Battle Civil Parish

Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2028

PLAN PROPOSAL
FINAL VERSION

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JUNE 2021

INCOPORATING EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Battle Neighbourhood Plan

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For purposes of this Plan the use of Appendix, Annexe and Schedule are used as follows:
An Appendix is included at the end of the plan because it is too large for the body of the plan but needs to be referenced for clarity. The aim of the appendices is to add greater details, visuals and aid for better understanding.
An Annexe is a standalone document/report which can be read in its own right but supports the main document.
A Schedule is similar to the appendix but is a list which is too wieldy/detailed to be included in the main text of the plan so is cited at the end of the plan.

FOREWORD

Battle occupies a unique place in the history and consequential development of the United Kingdom. When the decision was taken on 13 April 2015 by Battle Town Council to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for Battle Civil Parish under the Localism Act of 2011, this was done with sensitivity so as to preserve the special features of our community. This includes Battle town itself, the village of Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham. Under this Act, several new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new housing development was introduced, including the provision of a Neighbourhood Plan. This forms the statutory planning document by which local development requirements can be outlined. A Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was formed, composed of Councillors, volunteers from the local community, and with additional help from advisors, brought in as necessary to contribute their expertise in their field.

We work closely with Rother District Council, who offer advice and assistance, along with our professional consultant, Moles Consultancy. And we have, at all stages, sought the views of the local community.

A survey document was delivered to every household early in 2016, and feedback was evaluated; the results can be seen on the website. Subsequently, two Public Consultations were held, one in 2017, the other in 2019. Feedback from these consultations were analysed and the resulting information can be seen on our website: www.battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk

Residents are kept up to date by the website, Facebook, and regular articles in the local press, the town council newsletter etc. This Neighbourhood Plan aims to have a positive impact on the future development of Battle, and address some issues faced by the Parish, such as affordable housing, smaller homes for the elderly and young people of the Parish. It is also an encouragement for the community to consider some of the aspirations that are beyond the scope of the Plan but are nevertheless achievable through working collectively.

In the course of developing the Neighbourhood Plan, our priority has been to balance the delivery of the required housing without seriously harming the character of our settlements or the AONB. We have had to recognise the pressure for housing development required by Central Government and RDC, yet take full account of the historic nature of the Civil Parish of Battle.

The Steering Group wishes to thank the community for their continued involvement and support throughout the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. This includes past and present members of the Group, and as Chair I must specifically thank my fellow members of the Steering Group, Battle Town Council; the Clerk and Assistant to the Clerk for all their hard work and dedication.

An electronic copy of this Plan can be found online at: http://battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk

Margaret Howell
(Chairman of the Steering Group) June 2021

SECTION 1: Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The town of Battle marks the world renowned site of the Battle of Hastings in 1066, which gave the town its name. The town began with the erection of the Abbey by the Norman victors as a penance for the dead of the battle and afterwards, and to mark where, King Harold was killed. The town grew up in the late eleventh century to provide the trades required for the building work: there were over a hundred houses by 1105 and their sites can still be traced. Henry I encouraged the town with grants of licences for fairs and markets, the last cattle market survived until the 1960s to be replaced by a new library and housing close to the (now) TenSixtySix roundabout. Building of St Mary's Church began in the early twelfth century for the needs of the local population, a function it still serves. Development of the town, north and south, was along one of the principal High Weald ridges.

1.1.2 Battle Parish has many characteristics which determine that this is a different, renowned part of the country, with an historical dimension dating back more than a millennium. It is of International as well as National importance, but in common with many rural communities at the present time is required to plan its development for the future.

1.1.3 In order to ensure that Parish growth is planned in a manner which brings the community on board, a Neighbourhood Development Plan is being prepared. From this point the Neighbourhood Development Plan will be referred to as Neighbourhood Plan. This will focus on housing development, employment, parking, highways, heritage and design.

1.1.4 'What is neighbourhood planning? Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs and where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.' (Extract taken from Planning Practice Guidance Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 41-001-20190509 Revision date: 09 05 2019)

1.1.5 A Neighbourhood Plan should support the strategic development needs set out in the relevant Local Plan/ Core Strategy and plan positively to support local development (as outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework).

1.1.6 The Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan (Battle CP NP) should address the development and use of land and include land use policies. This is because if successful at examination and referendum the Plan will become part of the statutory Development Plan once it has been made (brought into legal force) by the planning authority. Applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise (see section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

1.1.7 The Battle CP NP was led by extensive public consultation and prepared by a steering group of volunteers representing a range of interests across the Parish.

1.1.8 The Battle CP NP has been prepared in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, The Localism Act 2011 and Directive 2001/42/EC on Strategic Environmental Assessment.

1.1.9 Battle Town Council applied and was designated a Neighbourhood Area by resolution CB14/80 on the 13th April 2015. See the Area Designation Plan Map (Figure 1)

1.2 Neighbourhood Area Designation - Delineated by the Civil Parish Boundary (see following page).

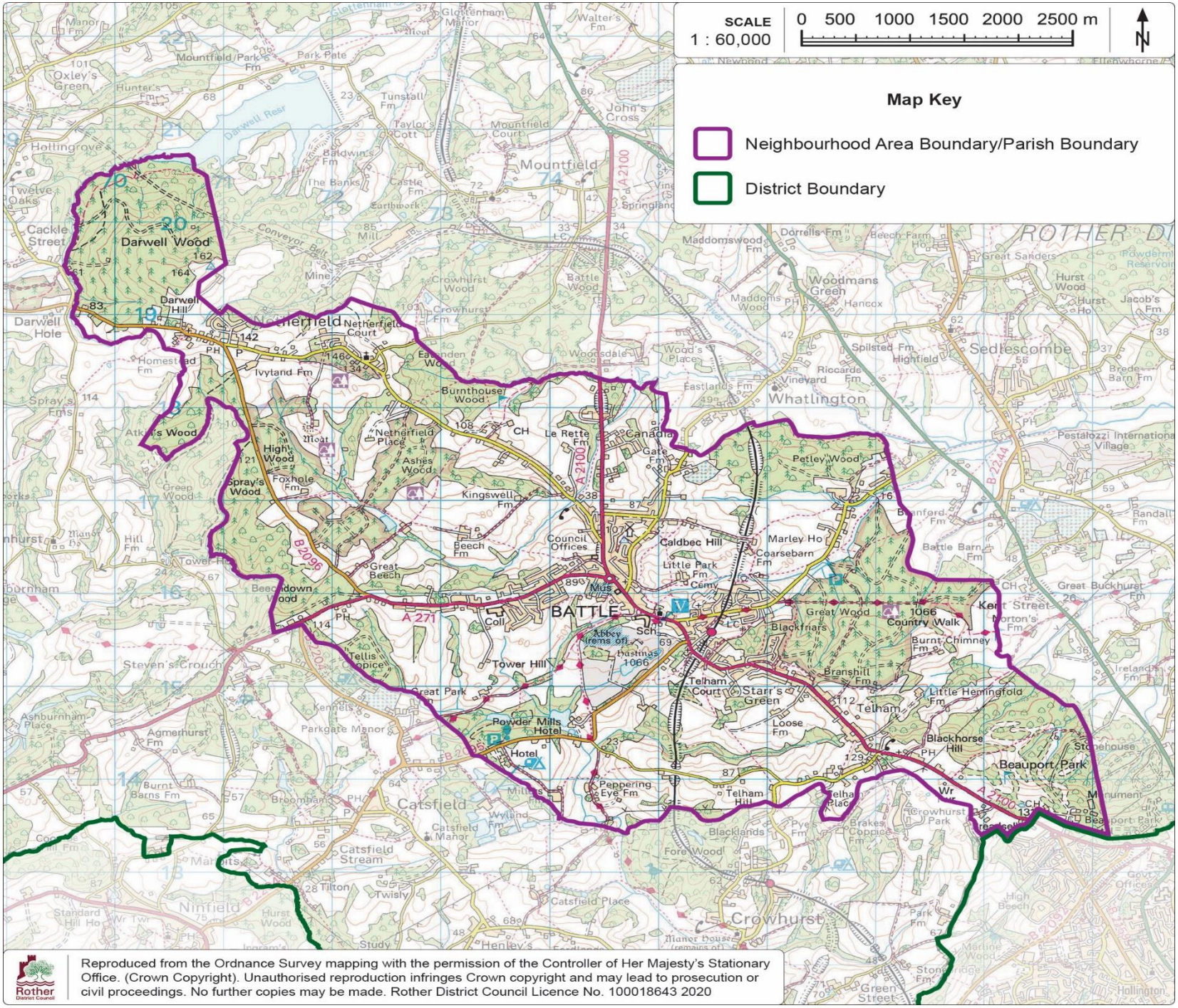


Figure 1: Area Designation map

1.3 The Planning Policy Context

National Planning Policy Framework

1.3.1 Neighbourhood Plans have been prepared in England since provided for in the 2011 Localism Act. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) outlines what a Neighbourhood Plan can do.

1.3.2 The NPPF 2019 replaces the pre-existing Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Guidance Notes (PPGs).

1.3.3 The NPPF 2019 sets out the Government's planning policies for England. It was published on 27th March 2012, updated on 24th July 2018 and revised on 19th February 2019. The National Planning Policy Framework is a key part of the Government's reforms to make the planning system less complex and easier to understand. It vastly reduced the number of pages of national policy about planning.

1.3.4 The National Planning Policy Framework must be taken into account in the preparation of Local and Neighbourhood Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions. It states that in order to be considered sound a Local Plan should be consistent with national planning policy.

1.3.5 **Planning Practice Guidance**

On 6 March 2014 , the then Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), now called Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) launched this planning practice guidance web-based resource. For the first time, planning practice guidance is now available entirely online in a usable and accessible way. Important information for any user of the planning system previously only published in separate documents can now be found quickly and simply. It contains a very useful guidance section on Neighbourhood Plans. You can link easily between the National Planning Practice guidance, as well as between different categories of guidance.

1.3.6 **Local Planning context**

All Neighbourhood Plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies for an area (which is generally taken to be a Council's Core Strategy or equivalent Local Plan) as well as have regard to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) and accord with European Legislation. The local statutory planning context for preparation of the Battle CP NP is the Rother Core Strategy (adopted in September 2014) which sets out the broad planning strategy for Rother District up to 2028. The Core Strategy forms part of the statutory Development Plan for the District alongside those saved policies in the Local Plan 2006 not replaced by the Core Strategy. (Superseded 2006 policies are identified in Appendix 1 of the Core Strategy.)

1.3.7 The Core Strategy does not allocate specific sites for development, this is done in a separate document called The Rother Development and Site Allocations (DaSA) Local Plan. Whilst the Core Strategy set the strategic policies of the Local Plan, while those of the DaSA are generally viewed as "non-strategic" – but still important and warranting statutory expression. The DaSA implements the development strategy and core policies set out in the Rother Core Strategy. The DaSA Local Plan was adopted by Rother District Full Council on 16 December 2019, having been found sound by the Inspector appointed to oversee the public examination process, subject to the inclusion of the Main Modifications and changes to Policies Maps as set out in the Appendix to his report.

1.3.8 **Strategic Environmental Assessment**

The Localism Act 2011 requires neighbourhood plans to not breach and be otherwise compatible with EU and Human Rights obligations. It is not the case that every neighbourhood plan will need an environmental assessment of the type normally associated with the process of preparing Local Plan. Neighbourhood Plans (Battle CP NP) may trigger various EU Directives (including the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (SEA) and Habitats Directive (HRA)) and may need to undertake additional procedures and assessment depending on the scale and impact of the plan proposals.

1.3.9 A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a process to identify likely significant effects of a plan or policy on the environment. An SEA provides technical details of likely effects of the proposal and sets out a management and monitoring framework to help mitigate and track any impacts. The SEA focuses on impacts on the natural environment with some limited consideration of human population needs and material assets.

1.3.10 Draft neighbourhood plan proposals should be assessed to determine whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and this process is commonly referred to as a screening opinion request. The requirements are set out in the regulations of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

1.3.11 Following the submission of a screening opinion for the draft Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan, Rother District Council (as the responsible authority) had to determine whether or not a full Strategic Environmental Assessment and/or a Habitats Regulations Assessment are required. In accordance with the Regulations, Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency were consulted on the findings of the screening report for a five week period.

1.3.12 Having regard to the submission and the consultation responses, it is the Council's opinion that the Plan would be likely to have significant environmental effects. On this basis, a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required for the proposed Battle Neighbourhood Plan. With regards to the Habitats Regulations and whether an Appropriate Assessment is required, the Council concludes that the proposed Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on European designations. See **Appendix F** for the screening opinion determination letter.

SECTION 2: Process Summary

2.1 The Plan Process

2.1.1 Neighbourhood Plans have been prepared in England since being provided for in the 2011 Localism Act.

2.1.2 The Plan preparation process has been led by the Battle Town Council as the 'qualifying body' under the Regulations. The preparation of the Plan has been delegated to the Battle CP NP Steering Group (hereafter referred to as the Steering Group), which is made up of volunteers from the Parish.

2.1.3 A summary of the statutory Plan process is as follows:

- Step 1: Designating neighbourhood area and if appropriate neighbourhood forum
- Step 2: Preparing a draft neighbourhood plan or Order
- Step 3: Pre-submission publicity & consultation
- Step 4: Submission of a neighbourhood plan or Order proposal to the local planning authority and submission publicity & consultation
- Step 5: Independent Examination
- Steps 6 and 7: Referendum and Making the Neighbourhood Plan or Order (bringing it into force commonly known as adopting the Plan).

2.1.4 If a Plan meets the basic conditions and is successful at the independent examination, it is then put to a Parish referendum. A majority vote will lead to the Plan becoming part of the Development Plan for the Parish and is used when determining future development decisions alongside the current Local Planning Authority Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019).

2.1.5 Only a draft Neighbourhood Plan or Order that meets each of a set of basic conditions can be put to a referendum and be 'made'. The basic conditions are set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
The basic conditions are:
a. having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State it is appropriate to make the order (or neighbourhood plan).
b. having special regard to the desirability of preserving any listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest that it possesses, it is appropriate to make the order. This applies only to Orders.
c. having special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of any conservation area, it is appropriate to make the order. This applies only to Orders.
d. the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) contributes to the achievement of sustainable development.
e. the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area of the authority (or any part of that area).
f. the making of the order (or neighbourhood plan) does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations. For example, prescribed conditions are met in relation to the Order (or plan) and prescribed matters have been complied with in connection with the proposal for the order (or neighbourhood plan).

2.1.6 There are other basic conditions that apply to a neighbourhood plan besides those set out in the primary legislation and is in Regulations 32 and 33 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General)

Regulations 2012 (as amended):
the making of the neighbourhood plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which set out the habitat regulation assessment process for land use plans, including consideration of the effect on habitats sites. (See Schedule 2 to the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) in relation to the examination of Neighbourhood Plans.)

2.1.7 The Plan has been developed with the community being consulted or kept informed along the way. This stage of the Plan is called the Plan Proposal Submission – Regulation 15 statutory stage of the Plan development.

2.1.8 Initial consultation and call for potential development sites was sent out to all households, asking for input into the key components of the plan and planning consultants Moles Consultancy was employed to help with the Plan.
A full description of the Battle CP NP process is included in the Consultation Statement document. A summary of the production of the Plan to date includes the following:

- Questionnaire to community asking for their input into the key components of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan Young Persons Survey 2019
- Call for Sites
- Land owners presentations
- Vision and objectives consultation
- Call for sites Community Consultation
- Reg.14 Consultation

2.2 Community Engagement

2.2.1 Two-way communication with the local community during the Neighbourhood Plan is vital for its success and ultimate support through the referendum. It has been important to engage with the whole community including key stakeholders throughout the process.

2.2.2 Communication and consultation, in various forms, played a major role in formulating the Plan and allowing residents and other relevant stakeholders the opportunity to take part in defining the Neighbourhood Plan. A full description of the community engagement process is included in the Consultation Statement document.

2.3 Evidence Base Overview

2.3.1 Evidence can be both quantitative (facts and figures such as census data) as well as qualitative (e.g. opinions given in consultation responses) and both should be used to support the decision making and the policies that have been developed for the Neighbourhood Plan.

2.3.2 The Government's planning guidance (para 040) states that: "there is no 'tick box' list of evidence required for neighbourhood planning. Proportionate, robust evidence should support the choices made and the approach taken. The evidence should be drawn upon to explain succinctly the intention and rationale of the policies in the draft neighbourhood plan…"

2.3.3 We therefore started with a review of the RDC evidence base used for the Local Plan and then built upon it to address the objectives which were identified. We also reviewed all existing documents and strategies for the Parish and the published statistical information and data including the Office of National Statistics and Census data. Due to the size of these documents, they need to be reviewed separately but have been listed in **Appendix E** of the Plan.

SECTION 3: The Parish Background

3.1 Spatial Characteristics of the Parish

3.1.1 The Parish of Battle comprises three distinct parts within the Parish boundary, namely the hamlet of Telham, Battle Town and Netherfield. The village of Netherfield is separated from Battle Town by agricultural land, some forestry and open spaces; whereas the hamlet of Telham is connected to Battle by ribbon development on the south side. Whilst nearly all areas within the boundary have some historic significance, Battle itself is of national and international importance, with the "Senlac" battle ground, which is protected by English Heritage, the Abbey and its market town profile established over many centuries. It also acts as a service centre for a large rural hinterland which stretches far outside its Parish boundary. The entire Parish also falls within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and retaining the 1970 designated conservation area status is of paramount importance.

3.1.2 Within Battle Civil Parish there are two designated (electoral) wards for Rother DC; North Battle including Netherfield & Whatlington (Whatlington is outside the Civil Parish) and South Battle including the hamlet of Telham.

3.1.3 The hamlet of Telham acts as a gateway to both the village of Crowhurst and the larger settlement of Hastings and St Leonards. Enclosed by agricultural land it services a small community and acts as a Green Gap in the fight against urban sprawl. As with most hamlets it is somewhat isolated by its economic difficulties.

3.1.4 The area classed as Netherfield runs from the bottom of Netherfield Hill, Netherfield Road onto Darwell Hill terminating at Darwell Hole. Houses border the main routes through the village but due to historic associations with British Gypsum an estate was constructed at Darvel Down, which housed the majority of the Mountfield workforce at that time.

3.2 Economy

This area profile provides key characteristics of the local economy.

3.2.1 Economic activity and inactivity in 2011

This dataset shows the percentage of economic activity and inactivity amongst those aged 16-74 from the 2011 Census.

Economic activity category / Geography	All people aged 16-74	All economically active	Employee	Self-employed	Unemployed	Economically active full-time student	All economically inactive	Long-term sick or disabled	Looking after home or family	Retired	Economically inactive student (including full-time students)	Other economically inactive
England and Wales	100.0	69.7	52.2	9.7	4.4	3.4	30.3	4.2	4.3	13.8	5.8	2.2
South East	100.0	72.1	54.2	11.0	3.4	3.3	27.9	2.9	4.4	13.7	5.2	1.8
East Sussex	100.0	68.1	48.2	13.4	3.6	2.8	31.9	4.1	4.2	17.8	4.0	1.8
Rother	100.0	63.4	43.2	14.8	3.2	2.1	36.6	4.1	4.3	22.5	3.8	1.9
Battle	100.0	66.2	45.8	15.3	2.5	2.6	33.8	2.8	4.6	19.6	5.4	1.5

3.2.2 A person aged 16 to 74 is described as economically active if, in the week before the census, they were in employment as an employee or self-employed, not in employment, but were seeking work and ready to start work within two weeks, or not in employment, but waiting to start a job already

obtained and available. Full-time students who fulfil any of these criteria are classified as economically active and are counted separately in the 'Full-time student' category of economically active - they are not included in any of the other categories such as employees or unemployed.

3.2.3 A person aged 16 to 74 is described as economically inactive if, in the week before the census, they were not in employment but did not meet the criteria to be classified as 'Unemployed'. This includes a person looking for work but not available to start work within two weeks, as well as anyone not looking for work, or unable to work - for example those who are retired, looking after home/family, permanently sick or disabled. Students who fulfil any of these criteria are also classified as economically inactive. This does not necessarily mean in full-time education and excludes students who were working or in some other way were economically active.
Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Unemployment in 2011

3.2.4 This dataset shows the number and percentage of the economically active population, aged 16-74 who were unemployed, by gender, age groups and whether or not they have ever worked and length of unemployment from the 2011 Census.

Unemployment category		All usual residents aged 16 to 74	Percent unemployed aged 16-74	Percent unemployed aged 16-24	Percent unemployed aged 50-74	Percent who are long-term unemployed	Percent who have never worked
Gender	Geography						
All people	England and Wales	41,126,540	4.4	1.2	0.8	1.7	0.7
	South East	6,274,341	3.4	0.9	0.7	1.3	0.4
	East Sussex	374,518	3.6	1.0	0.8	1.5	0.4
	Rother	62,861	3.2	0.9	0.8	1.3	0.4
	Battle	4,590	2.5	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.5
Females	England and Wales	20,735,149	3.5	0.9	0.5	1.5	0.6
	South East	3,168,086	2.8	0.7	0.5	1.2	0.3
	East Sussex	191,970	2.8	0.7	0.6	1.2	0.3
	Rother	32,498	2.5	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.3
	Battle	2,382	2.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.4
Males	England and Wales	20,391,391	5.3	1.5	1.1	2.0	0.8
	South East	3,106,255	4.1	1.2	1.0	1.4	0.5
	East Sussex	182,548	4.5	1.3	1.1	1.7	0.6
	Rother	30,363	3.9	1.3	1.1	1.6	0.6
	Battle	2,208	2.6	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.6

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Employment by industry in 2011

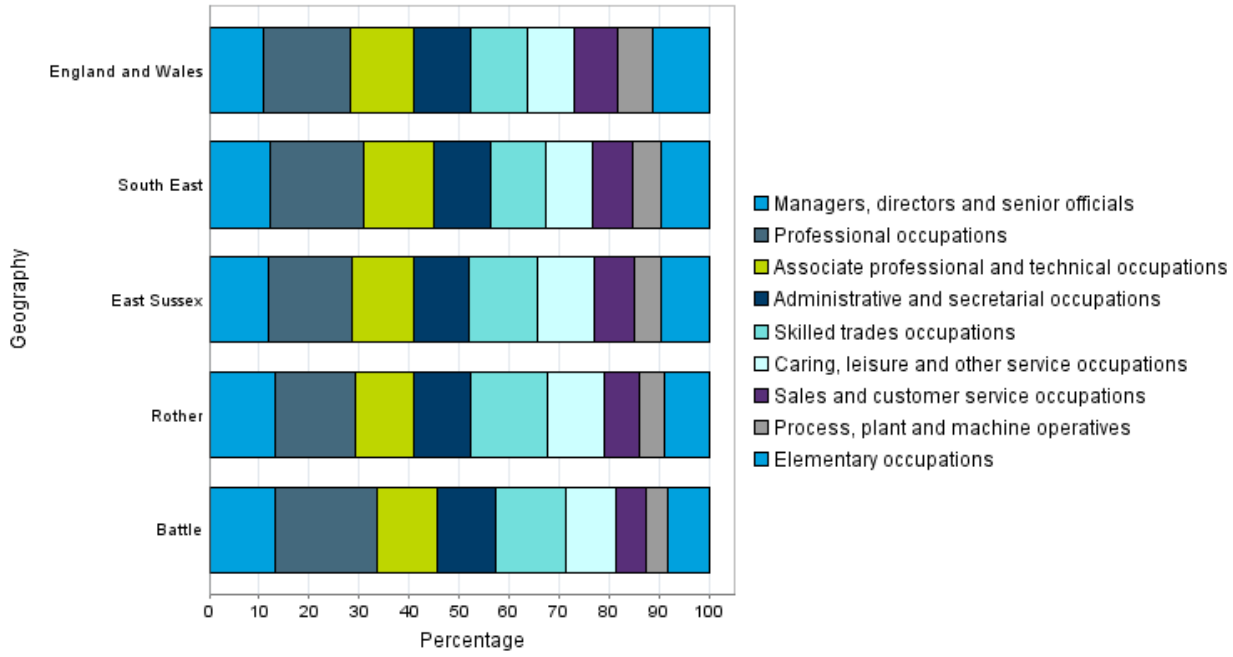
3.2.5 This dataset shows the percentage of people in employment aged 16-74 by industry from the 2011 Census.

Industry / Geography	All industries	Agriculture, Mining and Utilities	Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motors	Transport and storage	Accommodation and food service activities	Information and communication	Finance, insurance and Real estate	Professional, scientific and technical activities	Administrative and support service activities	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	Education	Human health and social work activities	Other
England and Wales	100.0	2.3	8.9	7.7	15.9	5.0	5.6	4.0	5.8	6.6	4.9	6.0	9.9	12.5	5.0
South East	100.0	2.1	7.2	8.0	15.6	5.2	5.0	5.5	5.9	7.5	5.2	6.0	10.1	11.6	5.1
East Sussex	100.0	2.1	6.1	9.4	16.0	4.1	5.6	2.9	5.9	6.2	4.5	5.5	10.3	15.6	5.7
Rother	100.0	3.0	5.7	10.1	14.9	3.8	5.6	2.8	6.3	6.6	4.6	5.5	10.0	15.2	5.8
Battle	100.0	2.9	5.6	10.3	12.6	3.2	5.3	2.8	6.6	8.7	4.9	6.2	11.8	14.3	5.0

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Employment by occupation in 2011

3.2.6 This dataset shows the percentage of all people in employment aged 16-74 by occupation from the 2011 Census.



Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

3.3 Population and households

This area profile provides key characteristics of the local population and households.

Population by age groups in 2011

3.3.1 This dataset shows the resident population by broad age groups from the 2011 Census.

Age Geography	All people	Percent aged 0-14	Percent aged 15-29	Percent aged 30-44	Percent aged 45-64	Percent aged 65+
England and Wales	56,075,912	17.6	19.9	20.5	25.4	16.4
South East	8,634,750	17.8	18.6	20.4	26.1	17.2
East Sussex	526,671	16.1	15.9	17.2	28.0	22.7
Rother	90,588	14.6	13.3	14.4	29.3	28.4
Battle	6,673	17.2	14.8	15.1	29.1	23.9

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Population by ethnic group in 2011

3.3.2 This dataset shows the population by ethnic groups from the 2011 Census.

Ethnicity Geography	All people	Percent All White	Percent All Mixed	Percent All Asian or Asian British	Percent All Black or Black British	Percent other ethnic group
England and Wales	56,075,912	86.0	2.2	7.5	3.3	1.0
South East	8,634,750	90.7	1.9	5.2	1.6	0.6
East Sussex	526,671	96.0	1.4	1.7	0.6	0.3
Rother	90,588	97.1	1.1	1.2	0.3	0.2
Battle	6,673	97.4	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.1

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Population density and area in hectares in 2011

3.3.3 This dataset shows the area in hectares and also the population density - that is, the number of persons per hectare from the 2011 Census.

Measure Geography	Area in hectares	Density (persons per hectare)
England and Wales	15,101,354	3.7
South East	1,906,965	4.5
East Sussex	170,871	3.1
Rother	50,943	1.8
Battle	3,180	2.1

Source: 2001 and 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Population in urban and rural areas in 2011

3.3.4 This dataset shows the percentage of people living in urban and rural areas from the 2011 Census. The 2011 rural-urban classification (RUC2011) for small area geographies provides a rural/urban view of datasets at output area (OA), super output area (SOA) and ward level. Data presented here are aggregated from the output area level classification. An output area (OA) is treated as 'urban' if it was allocated to an area with a population of 10,000 or more. The rest is treated as 'rural'.

Urban/Rural	Urban				Rural			
Age group	All people	0-15	16-64	65+	All people	0-15	16-64	65+
Geography								
England and Wales	81.5	82.9	82.4	76.4	18.5	17.1	17.6	23.6
South East	79.6	80.2	80.5	75.7	20.4	19.8	19.5	24.3
East Sussex	74.0	74.2	74.5	72.7	26.0	25.8	25.5	27.3
Rother	47.7	44.1	45.4	54.1	52.3	55.9	54.6	45.9
Battle	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

3.4 Households

Household composition in 2011

3.4.1 This dataset shows the total number of households and percentage by household type from 2011 Census. A household is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room, sitting room or dining area. Household composition here classifies households according to the relationships between householders.

Household sub-type	All households	Percent all one person households	Percent all family households	Percent all other households
Geography				
England and Wales	23,366,044	30.2	61.8	7.9
South East	3,555,463	28.8	63.9	7.4
East Sussex	231,905	32.8	61.2	6.1
Rother	40,877	34.0	60.9	5.1
Battle	2,865	31.5	63.6	4.9

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

3.5 Transport

3.5.1 The town of Battle is used as a conduit to facilitate access to a number of industrial complexes on the outskirts of Hastings and St Leonards via the A2100, in addition to its new use as a transport corridor facilitating an approach to the new Hastings – Bexhill Link road (A2690). This has generally increased the problems associated with additional transportation within the confines of our historic town, such as illegal parking and congestion. This has not improved the environment for those living, working or shopping along Battle High Street. There has also been an ongoing problem with coaches associated with the transportation of visitors to the town to access the historic centres, such as the Abbey, which offload their passengers around the Abbey Green in

front of the Abbey, causing additional congestion at most times of the year. Whilst Battle Station is situated a short distance from the High Street, accessing its services is not helped by the distinct lack of public transport within the Parish. The station provides regular services to both London and to St.Leonards Warrior Square and Hastings. Connecting services are available to Ashford, Eastbourne and Brighton from Hastings as well as Gatwick Airport via Tonbridge.

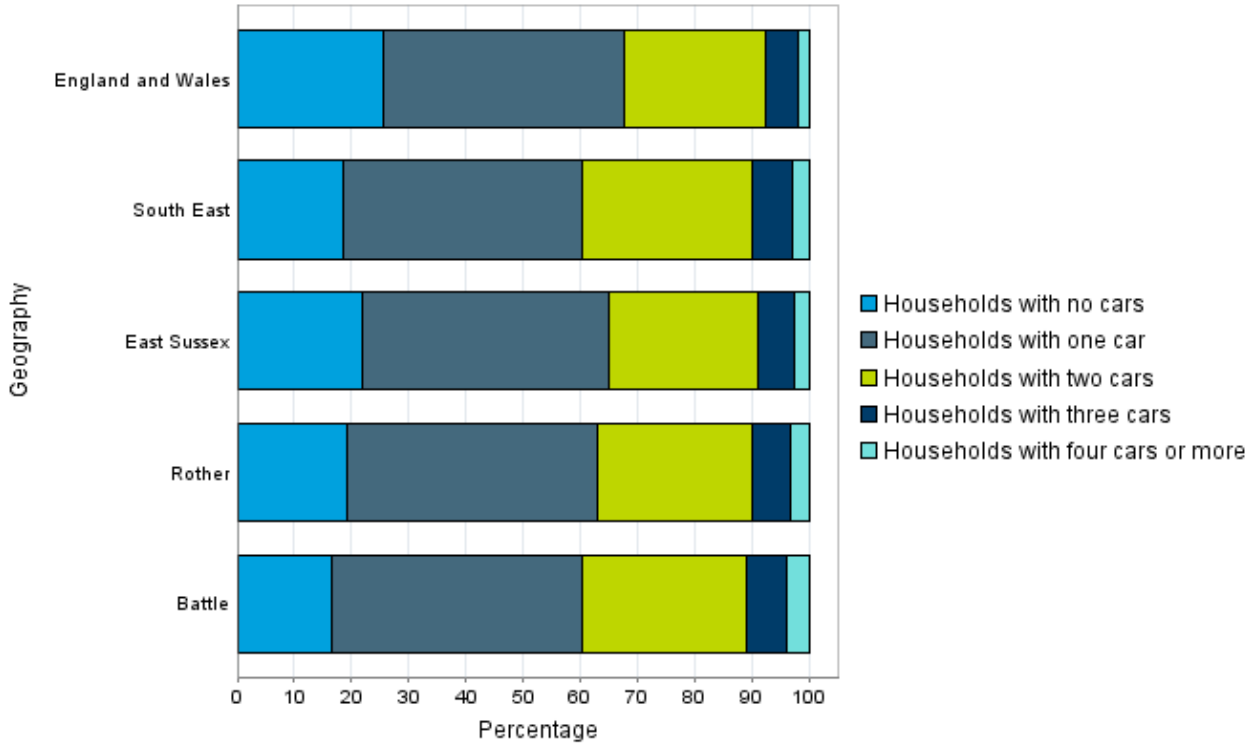
3.5.2 Netherfield, part of which is situated on the B2096, Battle to Heathfield Road, suffers from a lack of public transport requiring the constant use of private vehicular traffic to access medical services, recreational facilities and employment, due to its isolation and lack of investment over a considerable period of time. This has resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of households needing 3-4 cars to enable household family members to access a variety of different pursuits at peak periods. The deteriorating state of the highway system around the rural settlement of Netherfield indicates that a substantial investment would be required to make this village into a rural business hub and therefore an employment hot-spot. Netherfield has a limited bus service operated by Battle Area Community Transport (B74) and Stagecoach (355) - on school days only

3.5.3 The hamlet of Telham, is situated between Battle and Hastings along the A2100 with additional areas situated along Telham Lane. It has a church and a Public House. Public transport plays a greater role in the lives of the local inhabitants but is limited by the poor infrequent bus service to various local destinations.

Car ownership

Access to a car in 2011

3.5.4 This chart shows the percentage of households by number of cars or vans owned or available for use by that household.



Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Number of cars in 2011

3.5.5 This dataset shows the number of cars or vans, including any company car or van if available for private use, the number of households in the area and the number of cars/vans per household. Also shown is the percentage increase in households, cars and vans, and the number of cars/vans per household since 2001.

