



John Pratt
Councillor, Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council
Chairperson, Milton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
C/O Parish Clerk
Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council
2 Woodlands Close
Milton-under-Wychwood
Chipping Norton
Oxfordshire

By email only to: miltonnpsg@gmail.com (cc. miltonparishclerk@gmail.com)

20 January 2022

Dear Mr Pratt

MILTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PRE-SUBMISSION CONSULTATION

Thank you for consulting the Cotswolds Conservation Board ('the Board') on the Milton-under-Wychwood Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Milton-under-Wychwood is located within the Cotswolds National Landscape.¹ As such, when developing the Neighbourhood Plan, the parish council (PC) and the local planning authority (LPA) have a statutory duty to have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape.² The Board recommends that, in fulfilling this 'duty of regard', the PC and the LPA should: (i) ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan is consistent with relevant national and local planning policy and guidance; and (ii) take into account the following Board publications:

- Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2018-2023 ([link](#));
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment ([link](#)), particularly, in this instance, with regards to Landscape Character Type (LCT) 7 (High Wold), LCT 15 (Farmed Slopes) and LCT 17 (Pastoral Lowland Vale);
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines ([link](#)), particularly, in this instance, with regards to LCT 7 ([link](#)), LCT 15 ([link](#)) and LCT 17 ([link](#));
- Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change ([link](#));
- Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements ([link](#)), including the Position Statement on 'Preparing Neighbourhood Plans in an AONB' ([link](#)).

We are pleased to see that the draft Neighbourhood Plan does have regard to the Cotswolds National Landscape. For example, the draft Neighbourhood Plan makes multiple references to this nationally important, protected landscape designation, particularly with regards to Policies CH1, CH2, CH3 and CH4.

In order for the Neighbourhood Plan to be fully consistent with the considerations outlined above, we recommend that Policy CH1 should make explicit reference to (i.e. require consistency with) the policies of the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan and to the Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines for LCTs 7, 15 and 17.

Cotswolds Conservation Board

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The Cotswolds National Landscape is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), managed and looked after by the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Chairman:
Brendan McCarthy
Vice Chair:
Rebecca Charley

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Mills". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

John Mills
Planning & Landscape Lead
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NOTES:

- 1) Cotswolds National Landscape is the new name for the Cotswolds Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The new name takes forward one of the proposals of the Government-commissioned 'Landscapes Review' to rename AONBs as 'National Landscapes'. This change reflects the national importance of AONBs and the fact that they are safeguarded, in the national interest, for nature, people, business and culture.
- 2) Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/section/85
- 3) The documents referred to in our response can be located on the Cotswolds National Landscape website under the following sections
 - a. Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2018-2023
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/management-plan
 - b. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lca
 - c. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lsg
 - d. Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ldlc
 - e. Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps1
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps2