

Appendix 2 – Updated Statement of Consultation – January 2016

Respondent	Summary of Response	Recommended Response
Indigo Planning	The SPD should explicitly support the growth of Billingshurst which will improve and safeguard the future vitality and viability of the village centre. We suggest that this is expressed in paragraph 6.5.9 of the Draft SPD	This change is noted and it is proposed that the wording in paragraph 6.1.9 of the SPD will be amended to support explicitly the growth of Billingshurst as follows on page 32 : <i><u>“The planned residential growth of Billingshurst that has been identified will improve and safeguard the future vitality and viability of the village centre”</u></i> . (Note: this is the same paragraph as 6.5.9 in the draft SPD which was issued for consultation – paragraph numbers have now been updated).
South Downs National Park Authority	No specific comments	Noted. No change required.
West Sussex County Council	Support the approach set out in the draft SPD and we welcome the references to West Sussex County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority and Local Transport Authority, therefore a key partner in the preparation of any future parking, wayfinding and/or surface water management plans.	Noted. No change required.
	There is a need to consider existing permissions when developing parking schemes for the high street.	Noted. It is proposed that reference be made to the cumulative effect of approved developments in the area under the sub-heading "On-Street Parking" on page 25 as follows: Add the following text to the end of the first sentence under "ON-STREET PARKING" on page 25 : <i><u>“bearing in mind the cumulative effect of approved developments in the area.”</u></i>
	The SPD does not refer to the Controlled Parking Zone around the station introduced in December 2014. This has influenced parking arrangements in various roads, including Station Road which is	Noted. The aim of the SPD is to provide an overarching vision and guidance to enhance the village centre. It is proposed to include a reference to the Controlled Parking Zone

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	already mentioned as a key gateway within the SPD.	around the railway station in a new paragraph on page 25 as follows: .
West Sussex County Council		Add the following wording as a new second paragraph on page 25 : <i><u>"The Controlled Parking Zone around the railway station introduced in December 2014, has influenced parking arrangements in various roads, including Station Road."</u></i>
	The document seeks to promote additional on-street parking for shoppers in the High Street. Officers are aware that there may be a desire by High Street residents to also park here. The SPD may therefore wish to consider the potential for residential parking as well as short stay for shoppers (possibly via shared use bays).	The aim of the SPD is to provide an overarching vision and guidance to enhance various key areas in the settlement. Parking arrangements have the potential to change over the lifetime of the HDPF, and are not something which falls under a planning remit. The SPD sets out that the Council will work with WSCC in relation to transport matters which including parking, and it is therefore considered that a detailed reference is not required.
	County Councils on-street parking policy is to promote short stay parking on-street and direct medium/long stay parking into the car parks. Any High Street parking should therefore be short stay only (i.e. 1 hour), even if shared with residential parking.	The aim of the SPD is to provide an overarching vision and guidance to enhance various key areas in the settlement. Parking arrangements, (including the allowed duration of parking stays,) have the potential to change over the lifetime of the HDPF, and are not something which falls under a planning remit. The SPD sets out that the Council will work with WSCC in relation to transport matters which including parking, and it is therefore considered that a detailed reference is not required.
	If infill development is explored at Jengers Mead, as set out on page 30, there may be concerns regarding car parking provision. Consider adding	It is proposed that a new bullet point (8) be added on page 30: <i><u>"Any infill development at Jengers Mead should maintain or seek to</u></i>

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	that development should maintain or seek to relocate existing car parking provision, as well as provide for proposed uses.	<i>relocate existing car parking provision, as well as provide for proposed uses</i> ", in accordance with policy 41 of the HDPF.
West Sussex County Council	<p>Pages 29, 30 or 31 only has references to pedestrian links and none for cyclists. The document refers to improved links to Jengers Mead then on page 30 implies just pedestrian improvements could be acceptable. It is suggested that further consideration should be given to improved access for all users to encourage sustainable travel.</p> <p>The County Council is reviewing a range of services (including libraries) to identify the future needs of the communities they serve. This may well lead to changes in the WSCC offer at Billingshurst Library building. In the current financial climate, it is hard to see how the revised offer could include "additional or alternative community uses" unless the organisations concerned are able to offer a commercial rent. It is therefore recommended that the two passages below are removed from the SPD. This does not mean, of course, that the library service would not engage in discussions about future provision.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>As such, the public sector partners are encouraged to undertake a further review of these facilities to establish the potential to diversify uses, possibly including additional or alternative community uses, and to incorporate commercial uses</i> 2) <i>The potential re-use of the existing Library building for community uses."</i> 	<p>Noted. It is proposed that "access for cyclists" is added immediately after references to pedestrian links on pages 29, 30 and 31 of the SPD, in accordance with the requirements of policy 40 of the HDPF. It is therefore proposed that the wording is amended to <u>and access for cyclists</u>" at the end of 1) on page 29; Add <u>"and access for cyclists"</u> after "pedestrian link" under 1) on page 30; add "and cyclist" after "pedestrian" in 4) on page 30; and add <u>"for cyclists"</u> after "and access" at the end of 1) on page 31.</p> <p>Noted. Given the financial climate, it is recognised that WSCC, along with other public sector organisations must consider the future of services that they offer, and it is accepted that as worded the two paragraphs may not be achievable. It is proposed to delete the following two sentences on page 21: "As such, the public sector partners are encouraged to undertake a further review of these facilities to establish the potential to diversify uses, possibly including additional or alternative community uses, and to incorporate commercial uses" and "The potential re-use of the existing Library building for community uses". It should be noted that the County Council are however still supportive of the community aspiration and the sentence stating 'There might be an opportunity to consider the future role of the WSCC Library and the Billingshurst Conference</p>