Measure Geography	All cars or vans in the area	All households	Number of vehicles per household
England and Wales	27,294,656	23,366,044	1.2
South East	4,803,729	3,555,463	1.4
East Sussex	292,118	231,905	1.3
Rother	54,241	40,877	1.3
Battle	4,028	2,865	1.4

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Travel to work

Method of travel to work in 2011

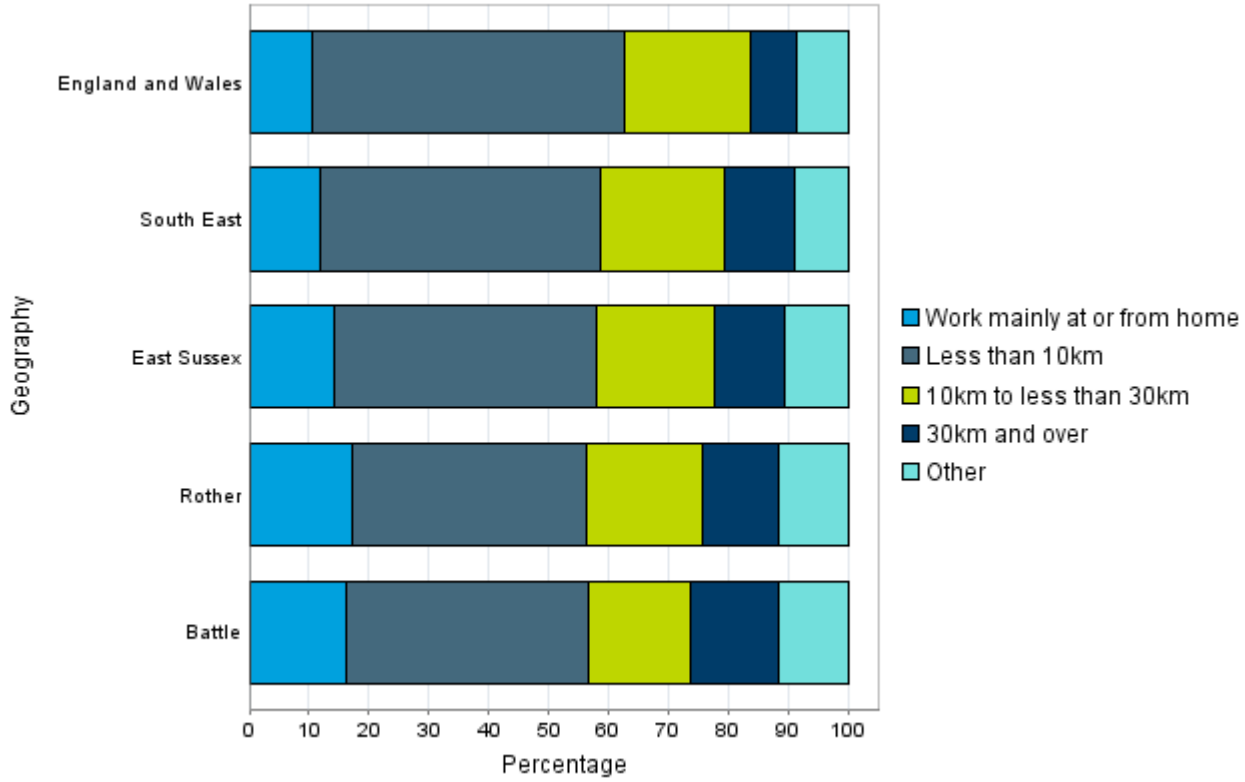
3.5.6 This dataset shows which modes of transport are used by those who are in employment to get to their place of work, by broad transport type. The information in this table has been produced using only people's response to method of travel to work questions in the 2011 Census this data is not comparable with 2001.

Mode of travel to work Geography	All people aged 16-74 in employment	Percentage of people who work at or mainly from home	Percentage of people who use public transport	Percentage of people who use a private vehicle	Percentage of people who walk or cycle	Percentage of people who use another mode of transport
England and Wales	26,526,336	5.4	16.4	64.0	13.6	0.6
South East	4,260,723	6.6	12.1	66.8	13.9	0.7
East Sussex	239,319	7.9	11.4	66.8	13.3	0.6
Rother	37,583	9.6	8.9	68.8	12.1	0.7
Battle	2,910	9.2	10.8	67.3	12.4	0.4

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

Distance travelled to work

3.5.7 This dataset shows the distance travelled to work by those who are in employment. The information in this table has been produced using both a person's place of work and their method of travel to work and therefore 2011 data is comparable with 2001.



Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

3.5.8 Travel to/from schools

The western segment shown in Figure 2 from Claverham Community College (CCC) to Battle Abbey is an original Battle resident's proposal known as the Battle Schools Greenway (BSG). This segment is likely to be implemented in several small segments when ESCC funding becomes available within their Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. The BSG proposal fits with the Community Aspirations Battle and Telham Ambition 2. Overall due to narrow roads, considering traffic densities especially during the "school run" and narrow footways between CCC and the railway station the requirement for off-road routes is considered to be a very important priority.

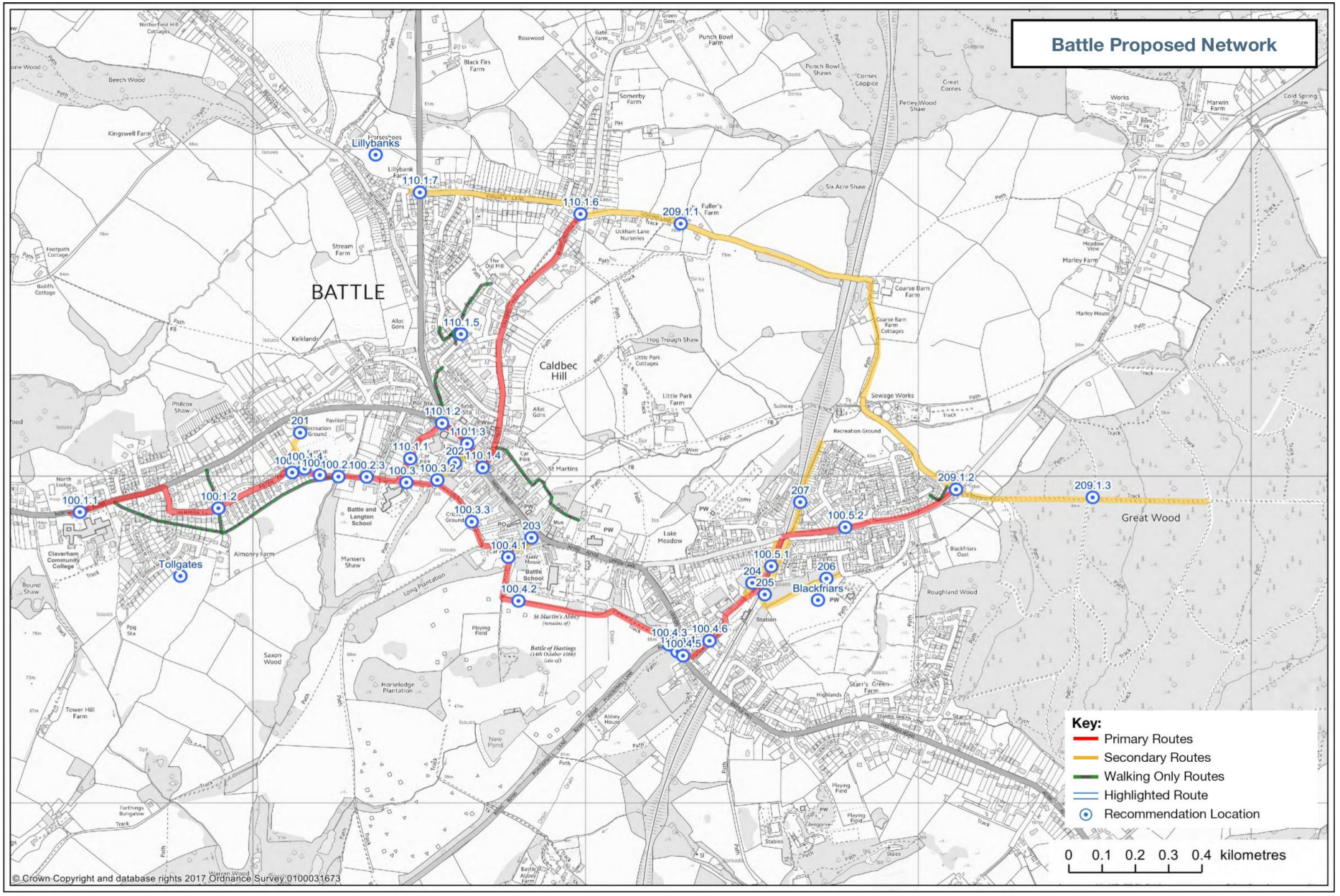


Figure 2: ESCC planning to provide off-road routes for schools access

The Battle town area Walking & Cycling routes proposal plan is kindly provided by ESCC Transport Policy Unit, in advance of publication now expected in Autumn 2021. (ESCC commissioned a Sustrans survey of a number of locations throughout the county to identify potential Active Travel routes for long term funding; although Battle CP was not originally in their list, we lobbied to be included.)

3.5.9 The town of Battle has grown in size over many centuries and is the central character within the Civil Parish of Battle. Like most high streets in the area it runs North-West to South-East and is the central hub of not only the Town that bears its name, but also of the hamlet of Telham and Netherfield. Commercial and residential properties co-exist not only on the High Street but throughout the Town. At the Northern end the TenSixtySix roundabout exits onto North Trade Road, generally supporting a single row of properties either side of the highway as well as the Battle Recreation ground and Claverham College. The houses back onto the Beech Estate farmland on one side, together with arable and pasture on the other.

3.5.10 At the southern end Battle Hill has a similar residential layout as that described for North Trade Road, which exists up to and including the hamlet of Telham.

3.5.11 A third of the way along the High Street there is a junction with Mount Street, which has 15th through to the 20th Century architectural properties.

3.5.12 The Battle Conservation Area relates to the town centre, Battle Abbey and the historic battlefield.

3.6 Conservation Area

3.6.1 Battle Conservation Area was designated in June 1971 by East Sussex County Council and amendments to the boundary were adopted by Rother District Council in 2006 following a Conservation Area Appraisal ' (2006 Boundary Designation shown on map - Figure 9 Historic Environment). Additional details can be found on the Rother District Council website. https://www.rother.gov.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2020/01/Battle_Conservation_Area_Map.pdf

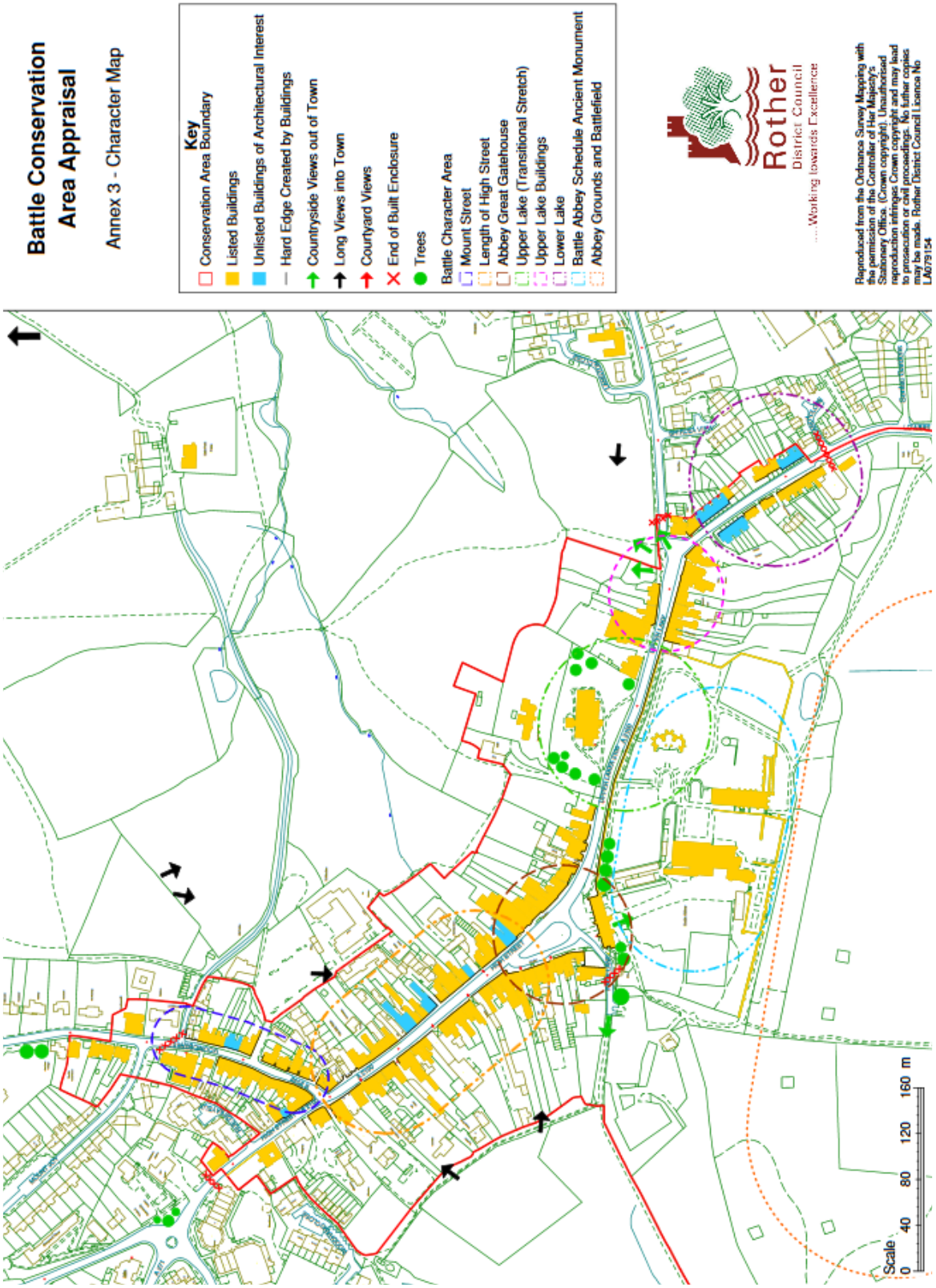


Figure 3: Battle Conservation Area Appraisal
This map is used to provide a very general high level appraisal idea about Battle town; it was used in a previous RDC analysis and details shown should only be taken as indications. Whereas the general area within the red-line boundary is important to consider

3.6.2 The town centre forms the historic core, and consists of a central High Street, with Mount Street forming a junction at the northern end and the Abbey Gate House at its south-eastern end with the mediaeval precincts wall beyond it. The High Street is continued to the south-east in Upper Lake and Lower Lake. Almost all the buildings in these four streets date from the eighteenth century or earlier. It is this part of Battle which is contained within the designated Conservation Area.

3.6.3 The most northerly section of the Conservation Area is formed by the Mount Street group of properties: 17 to 21 (the Old Court House) together with 72. The boundary then takes the rear line of the properties on the east side of Mount Street to the footpath which runs parallel with the north side of the High Street. St Mary's Church, the Old Deanery and the Church Hall, together with the properties to the east, are then included. The field boundary to the north and the hedge and tree belt to the east are then taken as the boundary, to Marley Lane. At the junction of Marley Lane with Lower Lake, the property Lake House is included. The boundary then follows a south easterly direction to the immediate rear of 1 to 22 Lower Lake before turning across the road and down to include Lake Cottage. The whole of Abbey Grounds and the battlefield are then included in the Conservation Area. From the Western edge of the Long Plantation the boundary then runs parallel to the High Street in a north-west direction along the existing footpaths as far as Western Avenue. The properties on either side of the High Street as far as 37 on the south side and 39 on the north side form the north-western boundary of the Conservation Area, together with the rear of the properties on Mount Street.

3.7 Development from an Historic Perspective – The Town of Battle

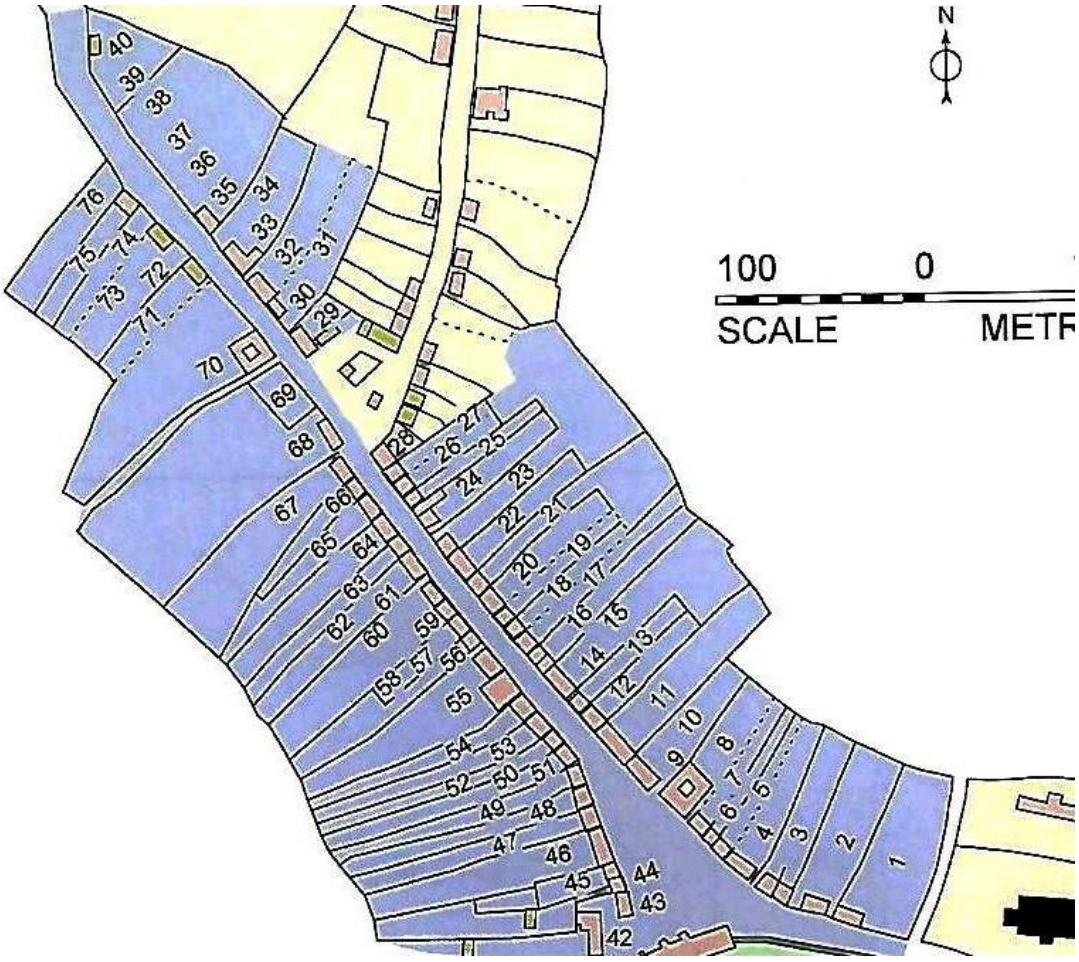
3.7.1 The town of Battle marks the world renowned site of the Battle of Hastings in 1066, which gave the town its name.

3.7.2 The town began with the erection of the Abbey by the Norman victors as a penance for the dead of the battle and afterwards, and to mark where, the King said, King Harold was killed. The town grew up in the late eleventh century to provide the trades required for the building work: there were over a hundred houses by 1105 and their sites can still be traced. Henry I encouraged the town with grants of licences for fairs and markets, the last of which survived until the 1960s to be replaced by a new library and housing close to the (now) TenSixtySix roundabout. St Mary's Church was begun in the early twelfth century for the needs of the local population, a function it still serves. Development of the town, north and south, was along one of the principal High Weald ridges. The 2017 Battle Tapestry on display in St Mary's Church in Battle depicts in historically accurate fashion the creation of the Abbey and the town up to 1115.

3.7.3 Senlac Hill and the area south of the town are protected by English Heritage as a historic battlefield and designated as an Archaeological Notification Area. The early history of Battle is evidenced in the mediaeval Battle Abbey Chronicle and in the substantial research work in the late twentieth century of Eleanor Searle.

3.7.4 By 1367 the number of houses in Battle had doubled to 211, with the town eluding the worst long-term effects of the Black Death. The Abbey gatehouse was fortified in the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries as armed incursions from France became more frequent.

3.7.5 Until the dissolution of the Abbey in 1538 the parish was a 'royal peculiar' enjoying substantial local autonomy from the Crown to the exclusion of the diocese of Chichester; elements of this status survived until the nineteenth century and today in the title of Dean for vicar. It is thought that, arising from this, the pattern of land ownership changed little. As a result, unusually, the structure in the centre of Battle of the mediaeval burgages with accompanying strip plots is largely intact, as the plan shows. So, many of the narrow building plots in the High Street are still recognisably mediaeval in dimension and many shop fronts can still be paced in perches. The town's mediaeval core – High Street, Upper and Lower Lake and Mount Street – has been a designated conservation area since 1970, along with large areas of countryside to the south. In the conservation area virtually all the buildings are listed, and date from the eighteenth century or earlier: 23 predate 1500; 9 are from the sixteenth century; 24 from the seventeenth; and 28 from the eighteenth century. In all in 2009 there were118 listed buildings in Battle town centre.



Long narrow mediaeval plots in Battle. Blue=mediaeval "Middleburgh"

3.7.6 The landed families owning the Abbey after the dissolution required little from the local community and so the town shrank in size to around 120-130 houses at which it stabilised until the eighteenth century. During this period of three centuries leather working, legal services, iron-making, clock-making, tanning and gunpowder manufacture became local trades at various times, reasonably prosperously. There was little disruption from the Civil War. Eighteenth century façades were often placed on the front of older buildings but as Child of Conquest, Building Battle Town: An Architectural History 1066 – 1750 by David and Barbara Martin and Christopher Whittick (2016) shows, the town centre retains its antique character. The interior of the Almonry and the Pilgrims' Rest, at opposite ends of the High Street, illustrate the timber construction usually hidden under Battle's Georgian and later facades. Brewing was a late nineteenth/early twentieth century phase, andin the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries Newbery's was a significant manufacturer of jam and chutney.

3.7.7 In the nineteenth century Battle – then very rural and somewhat isolated by the awful Sussex roads -– acquired a gas works (1838), union workhouse (1840), railway (1852), reservoir (1854), police station and magistrates court (1861) and new cemetery (1862). The Cresy Report of 1850, following an investigation into the poor sanitary conditions in Battle, resulted in many improvements to public health in the town, sustained by a Sanitary Board. The 1840 former workhouse now Frederick Thatcher Place (named after its architect), with its unique architecture – marks the start of rural Sussex to the west of the town.

Frederick Thatcher Place, originally the union workhouse, later a hospital, now residential

3.7.8 In the twentieth century a turning point was the purchase of Battle Abbey by English Heritage in 1976, ushering in an era for the town of greater organised tourism, of which heritage understanding is a key part, promoted by Battle Town Council, Battle Abbey, Battle Museum of Local History and Battle and District Historical Society. A Heritage Lottery -funded heritage trail is being established and a widely-acclaimed stainless steel sculpture at the north end of the town commemorates in modern style the events of 1066.

3.7.9 There have been introductions of modern housing near to the centre of Battle – restraint has so far been exercised because of the economic value of the town's heritage appearance.

3.7.10 Netherfield, to the north west of Battle, had 13 households recorded in the Domesday Book of 1087, and a thousand years before that a trackway from the coast used by the Romans may have gone through the area. The village's name *adder* (Old English *naedre*) *field*, reminds us of its strongly rural character that still exists today. But the current appearance of the village also tells of a more recent history. In the early nineteenth century the artist Joseph Turner often stayed with 'Mad Jack' Fuller locally, painting the wonderful rural and panoramic views from Netherfield towards Beachy Head. In 1859 the church of St John the Baptist was built, a gift to the village from Lady Webster in memory of her husband Sir Godfrey Webster of Battle Abbey. In the same year she also gave the schoolhouse, which was to close in 1961. Later, in 1874, came mining of gypsum in the area, which continues as a source of employment today with a plasterboard processing plant, warehouse and offices ; Netherfield still has a partially filled-in original 'bell pit'. In more recent times, in 1941, a Wellington bomber crashed near the village after being hit during a bombing raid in France, killing three of the Polish crew. There is a memorial to them next to Doctors Farm on the B2096.



3.7.11 Telham (Old English *tulla*, a hill), at the south-east end of the Neighbourhood Plan area, lies on an ancient ridge pathway; nineteenth century excavations at Black Horse quarry found evidence of much earlier habitation by prehistoric creatures. It may have been at Telham Hill that William, Duke of Normandy, on his way up from the coast, first spotted King Harold's forces on the morning of 14 October 1066. The more recent history of Telham is nineteenth century: the Black Horse pub (formerly the Horse and Groom) was built in the mid-1800s; and the Church of the Ascension was constructed in 1876 at the initiative of Dean Crake of Battle for locals not wishing to walk to St Mary's; local landowner Sir Archibald Lamb donated the plot. On Crake's death in 1909 he left funds in his will for the upkeep of the church.



Archaeology

Extract follows of a summary from East Sussex Historic Environment Record (ESHER). See details in Battle CP NP website: http://battleneighbourhoodplan.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Battle-Parish-Historic-Environment-Summary-2018.pdf

3.7.12 The modern Civil Parish of Battle has a wealth of evidence for past human activity for all periods from Mesolithic to the present day. This is reflected in the fact that there are three scheduled monuments, 172 listed buildings, one conservation area, one registered park/garden and one registered battlefield. The extensive archaeological interest of the Civil Parish is represented by 29 archaeological notification areas, 434 recorded non- designated heritage assets (including 78

buildings and 38 historic farmsteads as well as other structures and artefacts) and 120 recorded archaeological surveys, watching briefs or archaeological excavations. Collectively this information provides an insight into the occupation of the area by people over the last c.10,000 years.

3.7.13 Geologically and topographically the area is defined by two main sandstone ridges which intersect at Caldbec Hill; these have historically been the main ways through the Civil Parish.

3.7.14 The earliest definite evidence of human activity in the Civil Parish is for the presence of Mesolithic hunter-gatherers (10,000 – 4,000BC) who appear to be utilising the margins of River Brede valley and its tributaries. At present there is little evidence for the early farmers and monument builders of the Neolithic, however the area continued to be used for hunting and foraging, with finds of stone axes suggesting some clearance of trees. It is very likely that archaeological evidence for occupation and settlement during the Neolithic will be located in the future through academic research or larger scale modern excavations.

3.7.15 By the Bronze Age period (2,350-700BC) the first hints of a settled habitation are seen, including a possible burial mound, and it is likely that the first significant deforestation of the area begins. There is little evidence so far of early Iron Age activity in the Civil Parish but by the end of the Iron Age much of the Weald is being used for the extraction and processing of iron ore. This industry continues into the Roman period, but came under the control of the Roman Navy (Classis Britannica) who established a major iron production settlement in the east at Beauport Park, where remains of the bath house (a Scheduled Ancient Monument) can still be seen. These industrial sites would have been supported by agricultural sites and other infrastructure, including a network of roads. Towards the end of the Roman period production appears to go into decline, and after the Roman withdrawal (c. 410AD), it is unclear if the area continued to be used and settled. However, the Domesday Book confirms that by the end of the Saxon period settlements, many of which were in woodland clearings, had been re- established. Netherfield (the adder clearing) is one of these settlements and was owned by Goda, sister of Edward the Confessor.

3.8 Facilities and Services

3.8.1 The Town of Battle provides the majority of facilities and services which sustain the residents of the whole Civil Parish of Battle. It has sustained a vibrant community not only with its historical heritage but the amenities that it offers to residents and tourists alike.

3.8.2 The Battle Memorial Hall, a High Street full of a diverse range of shops, cafes and public houses give residents and visitors alike the facilities they need to make the Town a venue for an evening's entertainment or a place to shop for a variety of goods and services.

3.8.3 There are two doctor's surgeries within the Town, one at 36 High Street and one located opposite Battle Station in a modern premises known as Telham House, Station Approach. There is also a Chiropodist and two Dental Surgeries, one along the High Street and another in Mount Street.

3.8.4 There are 4 main stream schools within the Town conurbation. The first is Battle and Langton Church of England Primary School, which is situated on Market Road, Battle; Netherfield Church of England Primary School which is situated in Darvel Down, Netherfield; and Claverham Community College, located on North Trade Road, Battle. There is also Battle Abbey School which is an Independent School located within Battle Abbey and one of the top 130 schools in the country.

3.8.5 The Town has an Auction House located at a venue which originally began life as the local cinema for the Town and uses an old Granary Building within the former Station Yard. It is located on Lower Lake in Battle just down the road from one of the two petrol stations which service the town.

3.8.6 Battle is on the main railway line between Hastings and London and runs regular services throughout the day and evening to and from Charing Cross and the Cannon Street rush-hour services. By travelling southwards to St Leonards Warrior Square and Hastings, Coastway services to Brighton, Eastbourne and Ashford can be accessed. By travelling northwards to Tonbridge, services to north Kent and Surrey (including Gatwick) can be accessed. The Town has a small number of infrequent day-time bus routes to Bexhill, Heathfield, Hawkhurst and Hastings.

3.9 Constraints

3.9.1 The following are the key constraints and can be seen on the maps following:

- Key Services
- Economic Context
- Broadband Speeds
- Roads
- Environmental and habitat Designations
- Historic Environment

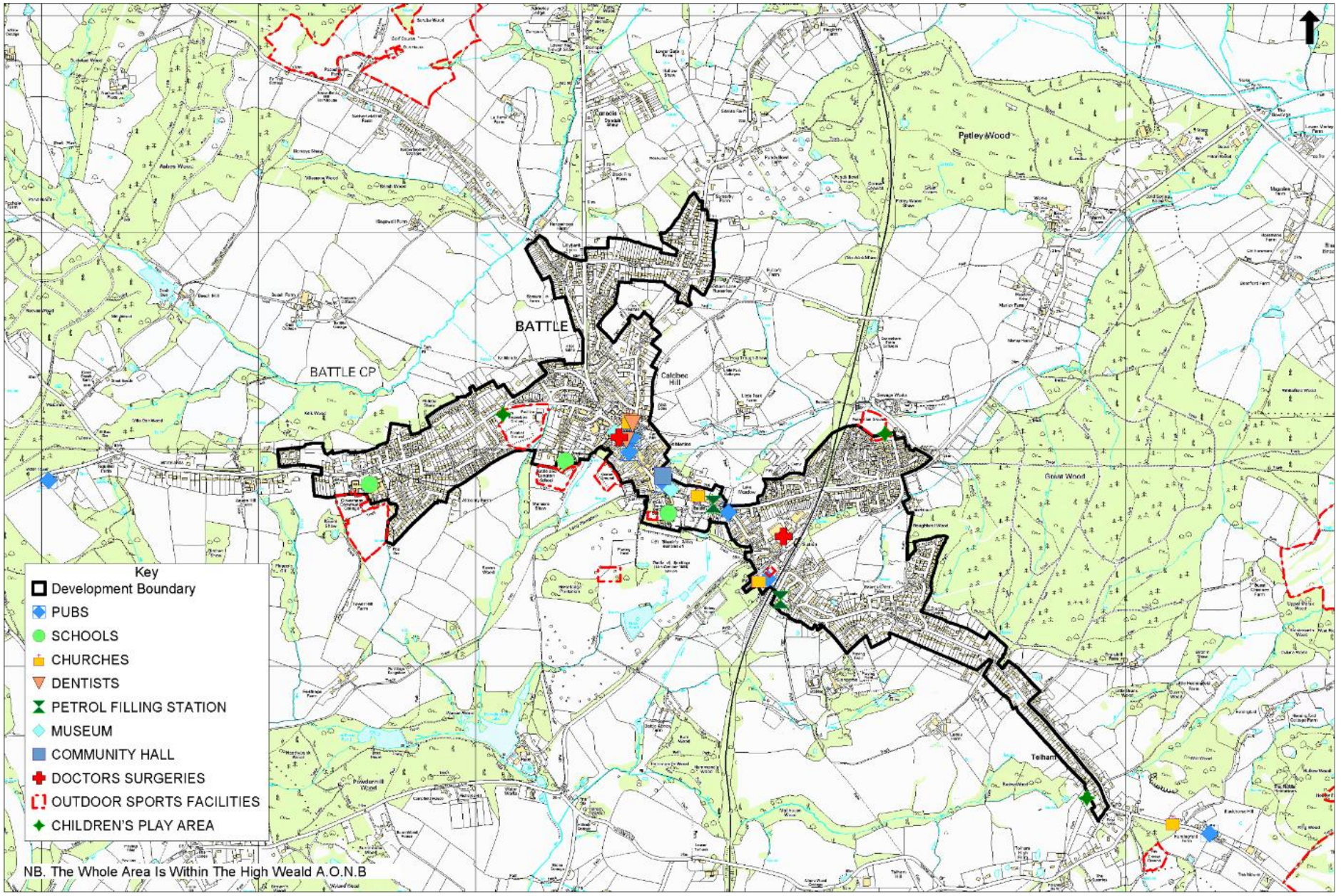


Figure 4: Key Services

NOTE: Development Boundary shown is that current at 2019; it does not including NP proposed changes. See Appendix C for proposed changes

This map does not include the Emmanuel Centre in Harrier Lane

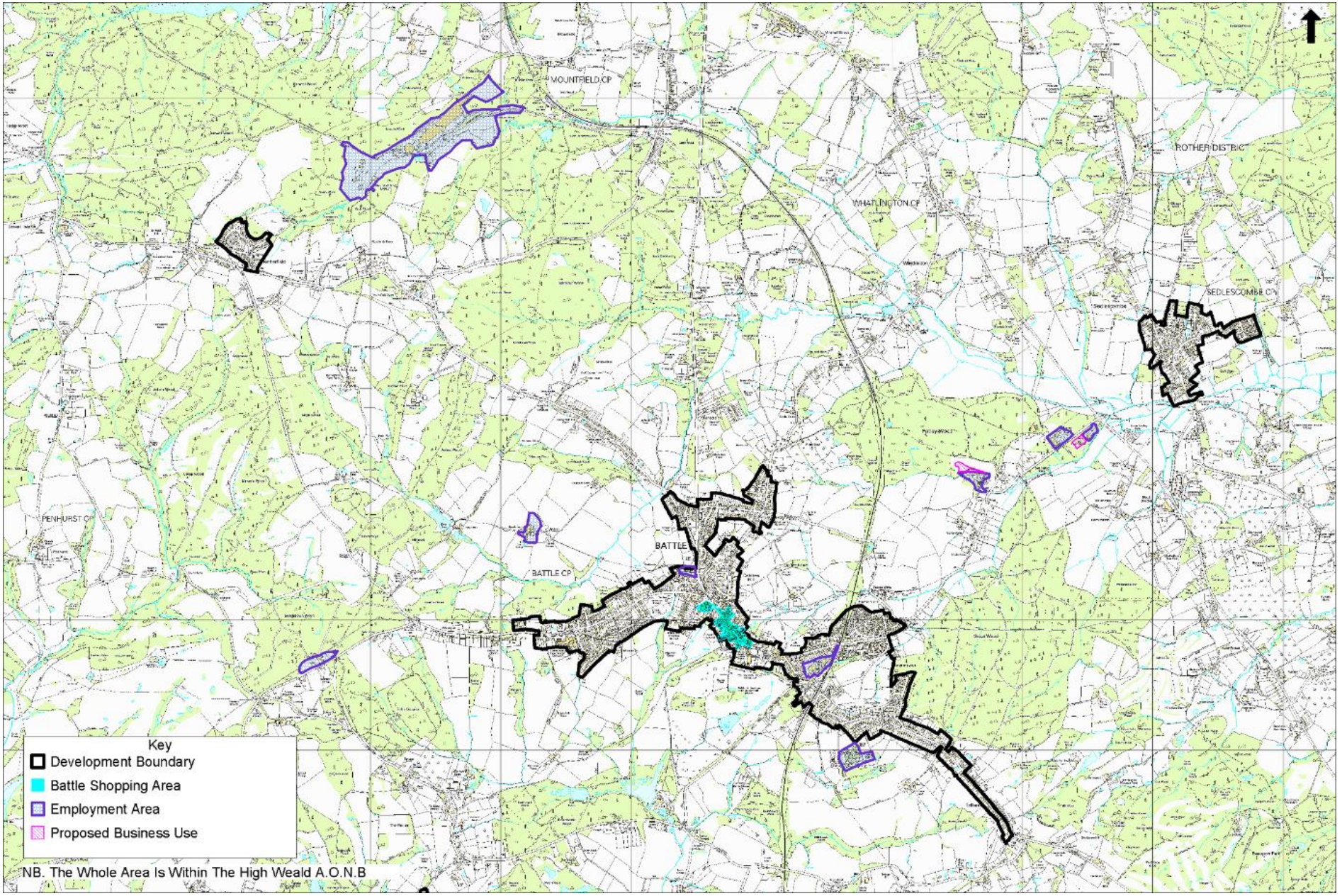


Figure 5: Economic Context

NOTE: Development Boundary shown is that current at 2019; it does not include NP proposed changes. See Appendix C for proposed changes

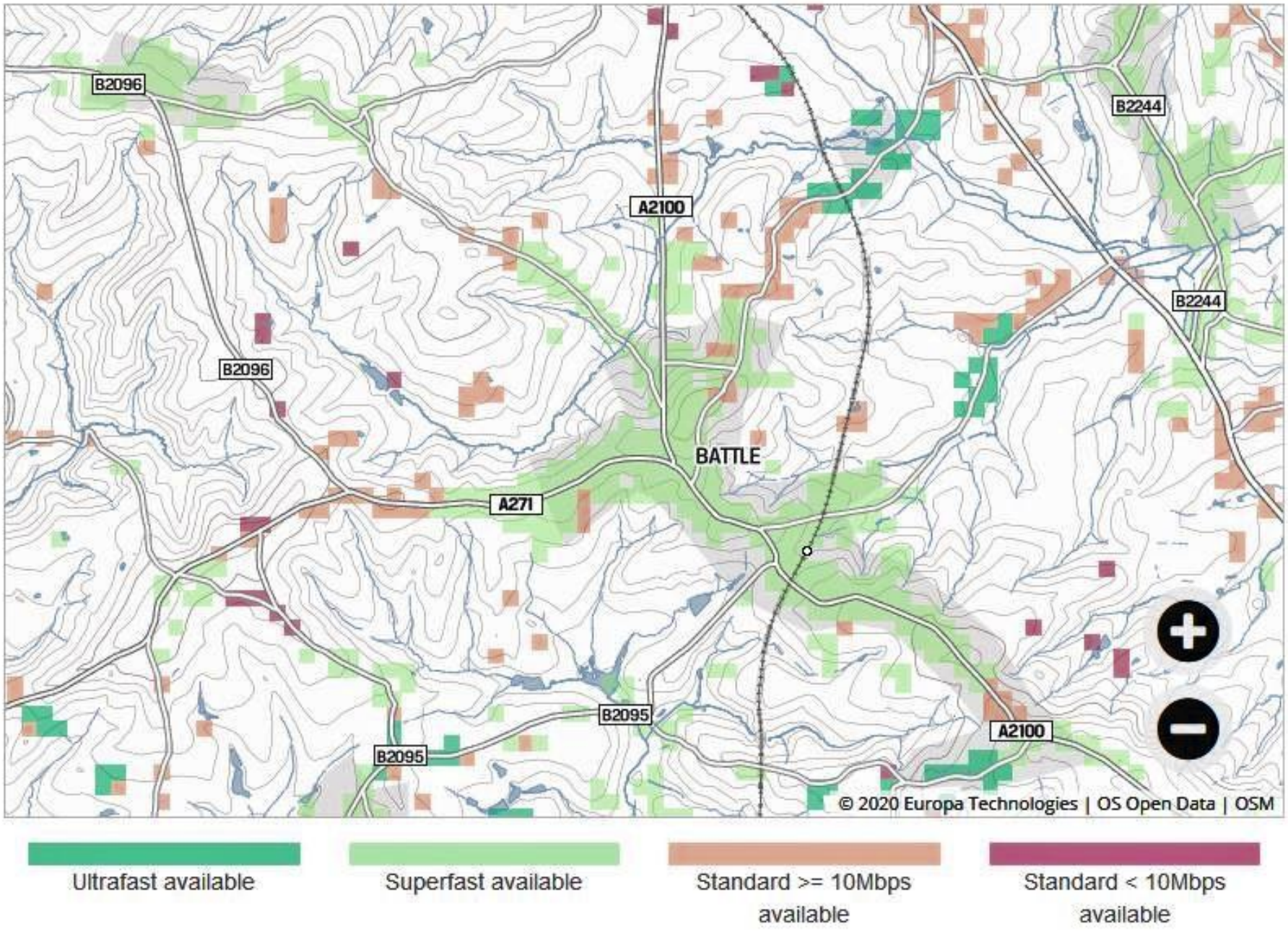


Figure 6: Broadband Speeds - extracted from https://checker.ofcom.org.uk/broadband-coverage on 2020-04-17

Figure 7: Major roads within the Civil Parish

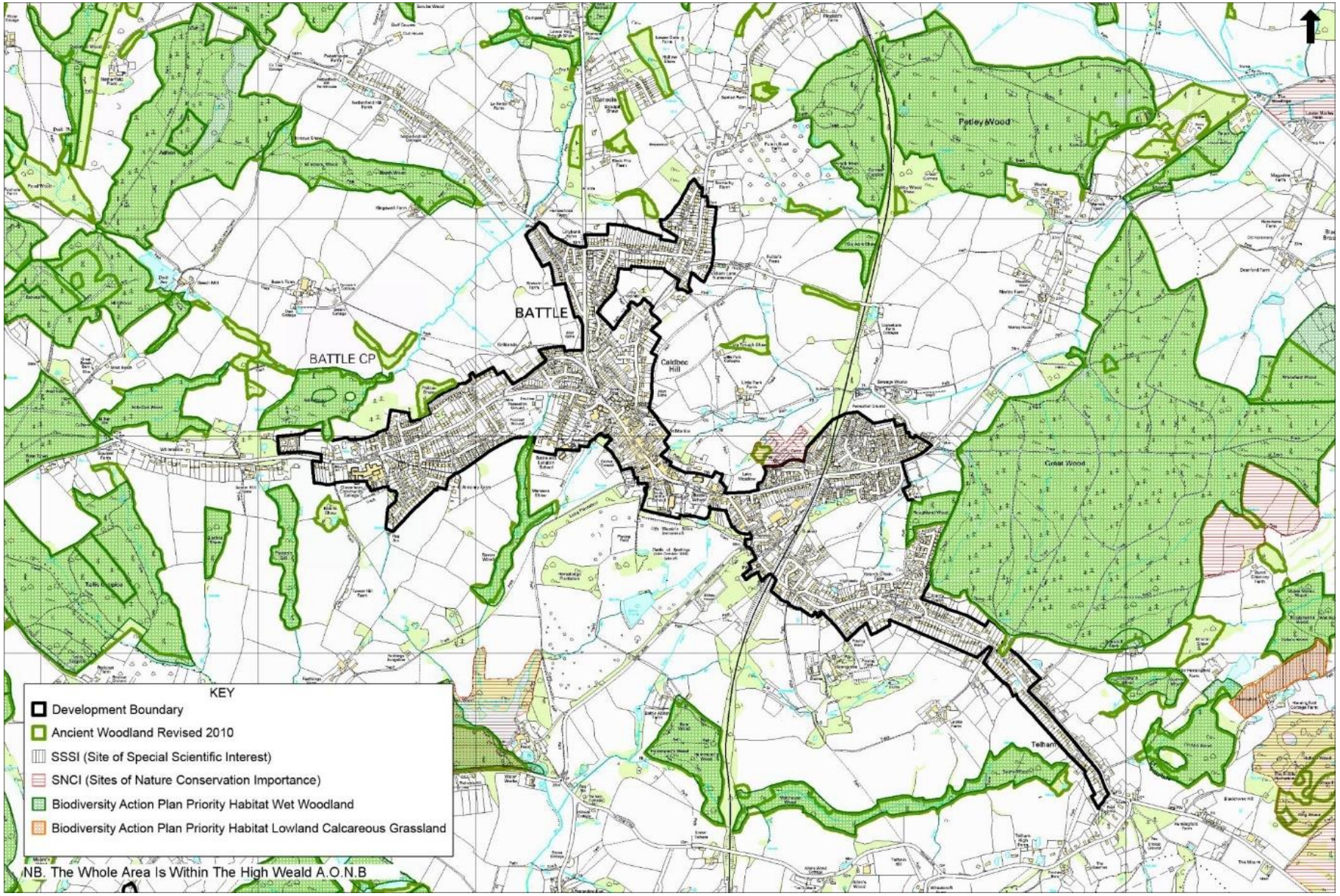


Figure 8: Environmental and habitat Designations
NOTE: Development Boundary shown is that current at 2019; it does not including NP proposed changes. See Appendix C for proposed changes

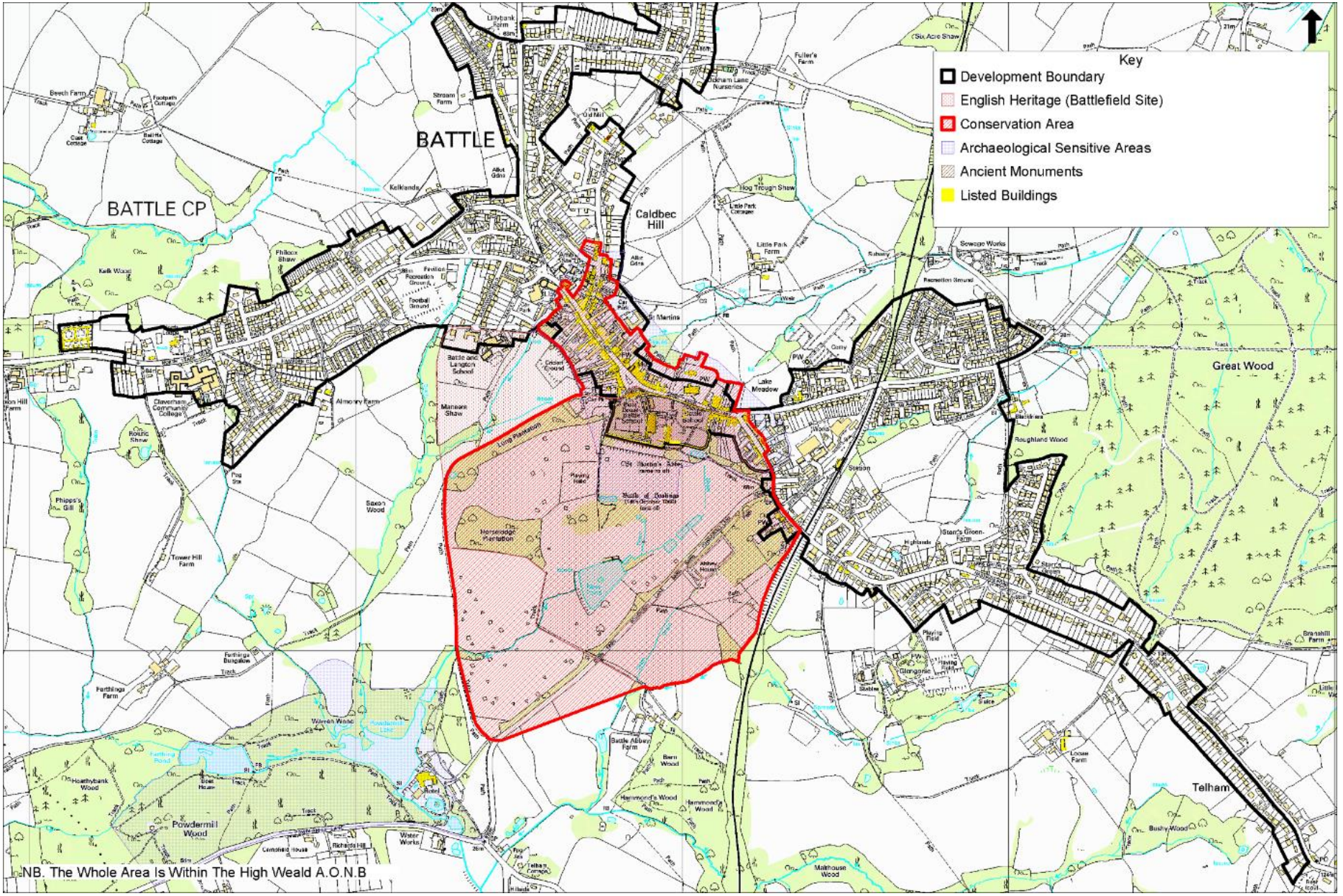


Figure 9: Historic Environment

NOTE: Development Boundary shown is that current at 2019; it does not include NP proposed changes. See Appendix C for proposed changes

3.10 SWOT Analysis of Battle

This SWOT analysis was originally drafted in 2015 (and subsequently elaborated); it represents early Steering Group analysis of the known issues within the Battle CP NP. Since then many consultations have modified ideas somewhat into what is now the Neighbourhood Plan. It is interesting to note how, over time, comments and understandings have improved the Plan detail; however this historic SWOT analysis provided important basic underlying commentary on issues that remain to this day in the Plan.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
➢ Internationally recognised centre of historic value ➢ A diverse friendly community ➢ Accessibility ➢ High quality of built and natural environment	➢ Traffic congestion ➢ Parking difficulties and charging ➢ Lack of public transport to the rural villages ➢ Types of Planning permissions granted within the High Weald AONB ➢ High Rents ➢ High cost of heritage asset maintenance ➢ Highway maintenance
OPPORTUNITIES	**THREATS**
➢ To deliver a range of developments within the Parish which addresses the issues raised by the community as a whole and meets the sustainability housing requirements on mix and types both now and in the future ➢ To be instrumental in creating growth and development for the Parish ➢ To ensure good design and quality are an integral part of the development programme across the Parish ➢ To improve the quality and provision of local parking ➢ Address Parish congestion issues ➢ To strengthen the historic and heritage aspects of the built and natural environment. ➢ Assist in community cohesion projects	➢ The provision of housing development within the Civil Parish, which might not reflect the housing needs of the community ➢ Lack of resources to identify ideas and formulate strategies to achieve the vision of the Parish community.

SECTION 4: Vision and Objectives

4.1 Vision

Through a combination of questionnaire surveys, public consultations, email correspondence and conversations with local businesses, the Steering Group were able to collect the views of the Parishioners on what they wished to see for the future of their Parish. A total of 987 responses were received to the Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS). This represents a response rate to the survey of 34.5%. The five top item respondents felt the neighbourhood plan should cover are as follows: Any new scheme must have adequate infrastructure facilities in place or provision is made to install prior to building construction (596 responses), Minimum on-site parking for two vehicles (547 responses), Development designs should respect character of the area (545 responses), New building sites in the countryside should be modest in size (490 responses) and New estates should not be larger than the existing settlement to which they adjoin (445 responses). These key aspects were grouped to include Farming, Environment and Countryside, Community, Infrastructure and Local Economy, Housing and Development; and Transportand Traffic.

4.1.2 The vision and objectives herein were presented to both the community and the Town Council as a sound basis for proceeding with the Battle CP NP. There were various consultation events which informed the vision and objectives.

The Vision for Battle seeks to capture the purpose and aspirations for the whole Parish. It therefore forms the basis on which the objectives and proposed policies will be formulated.

Our Vision Statement is:

All the communities within the Civil Parish, wish to create a safe and friendly environment where people, both local and others, want to live, work and play. This goal will be met through engagement with the local community and should directly reflect the community's own views and aspirations. It will secure the future through the formulation of policies and objectives, which not only support sustainability, but also development that enhances and respects the unique historic nature of the area. These strategies will pay particular attention to the ecological, agricultural, public enjoyment and intrinsic values of the Civil Parish. The preservation of our countryside and heritage is a priority.

4.2 Objectives

The Vision is an important statement of what Battle Parish will aspire to overall but more specific objectives are needed to deliver this. The objectives provide a framework to deliver development and other changes that conserve and enhance the sustainability of Battle, in a balanced approach to social, economic, and environmental factors. They reflect the nature of the Parish and the direction the local community wants the Plan to take, especially in securing the long-term future of those community and environmental assets most precious to local people. They also accept and welcome change that will enable the community to grow in a sustainable way. The objectives which seek to address the issues identified have been grouped into themes and will be used to develop the policies that will form the basis of the Plan.

NOTE: The following list of objectives have been identified by the community as the key issues which are important to them. Therefore, those elements that seek to highlight land-use issues will be addressed via policies within the Plan. Non land-use issues, and therefore outside the scope of the Plan's policies, will be addressed via Community Aspirations.

OBJECTIVE 1: Residential Development Sites:
The community acknowledges it is required to include in the plan the housing numbers set up by the Government and Rother District Council – at least 475 for Battle and the hamlet of Telham and at least 48 for Netherfield. The aim is for development sites within the defined Development Boundaries to reflect not only the AONB character of the locality but to embody the design principles embodied in the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide. Where possible the proposed locations should minimise local impact and address sustainability, environmental and spatial considerations, by robust assessment of all the factors which apply to the application.

OBJECTIVE 2: Traffic Mitigation Measures:
To require that Transport Assessments are undertaken for all development proposals within the Civil Parish in order to consider the wider implications and associated costs of traffic movements on the environment and local infrastructure with an overall aim of reduction in the impact of traffic movements and improvements for sustainable travel modes.

OBJECTIVE 3: The Maintenance of Green Gaps:
To formulate a policy that not only recognises the separate identities of the village of Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham and their unique relationship to Battle Town established over centuries, but enables them to retain the landscape characteristics of the High Weald AONB and prevent urban sprawl through creative solutions within the overall strategic aims of the Core Strategy.

OBJECTIVE 4: Developments should meet the needs and wishes of the community:
Development objectives must reflect the wishes of the community as evidenced from survey results and demonstrable needs identified through forums and exhibitions together with comments received through letters, emails, monthly articles in the local newspaper and Battle Town Council newsletter and meetings with various stakeholders within the Parish of Battle.

OBJECTIVE 5: The Protection of Open Spaces and the Countryside:
Plans must restrict the use of land for development which is primarily already outside of the development boundaries and has been designated as AONB. In addition, information that has been gathered by the Group on a number of identifiable green spaces which have yet to be afforded protected status, but would be lost for the purposes of sport, leisure and agricultural uses if policy decisions were to change within the RDC Strategic Aims, must also be given that protection. To protect and enhance our existing and future open spaces, any new development proposal should conserve and enhance the environment, ecosystem and biodiversity, ensuring that it gives protection to heritage assets, habitats and provides appropriate movement corridors for wildlife.

OBJECTIVE 6: Protection of Heritage Assets within the Parish Settlements:
A community is defined by its most important assets and where there are additional historical attributes attached to those assets no major changes should be allowed that would change the character of the town or other areas of the district which enjoy such history. Whilst this will influence development proposals for historic as well as listed building it reflects the community's wishes and is essentially what attracts the many thousands of tourists to the area every year. It is important that the presence of below ground heritage assets (both known and unknown) is properly considered at an early stage in development proposals.

OBJECTIVE 7: Enhance the role of Tourism within the Parish:
Diversity improves the experience of tourism, and thereby increases the number of tourists within the Parish, as it caters for a variety of experiences to be satisfied. One of the aspirational

aims within the Neighbourhood Plan is to encourage the placement of public art exhibits around all areas of the Parish. These are being funded by public subscriptions and developer contributions. This initiative will lead to many permanent exhibits within the Parish.

OBJECTIVE 8: The enhancement of Village/Town Centres within the Civil Parish:
The separate communities which make up the Civil Parish of Battle are being encouraged to provide the facilities – whether social, sporting or otherwise – desired by the residents and visitors alike, with possible allocation by Battle Town Council of the Community Infrastructure Levy monies which may be used for enhancing and developing those facilities. An example of this objective is the ambition to set up a part time health provision in Netherfield.

OBJECTIVE 9: To alleviate where possible the Traffic Congestion within the Parish:
Battle Town Council will seek to lobby appropriate authorities to address poor parking facilities, volumes and speeding traffic. From the surveys conducted, residents have commented on being concerned about safety measures within the Parish. The Plan seeks to highlight both sustainable travel and capacity/safety improvements.

SECTION 5: Neighbourhood Plan Policies

Each policy is numbered and set out in the format of coloured boxes. It is accompanied by a reference to its conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) and the Local Plan where relevant. The Local Plan context for this Battle CP NP is the Rother Local Plan. The final text will include a short explanation of the policy intent and a justification where relevant. There is also a reference to the relevant key evidence base documents which supports the policy.

The policies should be read in conjunction with the evidence base documents. To aid identification, policies have been coded as indicated below.

Policy coding

CODE	POLICY AREA
HD	Housing and Development
IN	Infrastructure
EN	Environment
ET	Economy and Tourism

5.1 Housing and Development

Policy HD1: Development Boundaries
The Plan designates Development Boundaries for Battle and Netherfield as shown on **Maps 1 and 2** in **Appendix C** of the Plan, for the purpose of identifying policies, which relate to the acceptability, or otherwise of development proposals falling within or outside the development boundary, as set out within the development plan.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Para 23

Battle CP NP Objective 1: Residential Development Sites:
The community acknowledges it is required to include in the plan the housing numbers set up by the Government and Rother District Council – at least 475 for Battle and the hamlet of Telham and at least 48 for Netherfield. The aim is for development sites within the defined Development Boundaries to reflect not only the AONB character of the locality but to embody the design principles embodied in the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide. Where possible the proposed locations should minimise local impact and address sustainability, environmental and spatial considerations, by robust assessment of all the factors which apply to the application.

RDC policy: Policies OSS 1&2, RA2, RA3 and EN1

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2) and Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS), High Weald Housing Design Guide.

5.1.1 **Policy intent:** This policy establishes the key spatial priority for the Plan. It sets the policy direction for all its other policies by steering new development into the established settlement in the Parish, by continuing to exert strong control over development proposals elsewhere in the countryside areas of the Parish. The definition of the development boundary has particular significance in relation to the location of housing but is also relevant to the location of other new development. reference to the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2019 -2024 should be made and the requirement that all development should conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB.

Policy HD2: Site Allocations

The Neighbourhood Plan allocates the following sites for residential development:

Netherfield

- NE NS102 (part of NE06) White House Poultry Farm: approximately 23 dwellings
- NE05a and NE05r Swallow Barn off B2096: approximately10 dwellings

Battle and the hamlet of Telham

- BA31a Glengorse: approximately 15 dwellings
- BA36a Land at Caldbec House, Caldbec Hill: approximately 5 dwellings
- BA11 Blackfriars: approximately 220 dwellings

The Plan designates these sites for housing development as shown on the Proposals maps, Refer to **Appendix C** to the Plan: **Maps 3 and 4a and 4b**.

Any sites that are allocated in Battle Civil Parish will be subject to compliance with other relevant policies in the development plan and the following criteria:

1. the provision of a range of house types in accordance with Policy HD3 of this Plan;
2. the provision of appropriate landscaping and accessible green space within the site;
3. an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) in line with best practice and Natural England's standing advice;
4. a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain in the form of on-site or off-site enhancements;
5. the provision of appropriate vehicular and pedestrian access into the site and where appropriate links to the footpath and cycle network;
6. where appropriate the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by Rother District Council;
7. the layout is planned to ensure future access to existing water and/or wastewater infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes; **and**
8. the provision of the necessary infrastructure required, as a result of the development, to make it acceptable, with special attention to education provision and flood prevention (fluvial and pluvial).

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 8-14 and 68, 69 and 78

Battle CP NP Objective 1: Residential Development Sites:

The community acknowledges it is required to include in the plan the housing numbers set up by the Government and Rother District Council – at least 475 for Battle and the hamlet of Telham and at least 48 for Netherfield. The aim is for development sites within the defined Development Boundaries to reflect not only the AONB character of the locality but to embody the design principles embodied in the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide. Where possible the proposed locations should minimise local impact and address sustainability,

environmental and spatial considerations, by robust assessment of all the factors which apply to the application.

RDC policy: RDC Core Strategy policy for Battle - Policy BA1 - Policy Framework for Battle OSS1 Overall Spatial Development Strategy and RA1 Villages

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), AECOM Site Assessments, Battle CP Design Guidelines (Annexe 1) and Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS).

5.1.2 **Policy intent:** This policy seeks to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development by meeting the housing needs which have been tested in the Rother Local Plan.

The policy identifies the sites for residential development. Infill development will be considered acceptable within the built up area, subject to the Policies of this Plan, the RDC Core Strategy 2014 and other material planning considerations. Additional allocations will only be made if the identified housing sites do not proceed and the Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan will be reviewed at least every 5 years to ensure deliverability of the allocations.

The position relating to the published Housing Land Supply at Battle as at 1st April 2020 was as follows:-

Area	Target	Completions (01/04/2011 - 31/03/2020)	Permissions (01/04/2020)				Residual requirements
			Small sites	Large sites	Small site windfalls	Exception sites	
Battle	475	39	35	378	9	N/A	14

The outstanding requirement for Battle includes large-site outline permission for 220 dwellings at Blackfriars.

The figure for Netherfield is 23, as before.

Area	Core Strategy Large Site Requirement	Large Site Completions (01/04/2013 - 30/10/2020)	Large Site Permissions (01/04/2020)	Residual requirements
Netherfield	48	0	25	23

NOTE: These figures were provided by RDC as at 1 April 2020.

The current residual housing allocation for Battle stands at 14 dwellings and for Netherfield at 23 dwellings as at 1 April 2020.

There is no minimum number of net dwellings for a site to count towards the Battle total. This is not the case for Netherfield however. In line with the Core Strategy, small site completions and commitments do not count towards the individual village targets as there is an overall windfall allowance figures for the Rural Areas as a whole. Therefore, the minimum number of dwellings on a site for it to be counted towards the Netherfield target would be 6 (net).

Policy HD3: Housing Mix

Housing developments will be expected to deliver a range of house types, including affordable housing in accordance with the requirements set by Policy DHG1 of the Development and Site Allocations Local Plan, which may include shared ownership homes. Housing developments will also be encouraged, where appropriate, to include an element of single level dwellings and, where practicable, sheltered accommodation to meet the needs of the elderly and people with disabilities, thus enabling them to remain independent and within the community for as long as is possible.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras 61 and 69

Battle CP NP Objective 1: Residential Development Sites:

The community acknowledges it is required to include in the plan the housing numbers set up by the Government and Rother District Council – at least 475 for Battle and the hamlet of Telham and at least 48 for Netherfield. The aim is for development sites within the defined Development Boundaries to reflect not only the AONB character of the locality but to embody the design principles embodied in the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide. Where possible the proposed locations should minimise local impact and address sustainability, environmental and spatial considerations, by robust assessment of all the factors which apply to the application.

RDC policy: potentially reflected in policies OSS1 and RA1, Core Strategy Policy LHN1 Achieving Mixed and Balanced Communities and DaSA Policy DHG1 Affordable Housing

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), AECOM Site Assessments and Battle CP Design Guidelines (Annexe 1).

5.1.3 Policy intent:

The Framework sets out that at least 35% of homes on major sites should be affordable with exemptions for Build to Rent, purpose built elderly or student accommodation, self-build or wholly affordable proposals to provide a majority of 2 -3 bedroom dwellings. The intention is to conform with RDC's DaSA policy DHG1 on schemes of 10 or more dwellings (or 0.3 hectares).

The definition of Affordable Housing can be found in Annexe 2 of the NPPF 2019 and is defined as housing for sale or rent, for those whose needs are not met by the market (including housing that provides a subsidised route to home ownership and/or is for essential local workers); and which complies with one or more of the following affordable housing for rent, starter homes, discounted market sales housing and other affordable routes to home ownership.

Policy HD4: Quality of Design

Proposals for all development must plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design, at the same time demonstrating they have sought to conserve local distinctiveness and the aesthetic qualities of traditional rural settlements and buildings found in the conservation areas and their setting. Applications, which propose sympathetic designs that reflect the connections between people and places with regard to the existing density, scale, massing, landscape and biodiversity considerations will be supported. Innovative design will be supported where it is proposed in accordance with the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide. Applications must give priority to the use of local vernacular building materials. The Battle CP Design Guidelines (see **Annexe 1** to the Plan) and the High Weald Housing Design Guide will become mandatory sources for the local planning authority to assess the impact of the planning proposals.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 124-131

Battle CP NP Objective 1: Residential Development Sites:
The community acknowledges it is required to include in the plan the housing numbers set up by the Government and Rother District Council – at least 475 for Battle and the hamlet of Telham and at least 48 for Netherfield. The aim is for development sites within the defined Development Boundaries to reflect not only the AONB character of the locality but to embody the design principles embodied in the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide. Where possible the proposed locations should minimise local impact and address sustainability, environmental and spatial considerations, by robust assessment of all the factors which apply to the application.

RDC policy: Policy EN3 and associated "design principles" in Appendix 4, Paras EN1 - 5

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), Battle CP Design Guidelines (Annexe 1), The High Weald Housing Design Guide and Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS)

5.1.4 **Policy intent:** The policy applies to all development - new build homes, commercial property and other buildings and alterations to existing properties that require planning permission or listed building consent**.** This attention to detail will ensure that development and materials respect the local character and location.
Design quality should be considered throughout the evolution and assessment of individual proposals and applications that can demonstrate early, proactive and effective engagement with the community, to delivery high quality designs, will be looked upon more favourably.

Policy HD5: Protection of Landscape Character

Development proposals, which have the potential to have an impact on the landscape should be informed by landscape and visual assessment to identify site characteristics and views, which may be affected and to inform required landscape mitigation. The design of new landscape features should happen at an early stage in the design process to ensure they are well integrated into new developments. New development proposals should consider and correctly interpret the landscape character of their location to produce the most appropriate locally distinctive design solution for the development supported from a biodiversity perspective. Landscape schemes should therefore:

1. integrate new development sympathetically with its surroundings;
2. enhance the setting of new buildings;
3. create a high-quality environment in, which to live and work;
4. promote quality landscape schemes, which are sensitive to the locality and provide local distinctiveness; and
5. species chosen for landscape schemes should be native and of local provenance where possible.

Developers will be expected to submit a landscape led masterplan to accompany all major development proposals and particularly those in sensitive locations, in the Green Gap. Landscaping schemes should seek to retain natural and seminatural habitats. The long-term management of soft landscape features should be secured.

(The definition of major development is defined by the Government as a housing development of 10 or more dwellings or a site area of more than 0.5 hectares.)

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 127, 153 and 170

Battle CP NP Objective 3: The Maintenance of Green Gaps: To formulate a policy that not only recognises the separate identities of the village of Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham and their unique relationship to Battle Town established over centuries, but enables them to retain the landscape characteristics of the High Weald AONB and prevent urban sprawl through creative solutions within the overall strategic aims of the Core Strategy.

RDC policy: Rother District Core Strategy Policy EN1 (Landscape Stewardship)

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), Green Gap Analysis, High Weald Housing Design Guide and Battle CP Design Guidelines (Annexe 1)

5.1.5 **Policy intent:** The policy is intended to encourage developers to think about the landscaping as integral to the design.

Policy HD6: Integration of New Housing

Proposals for new housing must ensure that the new homes are visually integrated with their surroundings.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Para 68

Battle CP NP Objective 4: Developments should meet the needs and wishes of the community: Development objectives must reflect the wishes of the community as evidenced from survey results and demonstrable needs identified through forums and exhibitions together with comments received through letters, emails, monthly articles in the local newspaper and Battle Town Council newsletter and meetings with various stakeholders within the Parish of Battle.

RDC policy: Rother District CS policy LHN1 &2

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS), Feedback from 2017 consultation "Have your say" and Feedback from 2019 consultation.

5.1.6 **Policy intent:** Evidence gained through the Parish wide Survey indicates that it is important that any new housing is fully integrated to the community and its shops and facilities.

Policy HD7: Protection of Green Gap

The Plan designates the area identified in **Appendix D** as a Green Gap where development will only be supported if it maintains the openness of the area.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 127, 153 and 170

Battle CP NP Objective 3: The Maintenance of Green Gaps: To formulate a policy that not only recognises the separate identities of the village of Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham and their unique relationship to Battle Town established over centuries, but enables them to retain the landscape characteristics of the High Weald AONB and prevent urban sprawl through creative solutions within the overall strategic aims of the Core Strategy.

RDC policy: Core Strategy Policy OSS2- Use of Development Boundaries, Policy RA3 – Landscape Stewardship

Key Evidence base reference: Green Gap Analysis and Development and Site Allocations (DaSA) Strategic Gap Background Paper (Rother District Council) March 2016 and Updated Strategic Gap Paper (Rother District Council) July 2019.

