

Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer and Aston, and Whitmore Neighbourhood Development Plan

Basic Conditions Statement January 2019



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1 Introduction

This is the Basic Conditions Statement prepared to accompany submission of the Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer and Aston, and Whitmore Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan is being submitted by the lead parish council, Whitmore Parish Council, as the qualifying body.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan contains policies regarding the use and development of land and has been prepared in accordance with the Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and other legislation) and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended).

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan states the period for which it is to have effect, which is until the end of 2033.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with excluded development (mineral extraction, waste development, nationally significant infrastructure or any other matters set out in Section 61K of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990). The proposed Neighbourhood Plan relates to the Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer and Aston, and Whitmore Parishes Neighbourhood Area and to no other area. There are no other Neighbourhood Plans relating to that Neighbourhood Area.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan meets the basic conditions set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. This is covered in more detail in the next part of this statement.

2 Meeting the Basic Conditions

2.1 The Basic Conditions

The following are the Basic Conditions that Neighbourhood Plans must meet:

- have appropriate regard to national policy;
- contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the local area; and
- be compatible with European Union (EU) obligations.

In order to meet the requirement to be compatible with EU obligations, two additional basic conditions are set out in regulations, namely: that a plan or order must not have a significant adverse effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site; and where a Neighbourhood Development Order proposes certain types of development, an assessment of the effects of the order on the environment must be undertaken and its findings taken into account. These additional basic conditions do not apply to the Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer and Aston, and Whitmore Neighbourhood Plan (CMAW Neighbourhood Plan).

Further, Neighbourhood Plans must be compatible with human rights law.

The outcome of the referendum on membership of the EU makes no immediate difference to the requirement on EU obligations, until such time as Parliament may pass relevant legislation.

2.2 Appropriate regard to national policy

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in the context of national policy, in particular the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2018) and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

The NPPF aims for development to be 'pursued in a positive way'. Therefore, 'at its heart' is a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' (NPPF, 2018, para. 10).

NPPF overarching objectives

The NPPF describes sustainable development as having three overarching and interdependent objectives: economic, social and environmental:

... an economic objective ...
... a social objective ...
... an environmental objective ...
... these objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework ...

(NPPF, 2018, paras 8–9)

Neighbourhood Plan vision and aims

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan includes a vision and a set of aims and suite of policies for the achievement of sustainable growth to meet local need, ensuring that such growth has regard to the local economy, community and environment. The aims of the plan are defined in seven themed groups and will be delivered by the policies as illustrated by the matrix in **Table 1** (page 6).

Overarching aim

To protect rural character while allowing for appropriate development.

Vision

- The Neighbourhood Development Plan will maintain and enhance the rural character of the three parishes and protect and enhance the area's built and natural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of all who live and work in the Neighbourhood Area, visit it or travel through it, now and in the future.
- It will provide for a range of homes to meet the needs of community members and promote a truly sustainable community and a diversified rural economy.
- Residents and businesses will be encouraged to adopt a variety of renewable energy technologies that do not adversely impact on the landscape and natural environment.
- The plan will promote health and well-being by providing space and facilities for exercise and other leisure activity.

Aims

1 Biodiversity and natural environment

- To protect, preserve, restore and promote the area's natural heritage, landscape, habitats and biodiversity and to provide the means for residents and visitors to learn about and enjoy the area's natural assets.
- To designate Local Green Space, and to protect valued near and distant views and the landscape settings of the settlements.

2 Heritage assets

- To protect, preserve and promote the area's conservation areas and heritage assets.
- To find new uses for disused buildings that make a positive contribution to the local built heritage.

3 Community assets

- To identify existing and new buildings and land that are of importance to the community's well-being. (See also Leisure and tourism)

4 Design and character

- To ensure that all new development, including replacement dwellings and extensions, is compatible with the area's rural character and local built heritage.
- To define character areas.

5 Economy, business and transport

- To promote rural businesses that will contribute to the local and the wider economy.
- To promote homeworking and to provide suitable premises and communications technology to enable residents and employers to establish businesses in the Neighbourhood Area.
- To find ways to mitigate conflict between population and traffic on major transit routes and local roads.

6 Housing

- To provide a range of homes to meet the needs of residents of all ages, physical abilities and financial means.
- To identify suitable locations/sites for housing.

7 Leisure and tourism

- To provide suitable indoor and outdoor space for the enjoyment and leisure use of both residents and visitors.
- To promote the Neighbourhood Area's built heritage and natural assets and incorporate them into the local economy.
- To provide the means for residents and visitors to learn about and enjoy the Neighbourhood Area's natural and heritage assets.

NPPF policy areas

The NPPF (2018) covers a number of policy areas. [Table 2](#) (page 7) maps the aims and policies of the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan to the related policy areas of the NPPF.

Table 1 Policies matrix

<i>Policies</i>	<i>Aims and policy themes</i>						
	<i>1 Biodiversity and natural environment</i>	<i>2 Heritage assets</i>	<i>3 Community facilities</i>	<i>4 Design and character</i>	<i>5 Economy, business, transport</i>	<i>6 Housing</i>	<i>7 Leisure and tourism</i>
NE1 Natural Environment	✓		✓	✓			✓
NE2 Sustainable Drainage	✓			✓		✓	
COM1 Community Facilities			✓		✓		✓
COM2 Small-scale Development in Local Green Space	✓		✓	✓			✓
COM3 Developer Contributions	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
DC1 Local Heritage		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
DC2 Sustainable Design	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
DC3 Public Realm and Car Parking	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
DC4 Connectivity and Spaces	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DC5 Impact of Lighting	✓			✓		✓	
DC6 Housing Standards	✓			✓		✓	
DC7 Renewable Energy			✓	✓	✓	✓	
EB1 High-Speed Connectivity and Telecommunications			✓		✓	✓	✓
EB2 Commercial and Tourism Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
HG1 New Housing	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
HG2 Housing Mix						✓	
HG3 Local Play, Sports and Recreational Facilities			✓			✓	✓

Table 2 NPPF policy areas

<i>NPPF policy area</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan aims</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan policies</i>
<p>Delivering a sufficient supply of homes</p> <p>... to support the Government’s objective of significantly boosting the supply of homes, it is important that a sufficient amount and variety of land can come forward where it is needed</p> <p>... that the needs of groups with specific housing requirements are addressed ...</p>	2, 6	The Plan aims to ensure that identified local housing needs are met (policies DC1, HG1, HG2,).
<p>Building a strong, competitive economy</p> <p>... planning policies should</p> <p>... set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth ...</p>	2, 5, 7	The Plan provides for economic growth through policies EB1, EB2, conversion of buildings to business uses (policy DC1) and support for renewable energy projects (policy DC7).
<p>Promoting healthy and safe communities</p> <p>... planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which</p> <p>... promote social interaction</p> <p>... are safe and accessible</p> <p>... enable and support healthy lifestyles ...</p>	1, 3, 4, 7	The Plan seeks to provide and improve a range of green infrastructure and recreational facilities through the application of policies COM1, COM2, COM3, DC3, DC4, HG3 and the designation of Local Green Spaces.
<p>Promoting sustainable transport</p> <p>... transport issues should be considered from the earliest stages of plan-making and development proposals, so that</p> <p>... the potential impacts of development on transport can be assessed</p> <p>... opportunities from existing and proposed transport infrastructure, and changing transport technology and usage, are realised</p> <p>... opportunities to promote walking, cycling, and public transport use are identified and pursued</p>	1, 3, 5	The Plan promotes sustainable transport through the design of spaces that promote walking and cycling; that join up existing paths; and that provide new links for active travel (policies DC3, DC4). It provides for developer contributions towards sustainable transport (policy COM3). Designation of

<i>NPPF policy area</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan aims</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan policies</i>
<p>... the environmental impacts of traffic and transport infrastructure can be identified, assessed and taken into account</p> <p>... patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations are integral to the design of schemes</p>		<p>roadside verges as Local Green Space provides safe walking routes on busy roads and supports a walkable community. Policy EB1 supports homeworking and reduces the need to travel. Policy DC6 requires car charging points in new developments.</p>
<p>Supporting high quality communications</p>		
<p>Advanced, high quality and reliable communications infrastructure is essential for economic growth and social well-being</p> <p>Policies should set out how high quality digital infrastructure, providing access to services from a range of providers, is expected to be delivered and upgraded over time; and should prioritise full fibre connections to existing and new developments (as these connections will, in almost all, provide the optimum solution)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Policy EB1 aims to ensure that new development is connected to high speed telecommunications, without degrading existing infrastructure and access.</p>
<p>Making effective use of land</p>		
<p>Planning policies and decisions should</p> <p>... recognise that some undeveloped land can perform many functions, such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, cooling/shading, carbon storage or food production;</p> <p>... promote and support the development of under-utilised land and buildings, especially if this would help to meet identified needs for housing where land supply is constrained</p> <p>Planning policies and decisions should support development that makes efficient use of land, taking into account</p> <p>... the desirability of maintaining an area's</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 7</p>	<p>The Plan seeks to protect land that provides eco-system services such as flood control and carbon storage and wildlife habitat or supports food production (policies NE1, HG1); supports the reuse or conversion non-designated heritage assets (policy DC1); supports replacement dwellings and limited infill housing (policy HG1); seeks to maintain local character and achieve well-designed developments (policies DC1, DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5, DC6).</p>

<i>NPPF policy area</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan aims</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan policies</i>
<p>prevailing character and setting (including residential gardens), or of promoting regeneration and change</p> <p>... the importance of securing well-designed, attractive and healthy places</p>		<p>Local Green Space designations protect areas of land that have recreational value to the community.</p>
<p>Achieving well-designed places</p>		
<p>... plans should, at the most appropriate level, set out a clear design vision and expectations, so that applicants have as much certainty as possible about what is likely to be acceptable</p> <p>... design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area's defining characteristics</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>The Plan seeks to achieve well-designed places (policies DC1, DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5, DC6).</p>
<p>Protecting Green Belt land</p>		
<p>A local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in the Green Belt. Exceptions to this are:</p> <p>... the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building</p> <p>... the replacement of a building, provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces</p> <p>... limited infilling in villages</p> <p>Certain other forms of development are also not inappropriate in the Green Belt provided they preserve its openness and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it. These are:</p> <p>... the re-use of buildings provided that the buildings are of permanent and substantial construction</p>		<p>The Plan supports Green Belt policy and Green Belt exceptions. Policy NE1 protects special landscape features within the Green Belt. Policy DC1 supports the reuse of existing buildings, and replacement dwellings and extensions. Policy HG1 provides for replacement dwellings and limited infilling within existing built frontages; Some of the plan's Local Green Spaces are within the Green Belt, giving added protection to those areas of land.</p>

<i>NPPF policy area</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan aims</i>	<i>CMAW Neighbourhood Plan policies</i>
<p>Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</p>	1, 2	<p>The Plan seeks to meet the challenges of climate change and flooding through policies NE1 and NE2. Policy DC1 provides for the reuse of existing resources. Policies DC6 and DC7 support low carbon transport and renewable energy.</p>
<p>... the planning system should support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking full account of flood risk and coastal change</p> <p>... it should help to shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimise vulnerability and improve resilience</p> <p>...encourage the reuse of existing resources, including the conversion of existing buildings, and support renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure</p>		
<p>Conserving and enhancing the natural environment</p>	1, 4	<p>The Plan seeks to conserve the natural environment through policy NE1. Policies DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5, DC7 and HG1 also have regard for the natural environment.</p>
<p>... planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment</p>		
<p>Conserving and enhancing the historic environment</p>	2	<p>The Plan provides for the reuse and/or conversion of non-designated heritage assets (policy DC1) and supports development that complements and maintains local character (policy DC2).</p>
<p>... heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance, such as World Heritage Sites</p> <p>... plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. This strategy should take into account:</p> <p>... sustaining and enhancing heritage assets and putting them to viable uses</p> <p>... the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character</p>		

2.3 Achievement of sustainable development

The NPPF states a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

Para. 7: ‘the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development’, and ‘at a very high level, the objective of sustainable development can be summarised as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.

Para. 8: ‘achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has three overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways’. These three objectives are:

- an economic objective;
- a social objective; and
- an environmental objective.

Para. 9: ‘these objectives should be delivered through the preparation and implementation of plans and the application of the policies in this Framework’, and: ‘planning policies and decisions should play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions’.

Para. 10: ‘so that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way, at the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development’, which is described in para. 11.

Para. 13: ‘the application of the presumption has implications for the way communities engage in neighbourhood planning’, and: ‘neighbourhood plans should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans or spatial development strategies; and should shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies’.

Growth

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan delivers growth by:

- focusing development within the village envelope of Baldwins Gate and encouraging infill housing (Policy HG1);
- addressing identified local housing needs (Policy HG2);
- encouraging new business development (Policies DC1, EB1, EB2);

- encouraging growth of home-based business (Policies EB1, EB2);
- protecting and enhancing the local environment (NE1, DC1, DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5).