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		Centre' will remain in the SPD.
Colin Logan	Queries why would anyone want to visit Billingshurst High street? Anyone that lives here gets in their car to do their shopping with no local shops. Suggests a local attraction.	Comments noted – no change required at this time
Kenneth Longhurst	The village needs a proper east-west by pass and the developers are only giving a partial one.	Bypass is not within the SPD boundary so the comment is noted for its impact on the through traffic in the High Street but no changes recommended to the SPD.
	Parking in the High Street could stop the heavy lorries going through; they will get annoyed at all the hold ups and will not want to come through. This will also help reduce the speed to which some drivers don't adhere.	Support for parking in the High Street is noted.
	It is wrong for the district council to allocate so much public money to the project of one organisation – Eye. It is not needed and if it were then it should be located in the school. Their chosen location is the wrong place. Questions 'what does this have to do with a Supplementary Planning document for the "centre" of Billingshurst?'	The EYE project is previously approved by the Working Group and Council so the SPD cannot be changed in this respect.
	Being able to walk through from the HDC car park to Jengers Mead is welcome; the village has been discussing this since 1955. For disabled people this could be a blessing.	The support for the connectivity between the library and Jengers Mead car park is noted. No change required.
Lesley Wilding	Questions the ownership of Jengers Mead car park	Comments noted – no change required
	Comment about lack of choice of shops and that the village centre is a dormitory shopping destination	Comments noted – no change required or specifically requested
	Flooding needs to be addressed before further development comes to the village as in this part of the SPD.	Flood protection is addressed in section 2.1.4 of the document so no change required

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Lesley Wilding	Will the findings of the SWMP survey be implemented in whole, if not then the problems will persist.	The SWMP is a WSCC project that is referenced in the SPD. The latest update on the SWMP and actions should be reflected in the final version of the document. Request update from WSCC prior to adoption. No specific change required
	Less traffic, in particular heavy vehicles should be discouraged from the High Street.	The document sets out how traffic movement will be minimised. No change required
	Considers findings may be inaccurate given the rise in internet shopping	The study referred to did take into account the rise in internet shopping. No change required
	Suggests empty shops could be used to increase vitality. Observation about the current vacant shops.	This is addressed in the previous section (3) Temporary Uses No change required
	Supports a market but questions the use of the library car park.	The location in the SPD is indicative and if/when developed it will be agreed through stakeholder engagement and traffic orders. No change required
Jon Perks	Supports the character and design section. Makes specific comments about suggested street furniture.	Amend Design and Heritage section; add additional wording saying that this is an opportunity to bring all street furniture and materials into a consistent and locally distinctive approach.
	Suggests that there ought to be more green spaces in the village centre from grass verges, planters and a pocket park	Public realm section does not mention the ability to create green spaces and the opportunity to create pocket parks in the village centre Amend the text in 4 page 22 to say...Opportunities will be considered to create, where possible, and enhance existing open spaces and the village centre public realm.
	Suggests how the village centre could be made more pedestrian friendly once the A272-A29 link road is in place.	Sense of arrival section should have wording inserted to say ...Consideration will be given to introducing, where necessary, wider footpaths, cycle ways to the benefit of users.

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Jon Perks	Pedestrian and cycle flow is impeded by on street parking	Add in 2 Sense of arrival.... That on street car parking problems will be addressed to promote and enhance the use of connecting roads, footways and cycle ways for pedestrians and cyclists.
	Support for the signposting of the village centre and sense of identity.	Supports section so no changes required.
Tony Priestly	Indicates that the Billingshurst Scouts and Guide facility in the recreation ground (beyond the SPD boundary) needs to expand to meet the needs of the community.	The Scout and Guide facility is outside the boundary covered by the SPD and no specific change is required. However, the SPD recognises that the improvement of community facilities and connections to these in and beyond the village centre is an objective of the SPD.
Savills – Crest Nicholson and Bellway Homes	A consortium of developers welcomes the SPD and the opportunity to comment. The principle of a design led SPD is acceptable however HDC is reminded that it should be in accord with the NPPF.	Comments noted – no change required
	It is clear that the proposed SPD forms a design and infrastructure enhancement strategy for the town of Billingshurst but it should not add unnecessarily to the financial burdens upon development or can it replicate planning policies.	Comments noted – no change required
	The contents of the SPD, once progressed, should contribute to and inform the development of the Billingshurst Neighbourhood Plan.	Comments noted – no change required
	The opportunity of utilising new development in and around Billingshurst to fund infrastructure improvements through the proceeds of CIL should be appropriately harnessed.	Comments noted – no change required
	Attention is drawn to what the consortium consider to be major development opportunity which exists to the East of Billingshurst. The development of this site can	Comments noted – no change required – this is a matter for the HDPF review.

