

Balsall Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (Submission Plan dated April 2019)

Table of Responses by Solihull MBC to Examiner’s Further Enquiries (Comments in Red)

Parish Council reference	Examiner’s comments in Opening Enquiries	Balsall Parish Council response	Solihull MB Council response
24	<p>Policy title says “Boundary” but in fact there are two ‘Boundaries’ defined. Either the settlement boundaries should coincide with the green belt boundary, or Policies H.1, H.2 and H.4 should make clear that green belt policy, including the importance of openness, applies to those parts of the settlements that are in the green belt.</p>	<p>Built up area boundary (Balsall Common) coincides with the Green Belt boundary as defined in Figure 6. “Balsall parish and Oakley “and Figure 5 to be deleted. First [Second?] sentence of second para to be deleted.</p>	<p>There remain some differences between the Built-up Area Boundary in the NDP and the green belt boundary in the Local Plan and Gypsy & Traveller Plan Proposals Map 2014, extract attached</p>
194	<p>LGS Assessment document, does not specifically address the issue of other, existing designations. Could be, for instance, that the Holly Lane Allotments already benefit from a statutory protection which the LGS designation may not enhance (and I note that the Allotment is in any case to be protected by Policy COM.5). Similarly land designated as a Cemetery may already have an appropriate and adequate protection. The Claverdon example follows the Planning Guidance: “One potential benefit in areas where protection from development is the norm (eg villages included in the green belt) but where there could be exceptions is that</p>	<p>There is precedent in made NDP’s where proposed LGS in Green Belt has been accepted by Examiners (most recently, see Claverdon NDP approved at referendum in October 2019). There is no conflict or reason why an LGS cannot also be located in the Green Belt. A proposed LGS is not just about adding a layer of protection to the land, it is more about highlighting the local importance and value of such spaces to the community and celebrating and positively promoting these spaces even if the planning policy function appears to be duplicated.</p>	<p>The Solihull UDP 2006 included Policy R5 which provided protection for allotment gardens, notwithstanding any statutory protection. Policy P20 of the Solihull Local Plan 2013 provides protection for open space and recreational facilities, and supports the designation of Local Green Spaces in neighbourhood plans, and allotments were specifically included in the typologies of green space in the Green Spaces Strategy 2006, which informed the Local Plan. Whilst cemeteries and churchyards were recognised as a green space typology, they were not specifically included in the Green Spaces Strategy</p>

	<p>the Local Green Space designation could help to identify areas that are of particular importance to the local community.” My query is legitimate in line with the Guidance quoted at 189 above.</p>		
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