Sustainability

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan delivers sustainability by:

- addressing local housing need and encouraging housing growth that meets the needs of a growing and ageing population (Policies HG1, HG2);
- encouraging business growth and home working (Policies DC1, EB1, EB2);
- encouraging sustainable transport and active travel (Policies COM3, DC3, DC4, DC6);
- creating well designed new developments (Policies DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5, DC6);
- encouraging the installation of renewable energy technologies (Policy DC7);
- protecting the natural environment, including land that provides eco-system services (Policy NE1); and
- requiring new developments to incorporate sustainable drainage and not to increase the risk of flooding elsewhere (Policy NE2).

2.4 General conformity with strategic local policy

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan will be tested against adopted strategic local policy.

Strategic local policy is set out in the Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent Core Spatial Strategy 2006–2026.

The following strategic local policies are relevant to the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy ASP6 – Rural Area Spatial Strategy

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy ASP6:

- by providing for new homes (Policies DC1, HG1, HG2);
- by supporting rural diversification and new/existing businesses (Policies DC1, EB1, EB2);
- by supporting sustainable transport, including homeworking (Policies COM3, DC3, DC4, DC6, EB1); and
- by designation of Local Green Spaces that support a walkable community.

Policy CSP1 – Design Quality

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy CSP1:

- by seeking high-quality design in all new development (Policies DC1, DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5, DC6).

Policy CSP2 – Historic Environment

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy CSP2:

- by supporting the reuse and/or conversion of non-designated heritage assets (Policy DC1); and
- by supporting new development that complements and maintains local character (Policy DC2).

Policy CSP3 – Sustainability and Climate Change

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy CSP3:

- by protecting areas of land that provide eco-system services such as flood control, carbon storage and food production (Policies NE1, HG1);
- by requiring new developments to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes (SUDS) (Policy NE2);
- by seeking developer contributions that support active travel and improved public transport services (COM3);
- by supporting the reuse and/or conversion of buildings (DC1);
- by supporting low carbon transport and renewable energy (Policies DC6, DC7);
- by supporting homeworking through the provision of high-quality telecommunications infrastructure (Policy EB1); and
- by supporting rural diversification and both existing and new businesses (Policies DC1, EB1, EB2).

Policy CSP4 – Natural Assets

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy CSP4:

- by seeking to protect the natural environment (Policy NE1);

- by supporting new development that has regard for the natural environment (Policies DC2, DC3, DC4, DC5, DC7, HG1); and
- by designating Local Green Spaces.

Policy CSP5 – Open Space/Sport/Recreation

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy CSP5:

- by supporting the development and protection of community facilities and seeking developer contributions for infrastructure and open spaces that support sport, leisure and active travel (Policies COM1, COM2, COM3);
- by requiring new development to have regard for existing paths, green links and open spaces and to make improvements to existing footpath, cycle and bridleway networks (Policy DC4);
- by seeking to provide accessible play, sports and recreational facilities (HG3); and
- by designating Local Green Spaces that provide for sport and recreation and support a walkable community.

Policy CSP6 – Affordable Housing

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan responds to Policy CSP6:

- by seeking to address identified local housing needs (Policy HG2).

2.5 Compatibility with EU obligations

The CMAW Neighbourhood Plan was screened by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and received a negative outcome, therefore a Strategic Environmental Assessment was not required.

The screening report by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council is submitted as a separate document.

There are no European sites within the Neighbourhood Area.

Human rights

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken (see Appendix). It indicates that the impact of the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan on protected characteristics is positive.

The neighbourhood plan process has included a wide range of community engagement activities, ensuring that the scope of the plan and its policies are informed by issues and themes identified by local people. Methods used included Roadshows, community drop-in events and open days, questionnaire, parish news updates, regular leafleting, social media and others. Further details can be found in the Consultation Statement. Community engagement has gone considerably beyond the scope of statutory publicity and consultation.

Appendix 1: Equalities Impact Assessment

1.0 Introduction

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) places a duty on all public authorities in the exercise of their functions to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, to advance equality of opportunity and to foster good relations between persons who have a 'protected characteristic' and those who do not.

1.1 Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment is a systematic analysis of a policy or policies in order to identify the potential for an adverse impact on a particular group or community, in particular those with a protected characteristic. It is a method of assessing the likely differential and/or adverse impact of a policy on people from different groups so that if a policy results in unfairness or discrimination, then changes to eliminate or lessen the impact can be considered.

Protected characteristics are defined in the Act as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

This document presents the results of the assessment of the Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer and Aston, and Whitmore Neighbourhood Plan (CMAW Neighbourhood Plan) to ensure that the parish councils of Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer and Aston, and Whitmore are satisfying their statutory duties in this regard.

1.2 Aims of the equality analysis

The purpose of the analysis is to increase participation and inclusion, to change the culture of public decision making and to nurture a more proactive approach to the promotion of equality and fairness at the heart of public policy. The aim in conducting the analysis is the promotion of fairness and equality of opportunity and thus it is the outcomes that are of primary concern.

1.3 Methodology

An assessment has been made on whether the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan has a positive, negative or neutral impact on each of the protected characteristics (insofar as data is

available). A brief justification of the policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan, and notes of any mitigation, are provided. If the impact is negative, this is given a high, medium or low assessment. It is important to rate the impact of the policy based on the current situation (i.e. disregarding any actions planned to be carried out in future).

<i>Impact</i>	<i>Description</i>
High	A significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.
Medium	Some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence.
Low	Almost no relevance to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation-led.

1.4 Baseline data

Data for Chapel and Hill Chorlton (Chorlton), Maer and Aston (Maer) and Whitmore is available for the following protected characteristics: sex, age, disability, ethnicity, religious belief. Data is not readily available for the following protected characteristics: gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation. All data is from the 2011 Census.

In 2011 there were 2,468 people living in the Neighbourhood Area.

<i>Sex</i>	<i>NA</i>		<i>Chorlton</i>		<i>Maer</i>		<i>Whitmore</i>	
Males	1233	50%	225	53%	239	50%	759	48%
Females	1235	50%	200	47%	240	50%	795	52%

Source: ACRE Rural Community Profiles

<i>Age</i>	<i>NA</i>		<i>Chorlton</i>		<i>Maer</i>		<i>Whitmore</i>	
0–15	398	16%	85	20%	59	12%	254	16%
16–64	1440	59%	235	55%	325	68%	880	56%
65+	630	25%	105	25%	105	22%	420	27%

Source: ACRE Rural Community Profiles

Disability	NA		Chorlton		Maer		Whitmore	
Day-to-day activities limited a lot	195	8%	56	13%	36	7%	103	6%
Day-to-day activities limited a little	274	12%	49	12%	61	13%	164	11%

Source: Nomis database, <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk> (accessed 19 December 2018)

Ethnicity	NA		Chorlton		Maer		Whitmore	
White British	2340	95%	420	98%	465	95%	1,455	94%
White (Non British)	45	2%	0	0.5%	10	2.5	35	2%
Non-white	80	3%	5	1%	15	3%	60	4%
Mixed	25	1%	5	1%	5	1%	15	1%
Asian	45	2%	0	0.5%	5	1.5%	40	3%
Black	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Arab	5	0.2%	0	0%	0	0%	5	0.3%
Other ethnic group	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Source: ACRE Rural Community Profiles

Religion	NA		Chorlton		Maer		Whitmore	
Christian	1892	76%	320	75%	367	76%	1205	77%
Buddhist	5	0.2%	0	0%	1	0.2%	4	0.2%
Hindu	12	0.4%	0	0%	4	0.8%	8	0.4%
Jewish	4	0.2%	2	0.4%	0	0%	2	0.1%
Muslim	16	0.4%	0	0%	2	0.4%	14	0.9%
Sikh	9	0.3%	0	0%	0	0%	9	0.5%
Other religion	6	0.2%	0	0%	0	0%	6	0.3%
No religion	363	15%	61	14%	87	18%	215	13%
Religion not stated	161	7%	42	10%	28	5%	91	5%

Source: Nomis database, <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk> (accessed 19 December 2018)

2.0 Vision, aims and policies of the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan

Overarching aim

To protect rural character while allowing for appropriate development.