5.1.7 **Policy intent:** Although the land outside the settlement boundaries is already designated as High Weald AONB which offers policy protection from development and is also protected by being within an area of the highest level of landscape protection, evidence gained through the Parish wide Survey indicates that it is important to protect the strategic gaps to maintain the separate identities of surrounding villages and Battle.
The RDC definition of Strategic Gap (SG) is 'an area of land which helps determine the separation of settlements and protect their individual character'.
This Green Gap Policy will afford extra protection from risk of coalescence between Battle and the surrounding villages.

Policy HD8: Town Centre Boundary
The Plan designates the Battle Town Centre Boundary as shown on **Map 6 in Appendix C** of the Plan, to retain and enhance existing town centre uses.

Shopping and related commercial development in Classes E(a-f) as introduced on 1st Sep 2020 shall be focussed within Battle town centre.

Within the main shopping area, as defined on **Map 6**, the loss of existing ground floor retail space will be resisted and proposals will be supported for the introduction of new shops and refurbishment of existing premises, subject to suitable layout and design details. Shop fronts and lighting in the Conservation Area must be in-keeping with the character of the conservation area as described in the Character Appraisal report. Whenever the opportunity permits there is a requirement to maintain and restore historic shop fronts, which make a positive contribution to the area's character.

Where planning permission is required new housing developments will not be supported within the defined Town Centre Boundary unless they conform to the Battle CP Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide and are situated behind the High Street frontage or are located above ground floor level (apart from the entrance).

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Para 85

Battle CP NP: Objective 8: The enhancement of Village/Town Centres within the Civil Parish: The separate communities which make up the Civil Parish of Battle are being encouraged to provide the facilities - whether social, sporting or otherwise - desired by the residents and visitors alike, with possible allocation by Battle Town Council of the Community Infrastructure Levy monies which may be used for enhancing and developing those facilities. An example of this objective is the ambition to set up a part time health provision in Netherfield.

RDC policy: Core Strategy Policy OSS2 - Use of Development Boundaries, Policy BA1 - Framework for Battle and Policy BT1

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), Green Gap Analysis, Development and Site Allocations (DaSA, Rother District Council), Strategic Gap Background Paper (Rother District Council) March 2016 and Updated Strategic Gap Paper (Rother District Council) July 2019.

5.1.8 **Policy intent:** The superseded Local Plan 2006 Policy EM13 previously set out the main shopping area for Battle town centre but this policy was not brought forward as the District Council expects the NP to address this allocation. Therefore, this policy is needed to protect the vitality and viability of the town centre as required by National policy.

For planning purposes, town centres as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework comprise a range of locations where main town centre uses are concentrated, including city and town centres, district and local centres (and so includes places that are often referred to as high streets).

The policy aims to retain and enhance existing businesses to ensure town centre vitality and viability.

The town centre forms the historic core. It consists mainly of Mount Street, the High Street, Upper Lake and Lower Lake, which have not been developed in depth. It is dominated by the C14th Abbey Gatehouse, built to protect the Abbey acclaiming William's victory in 1066, but also contains many other listed buildings, within the medieval burgage strip plots. The area was designated a Conservation Area in 1970. The historic battlefield site, which extends to the south of the Abbey buildings, is a protected heritage site. To the east lies National Trust land and other land visually exposed in the countryside. The town centre is also the commercial heart of Battle, catering not only for local residents and those of the surrounding area, but also the many visitors attracted by the town's heritage.

It is concluded that the Town Centre growth potential is very limited because it is entirely within the conservation area and almost all buildings have an historic designation. It should be noted that Battle Town Council has agreed to make an application for UNESCO World Heritage Status.

5.2 Infrastructure

Policy IN1: Traffic Mitigation

Applications for all new development that will generate a significant increase in traffic must provide a Transport Assessment and demonstrate how the proposed development are required to improve, or at least maintain traffic calming measures and not be detrimental to existing safety measures. Applications must also show what additional measures are required to be taken to reduce the impact of traffic movements generated by the new development.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Para 72 and 81

Battle CP NP Objective 2: Traffic Mitigation Measures: To require that Transport Assessments are undertaken for all development proposals within the Civil Parish in order to consider the wider implications and associated costs of traffic movements on the environment and local infrastructure with an overall aim of reduction in the impact of traffic movements and improvements for sustainable travel modes.

RDC policy: TR1 and TR4

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS) and Battle CP Analysis Study.

5.2.1 **Policy intent:** The Parish survey identifies traffic has a major impact on the Parish and therefore the policy intends to get development to consider how traffic could be mitigated as part of any site being developed.

Policy IN2: Maintain and Improve Existing Infrastructure

Where planning permission is required, new and/or improved infrastructure, including utility infrastructure, will be encouraged and supported in order to meet the identified needs of the Parish, subject to the following criteria:

1. the proposal would not have significant harmful impacts on the amenities of surrounding residents and other activities;
2. the proposal would not have significant harmful impacts on the surrounding local environment; **and**
3. the proposal would not have significant impacts on the local road network.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Para 72 and 81

Battle CP NP Objective 9: To alleviate where possible the Traffic Congestion within the Parish: Battle Town Council will seek to lobby appropriate authorities to address poor parking facilities, volumes and speeding traffic. From the surveys conducted, residents have commented on being concerned about safety measures within the Parish. The Plan seeks to highlight both sustainable travel and capacity/safety improvements.

RDC policy: TR1 and TR4

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS) and Battle CP Analysis Study.

5.2.2 **Policy intent:** infrastructure requirements is a significant aspect of any proposal and this policy seeks to encourage provision of infrastructure for the community where needed. This policy seeks to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is provided and a locally distinctive approach to development and the impact of development which forms the core of Neighbourhood Planning as set out on Part 6, Chapter 3 and Schedule 9 of the Localism Act 2011.

Policy IN3: Parking and New Development

Car Parking should where possible be accommodated within the curtilage of the dwelling in the form of a garage and/or parking space and should be in accordance with East Sussex County Council Parking Standards for Development, which seek to provide an appropriate level. Development proposals will be supported only if they include the appropriate level of off-street parking consistent with the current East Sussex County Council Parking Standards. Proposed developments not meeting the ESCC Parking Standards for adequate off-street parking will only be supported where they make provision for equivalent off-street parking nearby.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras 36/39/40 Section 4 and 102

Battle CP NP Objective 9: To alleviate where possible the Traffic Congestion within the Parish: Battle Town Council will seek to lobby appropriate authorities to address poor parking facilities, volumes and speeding traffic. From the surveys conducted, residents have commented on being concerned about safety measures within the Parish. The Plan seeks to highlight both sustainable travel and capacity/safety improvements.

RDC policy: Policies TR1 and TR4

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS) and Battle CP Analysis Study, High Weald Housing Design Guide and East Sussex County Council Parking Standards for Development.

5.2.3 **Policy intent:** New development must seek to ensure that routes are kept clear to allow the free flow of traffic but also designed to ensure pedestrian safety. The way in which car parking is designed into new residential development will have a major effect on the quality of the development.

Where parking cannot be provided in-curtilage, the policy intends to adopt the parking strategies DG6 in the High Weald Housing Design Guide.

Policy IN4: Pedestrian Provision and Safety

All new housing developments must provide safe pedestrian access to link up with existing footway networks, for example ensuring that residents can walk safely to public transport services, schools and other key community services, including retail and medical facilities. The Plan supports highways or other transport improvements that facilitate safe access for pedestrians and cyclists through and between all parts of the community, and the footpath linkages between settlements.

The Neighbourhood Plan will, where appropriate, require proposals to:

1. provide safe links connected to the existing network for cycling and walking between the railway station, the town centre, and all the Battle schools, with due regard to the needs of all users including those with mobility issues; **and**
2. provide links for future developments of the cycling and walking network, to provide safe off-road routes (e.g. Battle Schools Greenway) and extend access to the public transport nodes.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras 91, 102 and 104

Battle CP NP objectives:

Objective 2: Traffic Mitigation Measures: To require that Transport Assessments are undertaken for all development proposals within the Civil Parish in order to consider the wider implications and associated costs of traffic movements on the environment and local infrastructure with an overall aim of reduction in the impact of traffic movements and improvements for sustainable travel modes.

Objective 9: To alleviate where possible the Traffic Congestion within the Parish:
Battle Town Council will seek to lobby appropriate authorities to address poor parking facilities, volumes and speeding traffic. From the surveys conducted, residents have commented on being concerned about safety measures within the Parish. The Plan seeks to highlight both sustainable travel and capacity/safety improvements.

RDC policy: policies TR1, TR2 and TR3, Specific community safety policy (CO6); also policy EC4 in respect of mixed uses

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS) and Battle CP Analysis Study and East Sussex County Council Parking Standards for Development.

5.2.4 Policy intent: The policy gives encouragement to solutions which support reductions in car usage and therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport and promotes healthier lifestyles in a safe environment for the user. Battle Town Council supports this by developing the Battle Schools Greenway, as shown in Figure 2 on page 19 of this document.

5.3 Environment

Policy EN1: **Local Green Space Designations**
The Plan designates the locations described in **Schedule 1** and shown on **Maps 4 and 5** (Refer to **Appendix C** to the Plan) as Local Green Spaces under the Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with paragraph 100 of the NPPF 2019. Proposals for any development on the land will not be supported other than in very special circumstances or if it is essential to meet necessary utility infrastructure needs and no alternative feasible site is available.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 99 and 100

Battle CP NP Objective 5: The Protection of Open Spaces and the Countryside: Plans must restrict the use of land for development which is primarily already outside of the development boundaries and has been designated as AONB. In addition, information that has been gathered by the Group on a number of identifiable green spaces which have yet to be afforded protected status, but would be lost for the purposes of sport, leisure and agricultural uses if policy decisions were to change within the RDC Strategic Aims, must also be given that protection. To protect and enhance our existing and future open spaces, any new development proposal should conserve and enhance the environment, ecosystem and biodiversity, ensuring that it gives protection to heritage assets, habitats and provides appropriate movement corridors for wildlife.

RDC policy: Policies CO3 and EN5 provide context; envisage proposals via Site Allocations or Neighbourhood Plans

Key Evidence base reference: Local Green Space Analysis and Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS)

5.3.1 **Policy intent:** Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities. Although all of the Parish is in the AONB, the designation gives those sites additional local benefit.

Policy EN2: Conservation of the Natural Environment, Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Planning proposals will not be supported where development would result in an unacceptable loss, or damage to, hedges, ditches, verges, trees and green spaces during or as a result of development unless the benefits of the proposed development outweigh the amenity value of the trees or hedgerows in question. Development proposals must also be designed to retain well-established features of the environment, and ecosystem, provide net gains for biodiversity, including hedges, ditches, verges, trees and green spaces of good arboricultural and/or amenity wherever possible together with the habitats alongside them including ponds and green corridors. Proposals should protect Local Wildlife Sites and protected and notable species and habitats including town dwelling species. Where possible, development proposals should incorporate swift bricks or install swift boxes into building designs to support the vulnerable swift population of Battle town.

The Battle Character Appraisal (**Annexe 2**) will be used as a reference to assess the impact of the proposals.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 170 – 183

Battle CP NP Objective 5: The Protection of Open Spaces and the Countryside: Plans must restrict the use of land for development which is primarily already outside of the development boundaries and has been designated as AONB. In addition, information that has been gathered by the Group on a number of identifiable green spaces which have yet to be afforded protected status, but would be lost for the purposes of sport, leisure and agricultural uses if policy decisions were to change within the RDC Strategic Aims, must also be given that protection. To protect and enhance our existing and future open spaces, any new development proposal should conserve and enhance the environment, ecosystem and biodiversity, ensuring that it gives protection to heritage assets, habitats and provides appropriate movement corridors for wildlife.

RDC policy: The relevant policies in the RDC Core Strategy are Policy BA1: (ix) Policy Framework for Battle, Policy EN1: Landscape Stewardship and EN5: Biodiversity and Green Space. DaSA Policy DEN4: Biodiversity and Green Space also applies.

Key Evidence base reference: Local Green Spaces Analysis, Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2) and Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS).

5.3.2 **Policy intent:** The policy seeks to conserve the landscape and scenic beauty in the Parish. Although there is protection in the AONB, the NPPF 2019 makes it quite clear that these areas should be conserved. The mitigation hierarchy requires developments to avoid harm to biodiversity in the first instance, then to adequately mitigate it or as a last resort compensate for it.

The Policy therefore requires biodiversity gain from developments and to minimise any impact. The above policy should be read in conjunction with RDC CS Policies EN1 and EN5.

Policy EN3: The High Weald AONB and Countryside Protection

Development within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) will only be supported where it conserves and enhances the natural beauty of the parish and has regard to the High Weald AONB Management Plan. In particular, where relevant to the proposal or its location, development must demonstrate that it will:

1. take opportunities to restore the natural function of all watercourses to improve water quality, to prevent flooding and enhance wetland habitats;
2. reflect the settlement pattern of the neighbourhood, use local materials that enhance the appearance of the development and support woodland management;
3. relate well to historic route ways such as ancient droveways and not divert them from their original course or damage their rural character by loss of banks, hedgerows, verges or other important features;
4. not result in the loss or degradation of Ancient Woodland or historic features within it and, where appropriate will contribute to its on-going management; **and**
5. conserve and enhance the ecology and productivity of fields, trees and hedgerows, retain and reinstate historic field boundaries, and direct development away from medieval or earlier fields, especially where these form coherent field systems with other medieval features.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 170 – 183

Battle CP NP Objective 5: The Protection of Open Spaces and the Countryside: Plans must restrict the use of land for development which is primarily already outside of the development boundaries and has been designated as AONB. In addition, information that has been gathered by the Group on a number of identifiable green spaces which have yet to be afforded protected status, but would be lost for the purposes of sport, leisure and agricultural uses if policy decisions were to change within the RDC Strategic Aims, must also be given that protection. To protect and enhance our existing and future open spaces, any new development proposal should conserve and enhance the environment, ecosystem and biodiversity, ensuring that it gives protection to heritage assets, habitats and provides appropriate movement corridors for wildlife.

RDC policy: This is explicit in Ch. 5. Spatial Vision, supported by a number of policies, notably OSS1, OSS3, RA2-4, EN1, DaSA chapter 10. DaSA Policies DEN1:Maintaining Landscape Character and DEN2:The High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty(AONB)

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2) and Battle CP Local Heritage List, Sussex Biodiversity record centre information, The High Weald AONB Management Plan (2019-2024) and East Sussex Historic Environment Record (ESHER) 2020.

5.3.3 **Policy intent:** The policy seeks to protect the distinct open rural character of the Parish as explored in the Battle CP Character Appraisal. Retaining the open character is valued by residents and tourists and crucial for maintenance of visual separation in the gaps between settlements.

Policy EN4: Historic Environment

Heritage assets in the Parish and their settings, including designated heritages such as listed buildings, Battle Conservation Area, the designated Battlefield, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, a listed park and garden (including Battle Abbey, Romano-British iron working site in Beauport Park, Bowl barrow in Petley Wood) will be preserved and enhanced for their historic significance, including the contribution made by their settings and their importance to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 184-202

Battle CP NP Objective 6: Protection of Heritage Assets within the Parish Settlements: A community is defined by its most important assets and where there are additional historical attributes attached to those assets no major changes should be allowed that would change the character of the town or other areas of the district which enjoy such history. Whilst this will influence development proposals for historic as well as listed building it reflects the community's wishes and is essentially what attracts the many thousands of tourists to the area every year. It is important that the presence of below ground heritage assets (both known and unknown) is properly considered at an early stage in development proposals.

RDC policy: Environment chapter, notably policy EN2

Key Evidence base reference: Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), Battle CP Local Heritage List and the Battle CP Heritage Charter and Battle Conservation Area Appraisal 2006, East Sussex Heritage Environment Record and East Sussex Historic Environment Record (ESHER) 2020.

5.3.4 **Policy intent:** The Historical heritage of Battle is paramount. The policy seeks to promote a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment for future generations to come. In doing so, it recognises that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance.

Policy EN5: Locally Important Historic Buildings, Other Structures and Other Non-designated Heritage Assets

The heritage assets set out in **Schedule 2** and illustrated in **Map 8** are identified as non-designated heritage assets, which are of substantial local architectural and historic significance and contribute to the Parish distinctiveness. Proposals affecting such assets will be assessed based on the scale of any loss or harm set against the significance of the asset.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras. 184-202

Battle CP NP Objective 6: Protection of Heritage Assets within the Parish Settlements: A community is defined by its most important assets and where there are additional historical attributes attached to those assets no major changes should be allowed that would change the character of the town or other areas of the district which enjoy such history. Whilst this will influence development proposals for historic as well as listed building it reflects the community's wishes and is essentially what attracts the many thousands of tourists to the area every year. It is important that the presence of below ground heritage assets (both known and unknown) is properly considered at an early stage in development proposals.

RDC policy: Environment chapter, notably policy EN2 and Rother Public Realm Strategic Framework

Key Evidence base reference: Battle NP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2), Battle CP Heritage Charter and Historic England – Listed Buildings and Battle Conservation Area Appraisal 2006 Battle CP Local Heritage List – Non -designated Assets and East Sussex Historic Environment Record (ESHER) 2020.

5.3.5 **Policy intent:** The policy seeks to protect heritage assets that are not in the Historic England list but are considered to be of significant local architectural or historic interest.

