

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [Neighbourhood Planning \(MBC\)](#)  
Subject: Boughton Monchelsea Neighbourhood Plan Consultation  
Date: 16 September 2020 21:28:55

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Dear MBC

As a resident of Boughton Monchelsea I should like to make the following comments in response to the public consultation on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

Name: Heather Knowler  
[REDACTED]

Comments:

**Section 1 - Objectives** - I broadly support the five objectives listed. In particular, I strongly support Objective 2 which seeks to prevent the coalescence of the village and its hamlets with Maidstone.

**Parish Wide Policies** - I support all of the policies 1-15, with the exception of PWP 6. I support PWP 6 with Modification. The modification I would support would be the inclusion of the provision of bridleways, not just cycle and footways. Change the wording to: "All new development will be well connected, providing convenient, safe and direct links for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders..." Map 11 shows a number of proposed additional access ways for which the wording indicates bridleway, please can this be made certain. There are a considerable number of horse riders within and around Boughton, but I am aware of only two bridleways in the parish, a useful one in the Quarries and the other leading out onto the difficult Brishing Lane, which is narrow and has become busy and fast in recent years.

**Health and Wellbeing Policies** - I support all of the HWB policies.

**Rural Housing Policies** - Generally support these policies.

**Local Rural Economy** - Generally support these policies. However, as an aside regarding document design, may I strongly urge that the picture of horse riders on page 58 be replaced with another more suitable picture of riders in proper kit? The picture sets an extremely bad example as it shows riders in shorts, with no safety helmets and no high viz.

**Other Matters** - Page 60 - I would strongly support any reductions in speed limits within the village and along Heath Road, where this can be achieved. This would be particularly valuable in the narrow quiet lanes to the south of Heath Road, and in Green Lane, Old Tree Lane etc.

Appendix 4 - Page 77 - Lighting - I would strongly support the very careful consideration of external lighting to new properties. The two new houses next door to me were provided with very bright front lights, which can be very intrusive when left on overnight.

Finally, as a pedestrian, cyclist and horse rider within the parish, please can I urge every consideration be given the provision of bridleways where possible - not just paths for cycles and pedestrians. The village is home to a lot of horses, many of which are ridden through the village, but links to off road paths are virtually non-existent except through the Quarries. Please do not label new routes just for pedestrians and cycles, when we have the opportunity to enable safer riding off the roads.

Finally, finally - thanks to everyone who put so much work into this document.

Kind Regards

Heather Knowler (Ms)  
Resident (and member of British Horse Society)