Vision

- The Neighbourhood Development Plan will maintain and enhance the rural character of the three parishes and protect and enhance the area's built and natural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of all who live and work in the Neighbourhood Area, visit it or travel through it, now and in the future.
- It will provide for a range of homes to meet the needs of community members and promote a truly sustainable community and a diversified rural economy.
- Residents and businesses will be encouraged to adopt a variety of renewable energy technologies that do not adversely impact on the landscape or natural environment.
- The plan will promote health and well-being by providing space and facilities for exercise and other leisure activity.

Aims

1 Biodiversity and natural environment

- To protect, preserve, restore and promote the area's natural heritage, landscape, habitats and biodiversity and to provide the means for residents and visitors to learn about and enjoy the area's natural assets.
- To designate Local Green Space, and to protect valued near and distant views and the landscape settings of the settlements.

2 Heritage assets

- To protect, preserve and promote the area's conservation areas and heritage assets.
- To find new uses for disused buildings that make a positive contribution to the local built heritage.

3 Community assets

- To identify existing and new buildings and land that are of importance to the community's well-being. (See also Leisure and tourism)

4 Design and character

- To ensure that all new development, including replacement dwellings and extensions, is compatible with the area's rural character and local built heritage.
- To define character areas.

5 Economy, business and transport

- To promote rural businesses that will contribute to the local and the wider economy.
- To promote homeworking and to provide suitable premises and communications technology to enable residents and employers to establish businesses in the Neighbourhood Area.
- To find ways to mitigate conflict between population and traffic on major transit routes and local roads.

6 Housing

- To provide a range of homes to meet the needs of residents of all ages, physical abilities and financial means.
- To identify suitable locations/sites for housing.

7 Leisure and tourism

- To provide suitable indoor and outdoor space for the enjoyment and leisure use of both residents and visitors.
- To promote the Neighbourhood Area's built heritage and natural assets and incorporate them into the local economy.
- To provide the means for residents and visitors to learn about and enjoy the Neighbourhood Area's natural and heritage assets.

Policies

The policies of the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan are:

NE1 Natural Environment

NE2 Sustainable Drainage

COM1 Community Facilities

COM2 Small-scale Development in Local Green Space

COM3 Developer Contributions

- DC1 Local Heritage
- DC2 Sustainable Design
- DC3 Public Realm and Car Parking
- DC4 Connectivity and Spaces
- DC5 Impact of Lighting
- DC6 Housing Standards
- DC7 Renewable Energy
- EB1 High-Speed Connectivity and Telecommunications
- EB2 Commercial and Tourism Development
- HG1 New Housing
- HG2 Housing Mix
- HG3 Local Play, Sports and Recreational Facilities

3.0 Impact on protected characteristics

The following table reviews the potential impacts of the plan policies on those groups with protected characteristics that have been identified within the Neighbourhood Area.

<i>Policy and policy aims</i>	<i>Impacts</i>
<p>NE1 Natural Environment To preserve, restore and promote the area’s natural heritage, landscape, habitats and biodiversity and to protect the landscape setting of the settlements.</p>	<p>Positive for all groups by promoting well-being through contact with the natural environment by a variety of means – visual, auditory, physical.</p>
<p>NE2 Sustainable drainage To ensure that adequate on-site drainage is provided on all new developments; to avoid flood risk on new developments or increasing flood risk elsewhere.</p>	<p>Positive for all groups by avoiding flood risk to homes, gardens, streets and facilities.</p>
<p>COM1 Community Facilities To identify existing and new buildings and land that are of importance to the community’s well-being.</p>	<p>Positive for all groups by providing facilities/services near to where they live. Of especial value to groups for whom ability to travel to facilities/services outside the area may be restricted (age/disability/pregnancy and maternity); and to those of working age who work in the area.</p>

