



Historic England

Mr Chris Mace
Bentley Parish Council
Bentley Memorial Hall
Hole Lane
Bentley
GU10 5NB

Direct Dial: 07392 879 658

Our ref: PL00793189

28 June 2023

Dear Mr Mace,

Bentley Village Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Opinion

Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on this consultation. As the Government's adviser on the historic environment Historic England is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of the local planning process. For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, "Is it (the Bentley Village Neighbourhood Plan) likely to have a significant effect on the historic environment?". Our comments are based on the information supplied.

There are a number of designated heritage assets within the plan area; the information supplied however indicates that the modifications to the plan will not have any significant effects on the historic environment. We also note that the modifications do not allocate any sites for development.

On the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concludes that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you. To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the relevant local authorities are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the Historic Environment Record (HER), how the allocation, policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets.



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Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



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Please feel free to contact me should you have any queries

Yours sincerely,

Louise Forsyth
Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas
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