council may draw on the 'neighbourhood element' of CIL to provide funds towards those items identified in the Delivery Strategy, and it is hoped SKDC will also consider the items in the Delivery Strategy when identifying any planning conditions or s.106 agreements where appropriate and feasible.

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| Conforms with:     |                                                                                   |
| SKDC Core Strategy | Policies SP3 (Sustainable Integrated Transport) and SP4 (Developer Contributions) |
| NPPF Policy        | paragraphs 203-206                                                                |