<i>Policy and policy aims</i>	<i>Impacts</i>
COM2 Small-scale Development in Local Green Space An enabling policy for small-scale development that complements the community use of a specific Local Green Space, e.g. a storage facility for sports equipment; fixed play equipment; open-air shelter to support community events; benches and/or picnic tables.	Positive impact for all groups, although specific conditions of age, disability, ethnic custom or belief might limit the degree of benefit for some groups, depending on the facility or activity provided.
COM3 Developer Contributions To ensure that new development is supported by commensurate and appropriate augmentation of infrastructure, services and community facilities that are of importance to the community's functioning and well-being.	Positive impact for all groups by providing new facilities/services near to where they live. Of especial value to groups for whom ability to travel to services/facilities outside the area may be restricted or with specific needs that are catered for by the provision of a specific facility (e.g. age/disability/pregnancy and maternity); and to those of working age who work in the area. Public transport improvements would have a particular positive impact for the elderly and some with disabilities.
DC1 Local Heritage To protect, preserve and promote the area's Conservation Areas and heritage assets; find new uses for disused buildings that make a positive contribution to the local built heritage; ensure that all new development, including replacement dwellings and extensions, is in conformity with the area's rural character and local built heritage.	Positive impact for all groups by maintaining and reusing heritage assets for housing and/or business uses. In the latter case, positive effects could include employment opportunities for working age people, also for older people who wish to continue working.
DC2 Sustainable design To ensure that all new development, including replacement dwellings and extensions, is in conformity with the area's rural character and local built heritage.	Positive impact for all groups by creating well-designed places.
DC3 Public Realm and Car Parking DC4 Connectivity and Spaces DC6 Housing Standards To maintain and enhance connectivity within settlements and between developments; promote active travel; ensure adequate level of parking in settlements and avoid on-street	Positive well-being and social impacts for all groups by supporting ease of movement and active travel. Uncluttered and unobstructed streets, and paths with good surveillance,

<i>Policy and policy aims</i>	<i>Impacts</i>
parking; minimise impact of light pollution from outside sources; create safe routes between new developments and existing routes and open spaces; create safe, attractive and uncluttered developments.	support ease of movement, safety and incidental social interaction for all.
DC5 Impact of Lighting To limit the impact of light pollution on local amenity, the night-time landscape and wildlife.	This policy concerns both the human and natural night-time environment. Positive impacts for all groups by providing for outside lighting while limiting its negative impact on dwellings and privacy.
DC7 Renewable Energy To encourage residents and businesses to adopt a variety of renewable energy technologies.	Potential positive impacts for all groups where a household avails itself of this policy; particular potential positive impacts for working age group where they are homeworkers or own local businesses that install renewable energy. General positive impacts for all groups from resulting gain in reduction of carbon emissions.
EB1 High-speed Connectivity and Telecommunications To promote rural businesses and home-working; to provide suitable premises and communications technology to enable the establishment of businesses in the area.	Particular positive impact for working age group through support of local business and homeworking and potential for establishment of new businesses and employment. General positive benefit for all groups by supporting communication with family and friends, education and entertainment in the home, etc.
EB2 Commercial and Tourism Development To provide suitable space for leisure use by residents and visitors; incorporate the area's heritage and natural assets into the local economy and provide the means for residents and visitors to learn about and enjoy the areas natural and heritage assets.	Particular positive impact for working age group by enabling local business development and employment. Positive impact for all groups from potential access to recreation, leisure and learning, although specific conditions of age, disability, ethnic custom or belief might restrict uptake by some groups, depending on the facility/activity offered.

<i>Policy and rationale</i>	<i>Impacts</i>
HG1 New Housing HG2 Housing Mix To provide for housing growth to meet local needs; and a range of homes to meet the needs of residents of all ages, physical abilities and financial means.	Positive impact for all groups. Identification of a particular need for smaller dwellings for young families and for downsizing and encouragement of compliance with the Lifetime Homes standard has a particular positive impact for younger adults and older people and those with disabilities.
HG3 Local Play, Sports and Recreational Facilities To identify existing and new buildings and land that are of importance to the community's well-being; and provide suitable indoor and outdoor space for the enjoyment and leisure use of residents and visitors.	Positive impact for all groups by providing leisure and recreational facilities within the area, although specific conditions of age, disability, ethnic custom or belief might restrict uptake by some groups, depending on the facility or activity offered.

4.0 Conclusion

Assessment of the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan policies shows that none of the policies will have negative impacts on groups with protected characteristics. Many of the policies seek to provide for the needs of groups with protected characteristics within the plan area.

The vision, aims and policies of the CMAW Neighbourhood Plan aim to support community cohesion and social inclusion. The intention of the plan's vision and policies is to achieve positive results for many parts of the community with protected characteristics, especially through: (1) the provision of dwellings to meet identified community needs, including the specific needs of young people, the elderly and those who may be less physically able or who have disabilities; (2) the improvement and continued development of social and community facilities to promote and foster a sustainable, cohesive and resilient community; (3) the protection of the natural environment, provision of open space, improvement of connectivity and ease of movement, and promotion of a safe, walkable community to support health and well-being; and (4) the promotion of new business and employment opportunities within the plan area.