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Savills – Crest Nicholson and Bellway Homes	All such enhancements need to be CIL Reg 122 compliant	All such enhancements need to be CIL Reg 122 compliant
Cushman and Wakefield (Royal Mail Group)	Acknowledges and supports changes to roads. Wishes to see minimal disruption to PO services when improvement works are taking place.	Noted that stakeholders need to be kept informed of changes and the post office in particular due to the nature of their business. Implementation issue, no recommended change.
	Careful consideration should be given to ensure businesses operating in the local area such as Royal Mail are not adversely affected.	Comment noted as this should be addressed at implementation stage
	Ensure that pavements and cycle paths are open where possible to ensure that the post can still be delivered	Observation noted. Contact will be made to find out the routes affected and ongoing dialogue undertaken.
	The protection of existing operations and amenity is a crucial issue for Royal Mail, particularly where there is potential for sanctions to be placed upon them when uses of a sensitive nature are introduced in close proximity to existing Mail Centres and Delivery Offices.	Set out in the employment section that as the village centre is the commercial centre that employment uses will be supported and encouraged alongside compatible uses to increase the vitality and viability of the centre. (In accordance with policy 8 of the HDPF as listed on page 13.
	Advises that the current use of the post office building will remain as employment use.	The SPD identifies alternative uses for the post office building. Further to the advice that the PO site will remain in its current employment use, clarify this in the SPD by deleting the Sorting Office on page 17.
Natural England	Accepts the conclusion of SEA Screening Opinion and states a full Appropriate Assessment is not required.	Comments noted – no change required
Historic England	The SPD provides the appropriate guidance in respect of the heritage of Billingshurst. May be improved by more cross referencing to the HDPF. A conservation area appraisal should be undertaken in due course.	Support for the appropriate guidance in the SPD. Suggests cross referencing to the HDPF policies however these are listed in section 3 – No change required

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Billingshurst Parish Council	A table of potential projects for inclusion in the delivery plan were submitted	The projects can be considered for inclusion in the delivery plan which is an appendix to the SPD
Exhibition Comment	Support for improving key gateways.	Comments noted – no change required
	A29 needs to be of sufficient quality for people to use new bypass section.	Comments noted – no change required
	Make sure new road is good quality to make it a sufficient temptation for people to go round instead of through the village centre.	Comments noted – no change required
	A272 is a really important road – keep traffic volume at sensible level.	Comments noted – no change required
	Currently a rat-run – need to reduce the through-traffic down the High St	The proposals in the SPD should address this so add text saying 'rat running and' before HGV's in this sentence
	Paint 20mph on road and improve signage to make it clearer that it is a 20mph speed limit	The proposals in the SPD propose traffic calming techniques as required -noted no changes required to document.
	Brand Billingshurst High St as 'Old Billingshurst' and create a new town centre near the new residential developments	Under the Active Promotion and Branding add that 'Old Billingshurst' could be used as an example of a brand name.
	Exhibition not advertised well enough – came across it by chance.	Comments noted – no change required
	Concern over what will happen to garages by library car-park.	Concern noted. Any proposed changes in the future will be consulted upon.
	General support for plans but sceptical over time-scale / funding / ability to deliver projects.	Observation noted.
	Concerns about lack of enforcement of ad hoc parking across footways which causes nuisance to residents and pedestrians (particularly those with buggies / mobility scooters).	In the parking section note that improvements to parking and footpaths should be designed to ensure that parking on the footpath is discouraged.
	Support for more on-street parking - for businesses / residents and visitors.	Supports the proposals in the SPD so no changes.
There should be greater emphasis on cycling (including cycle parking, routes).	The SPD does give emphasis to cycling and no suggested changes made : no change.	

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Exhibition Comment	Greater emphasis on connections and integration with the urban extension.	The SPD gives emphasis on connections and integration and no suggested changes put forward so no changes. (consider)
	Specific concern raised about vehicle / pedestrian conflict associated with new parking areas / markings at Myrtle Lane / Marringdean - not an SPD issue, but please could the Council take a look at this.	Not and SPD issue - but referred to WSCC and Parking Services who have actioned.
	Desire to see the Council take a more proactive role in marketing the new retail building given the apparent lack of a tenant.	Not and SPD issue - but referred to Economic Development
	Access to High Street heading west from East Street is very problematic for buggies / disabled visitors and a convoluted route has to be taken.	NW - work out where this is an if there is a specific project or issue to put into the SPD.
	Concern about impact of ad hoc parking at Tesco at station - enforcement required.	Not and SPD issue - but referred to Parking
	keen to be kept informed of future events. Please could you ensure she is added to appropriate databases	Not and SPD issue but added to database.
	Women's Hall an important local landmark and should be marked on map.	Mark on map (on the corner of High Street and St Mary's Close)
	RC Church is marked as a Listed Building in document but this is incorrect.	It is shown as a building of local importance not a listed building (no change required).
	Is bus stop on East Street in the correct place?	This will be checked and amended if required.