Rother District Council did not hold any Local Lists within the district but identified non-designated heritage assets during the planning processes, in both the development management process and the site allocation process. A separate working group has been formed by Battle Town Council that has developed a heritage charter which includes the identification of local heritage assets which are not protected by English Heritage listing.

The Local Planning Authority has received recommendations for the local heritage listing of buildings and other non-designated heritage assets from Battle Town Council. In accordance with NPPF para 189, In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance.

5.4 Economy and Tourism

Policy ET1: Tourism and Local Economy
Small scale and appropriate tourism development in the Civil Parish of Battle will be encouraged where:
1. it will help sustain the local economy and help assist local businesses to remain viable;
2. it is in keeping with the character of the area and the amenities of neighbouring properties and minimises visual impact through sensitive site location and design;
3. it minimises the impact of the proposal on the wider character of the High Weald AONB landscape; **and**
4. it will not cause or exacerbate any severe traffic problems and will promote sustainable transport.
There will be a presumption against the loss of the following tourism sites and facilities:
White Hart (Netherfield),
Kings Head (Mount Street, Battle),
The Bull (High Street, Battle),
Abbey Hotel (High Street, Battle),
The Chequers (Upper Lake, Battle),
The Railway (Lower Lake, Battle),
Black Horse (Telham),
Almonry and gardens (High Street, Battle),
Battle Museum of Local History (High Street, Battle),
Battle Abbey and grounds,
John the Baptist Church (Netherfield),
Battle Baptist Church (Mount Street, Battle),
Our Lady Immaculate and Saint Michael (Mount Street, Battle),
St. Mary the Virgin (Upper Lake, Battle),
Battle Church of the Ascension (Telham),
Beauport Park Golf and Country Club,
Bannatyne Spa Hotel,
1066 Country Walk (As shown on Ordnance Survey map: Explorer124),
1066 Malfosse Walk (ISBN 978-1-903099-05-6),
Children's Trail*,
Country Trail*,
Heritage Trail*,
Battle Sculpture Trail*

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras 83 and 84

Battle CP NP Objective 7: Enhance the role of Tourism within the Parish: Diversity improves the experience of tourism, and thereby increases the number of tourists within the Parish, as it caters for a variety of experiences to be satisfied. One of the aims within the Neighbourhood Plan is to encourage the placement of public art exhibits around all areas of the Parish. These are being funded by public subscriptions and developer contributions. This initiative will lead to many permanent exhibits within the Parish.

RDC policy: Policies OSS1 and RA1 support rural service centre roles and provides for sustainable growth, Core Strategy Policies BA1 (iv) (v) & (vi); RA2: EC6; EC7 and DaSA Policies DEC3

Key Evidence base reference: Heritage Trails
*http://www.battletowncouncil.gov.uk/community/battle-town-council-7838/battle-town-trail1

5.4.1 **Policy intent:** The policy seeks to encourage tourism and local economy. In pursuit of encouraging tourism and the local economy, Battle Town Council is actively seeking World Heritage status for the town, and this would have a significant potential impact on employment, retail and hospitality.

Policy ET2: Community Facilities

Proposals that will enhance the viability and/or community value of any property, which is included in the list set out in **Schedule 4**, will normally be supported. Proposals that result in the loss of such a property or in significant harm to its community value will be resisted, unless it can clearly be demonstrated the continuing operation of the property is no longer economically viable. This would mean the site has been marketed at a reasonable price for at least a year for that and any other suitable employment or service trade uses and no interest in acquisition has been expressed.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras 8, 91 – 93

Battle CP NP Objective 8: The enhancement of Village/Town Centres within the Civil Parish: The separate communities which make up the Civil Parish of Battle are being encouraged to provide the facilities – whether social, sporting or otherwise – desired by the residents and visitors alike, with possible allocation by Battle Town Council of the Community Infrastructure Levy monies which may be used for enhancing and developing those facilities. An example of this objective is the ambition to set up a part time health provision in Netherfield.

RDC policy: Employment strategy and Land review (ESLR), Ch. 16 Economy and respective spatial development strategies

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS), The Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012

5.4.2 **Policy intent:** The policy is intended to provide protection to the assets which meet the Local Authority's criteria and the list is included in **Schedule 4** of the Plan.
The Localism Act 2011 has introduced the Community Right to Bid, which gives eligible organisations such as Town and Parish Councils, and defined community groups the opportunity to nominate (an) asset(s) (building or land) they believe to be important to their community well-being, to be listed by the Local Authority as an Asset of Community Value. This aims to ensure those buildings and amenities can be kept in public use and remain an integral part of community life where possible, and thus reduce the trend in recent years of communities losing local amenities and buildings of importance to them. The Town Council has identified a proposed list of assets and will need to apply to RDC for inclusion of these sites on the local planning authority's register of Assets of Community Value. This will provide the Town Council or other community organisations within Battle with an opportunity to bid to acquire the asset on behalf of the local community, if it is placed for sale on the open market, under the Community Right to Buy Regulations.

Policy ET3: Community Leisure and Cultural Facilities

Proposals to sustain or extend the viable use of existing community leisure and cultural facilities (See **Schedule 5**) and the development of new facilities will normally be supported if they comply with other policies in this Neighbourhood Plan. In particular, the Plan will encourage and support the provision of dual use facilities for schools and for the community if any such development proposals are likely to be brought forward. Development proposals must consider and where appropriate alleviate the adverse impact of any development on existing community and cultural facilities. The continued investment in the community facilities of the Civil Parish, which will include the use of CIL receipts to upgrade and maintain these where appropriate to meet the identified needs of the community will be supported.

Conformity list of references

NPPF 2019: Paras 28 and 92

Battle CP NP Objective 8: The enhancement of Village/Town Centres within the Civil Parish: The separate communities which make up the Civil Parish of Battle are being encouraged to provide the facilities – whether social, sporting or otherwise – desired by the residents and visitors alike, with possible allocation by Battle Town Council of the Community Infrastructure Levy monies which may be used for enhancing and developing those facilities. An example of this objective is the ambition to set up a part time health provision in Netherfield.

RDC policy: Policies CO6 and EC4

Key Evidence base reference: Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS) and Community Aspirations (Section 7 in this document)

5.4.3 **Policy intent:** The policy seeks to protect the existing community facilities as listed in **Schedule 5**, while encouraging the development of new facilities where needed.

SECTION 6: Implementation, Monitoring & Review

6.1 Implementation, Monitoring & Review

6.1.1 Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, as well as, have their say on what those new buildings should look like.

6.1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan, if approved in the referendum, will become part of the Rother Development Plan. Its policies will therefore carry the full weight of the policies in the development plan and, in Battle, they will have precedence over the non-strategic policies of Rother's Local Plan/Core Strategy unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Applications will then be determined by RDC using the policies contained in the final 'made' Plan.

6.1.3 The Plan will be monitored by the Town Council on an annual basis, using the planning data collected by Rother District Council and any other data collected and reported at a Parish level that is relevant to the plan. The Town Council will be particularly concerned to judge whether its policies are being effectively applied in the planning decision process.

6.1.4 The extensive survey work carried out to create this plan identified a number of issues and projects that residents feel are important but which cannot form part of the Neighbourhood Plan as they do not relate to land use. It is intended that these issues will be picked up and dealt with by the Town Council via a Community Action Plan(s).

6.1.5 The Town Council proposes to complete a formal review of the Plan at least once every five years or earlier if necessary to reflect changes in the Local Plan or the NPPF 2019 (National Planning Policy Framework) and other local/national factors relevant to the Plan.

SECTION 7: Community Aspirations

Introduction

7.1.1 The Community Aspirations have been further developed following extensive engagement within the community through several consultations (see para 7.1.8), carried out during the creation of this Plan. A significant number of issues have been identified, that do not form part of the Neighbourhood Plan spatial analysis related to land use. Nevertheless, for a complete understanding of the Civil Parish (CP) it is vital that the aspirations are known and can be delivered over time.

7.1.2 Battle Town Council will convene an Implementation, Monitoring and Review Working Group, comprised of Councillors and volunteers, for the duration of the Plan (i.e. up to 2028). It is intended that the Working Group will progress the Community Aspirations as listed, through negotiations on how facilities and services can be provided during the Plan period and beyond.

Background and Location

7.1.3 Battle Civil Parish, which includes the village of Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham, has challenging historical and geographical restrictions to overcome in order to satisfy the Government's and Rother District Council's (RDC) requirement to increase its housing stock.

7.1.4 The community has given its view to Battle Town Council and the Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group regarding their aspirations that should be addressed in the context of the Government and RDC's housing targets: 475 dwellings for Battle and hamlet of Telham and 48 dwellings for Netherfield. It should be noted that RDC has ruled (several times) that Netherfield must be considered separately with its own housing target number, which cannot be absorbed into the target number for Battle and the hamlet of Telham.

7.1.5 The former market town centre of Battle is dominated by the historic Battle Abbey gatehouse and 1066-battle site, which attracts tourists from all over the world but its linear development results in traffic bottlenecks.

7.1.6 This linear, contour-top nature of the CP settlements creates a challenge in gaining a common view for proposed developments from the residents who have concerns about access to the key facilities and services which are foreseen as potentially becoming over burdened by an increased number of residents.

Concerns

7.1.7 The residents' highest concerns are for key facilities and services, not least because they are currently centred on the town area. The village of Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham have their own unique challenges. Netherfield has a small linear contour-top street scene but is dominated by a concentration of dwellings in Darvel Down, as a consequence of its historic links to the gypsum mine. The hamlet of Telham however lacks a demonstrable centre leaving it liable to being swamped by developments from outside the CP to the south east.

7.1.8 Throughout the consultations there has been some concern from residents that there is a vital need to safeguard the conservation area and its historic buildings, which attract tourism, bringing vitality and prosperity to the town.

These residents' views were gathered from five public consultations:

1. Action in Rural Sussex (AiRS) survey report April 2016
2. Have Your Say Public Consultation April 2017
3. Public Consultation May 2019
4. Young Persons Survey 2019
5. Regulation 14 consultation February 2020

7.1.9 It is important to remember that neighbourhood plans are not able to deliver all the aspirational projects proposed by residents, however, by compiling this list it shows the intent of Battle Town Council's Implementation, Monitoring and Review Working Group to inform and influence future developments.

7.1.10 Based on the community responses, we have formulated the Battle CP aspirations into a list of Ambitions, detailed in the following sections. NOTE: Not shown in any specific priority order, which, over time, will be determined by the Implementation, Monitoring and Review Working Group.

7.1.11 These could potentially be addressed by Battle Town Council through the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and other sources of funding which may become available.

7.2 AMBITION 1 – Battle and the hamlet of Telham: To reduce road traffic congestion both local and through traffic, especially at peak times

7.2.1 To reduce the amount of school traffic, particularly from journeys outside the Parish, the children of local residents should be given priority in local schools.

7.2.2 To encourage the use of school transport for children to and from the town of Battle

7.2.3 To consider a site for Park & Ride on the periphery of Battle town and "hop on / hop off" buses for tourist and visitors to reduce pressure on the limited central car parking facilities in Battle.

7.2.4 To consider the prohibition of coach/buses (i.e. those not working as scheduled services) from allowing passengers to alight at the Abbey Green; and to signpost coaches/buses to the RDC provided free parking in the Market Street car park.

7.2.5 To introduce Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) which will help prevent anti-social parking and inconsiderate "drop offs" that cause transitory congestion. (NOTE: since writing this ambition, CPE has been agreed and will be introduced in late 2020.)

7.2.6 To introduce a lowering of traffic speeds with the introduction of 20mph zones. (NOTE: Including A2100 declassification, after the Queensway Gateway Road to the A21 is completed, to then allow speed reductions in the CP's urban through-road area).

7.2.7 To encourage developments that are close to the town to help reduce congestion and encourage walking and cycling.

7.3 AMBITION 2 – Battle and the hamlet of Telham: To improve footways and pedestrian safety

7.3.1 To improve safe walking and cycling by encouraging and promoting funding for the Battle Schools Greenway – proposal that offers an off-road route from Claverham College to Battle Abbey via Park Lane. (Battle has been the subject of an ESCC/Sustrans survey that proposes, within the ESCC Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, an extension for safe walking and cycling to the east of the High Street to include the Railway Station and beyond.)

7.3.2 To consider requests for footway extensions on main access roads under planning applications as required.

7.3.3 To improve existing footways and in some cases extend them to enable walking on both sides of major roads, e.g. sections along Hastings Road, North Trade Road, Marley Lane and Caldbec Hill.

7.3.4 To require connected shared-use paths (i.e. for pedestrians and cyclists) in new developments to encourage walking and cycling, e.g. a direct route between Blackfriars and the Railway Station.

7.3.5 To introduce additional controlled crossings at strategic locations, e.g. Battle Hill.

7.4 AMBITION 3 – Battle, Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham: To protect and encourage wildlife, flora and fauna within the Civil Parish.

7.4.1 To extend and include in all new developments wildlife protection zones connected to existing verges to provide green corridors. (It is vital that these development verges are connected to existing wildlife protection zones.)

7.4.2 To limit light pollution at new developments by the use of low-level lighting and/or timed lighting. (RDC have adopted the High Weald Housing Design Guide, policy DG9 which is concerned with “dark skies” preservation.)

7.4.3 To protect the existing local green spaces within the Civil Parish. NOTE: See Local Green Spaces Analysis.

7.4.4 To include where appropriate “swift bricks” and other nesting features at least 5m above ground level. (NOTE: Already forms part of High Weald Housing Design Guide, policy DG10 which has been adopted by RDC. The Plan, Regulation 15 document, will include protection in policies EN2 / EN3.)

7.5 AMBITION 4 – Battle and the hamlet of Telham: To monitor for adequate provision of Community Facilities and Amenities

7.5.1 To monitor for adequate provision of Doctor’s surgeries.

7.5.2 To monitor for adequate provision of Dental and other health facilities.

7.5.3 To monitor for adequate provision of recreational amenities, such as:

- a youth activities community centre
- a Senior Citizens group community centre
- a swimming pool to encourage fitness and fun
- the skate ramp - to be redeveloped
- improved sporting facilities
- additional meeting space at the Emmanuel Centre (supporting, amongst others, Blackfriars residents)

7.5.4 To lobby for adequate provision of:
- Public toilets (e.g. at Abbey end of town)
- Electric Vehicle charging points, particularly in car parks.

7.5.5 To consider extending street lighting where there is a strong public demand.

7.5.6 South East Water recommend the need of a mandatory housing standards for water use which would support water efficiency on new buildings and promote the collaboration between Battle Town Council and developers. All dwellings should aim to meet the water efficiency standard of 110 litres/person/day. These are in line with South East Water
https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/about-us/our-plans/water-resources-management-plan-2019/
https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/media/2901/sew_five_year_business_plan_2020-2025.pdf

7.6 AMBITION 5 – Battle and the hamlet of Telham: To protect the Town's History and Buildings

7.6.1 To ensure that new-built dwellings should be in keeping with the character of the Civil Parish by adhering to the Battle Civil Parish Design Guidelines and the High Weald Housing Design Guide.

7.6.2 To encourage the restriction of developments to less than 20 dwellings per new site.

7.7 AMBITION 6 – Battle, Netherfield and the hamlet of Telham: To improve local public transport

7.7.1 To encourage engagement with bus operators (including Battle Area Community Transport) and ESCC to improve the frequency of local bus services, which will enable local residents without personal transport to travel to larger towns in the area on a more frequent basis and help alleviate private car use. NOTE: Bus routes and timetables available at: www.cartogold.co.uk/EastSussex/map.html#east_sussex_county_map

7.8 AMBITION 7 - Netherfield: To reduce local congestion and improve footways

7.8.1 To reduce the amount of school traffic around Darvel Down and particularly from journeys from outside the village of Netherfield. The children of local residents should be given priority in local schools.

7.8.2 To encourage the use of school transport for children to and from the village of Netherfield.

7.8.3 To improve footway provision in and beyond the village centre to encourage walking:
- Footpath between Darvel Down (starting at the Village Store) to Village Hall and then to the church.
- Footway between Darvel Down and NE NS102, via NE01.

7.8.4 To introduce a lowering of traffic speeds with the introduction of 20mph zones. NOTE: Possibly with some speed control humps.

7.9 AMBITION 8 - Netherfield: To improve car parking

7.9.1 To encourage enforcement of on-street parking measures within the village.

7.9.2 To work towards the provision of a public car park in Netherfield (e.g. opposite the school with "in and out" parking).

7.10 AMBITION 9 - Netherfield: To ensure adequate provision of Community Facilities such as:

7.10.1 To work towards the provision of an adequate part-time Doctor's surgery.

7.10.2 To work towards the provision of a part-time Pharmacy and other health facilities.

7.10.3 To lobby for adequate provision of recreational amenities, such as:

- Organised youth activities
- Senior Citizens group activities
- Encouraging the use of the existing sporting facilities

7.10.4 To lobby for adequate provision of:

- Electric Vehicle charging points

7.10.5 To consider extending street lighting where there is a strong public demand, installed at low-level to minimise light pollution.

7.11 AMBITION 10 - Netherfield: To improve infrastructure and utilities

7.11.1 To monitor developments in Netherfield at the planning stage to highlight the Plan's policies, which are made to provide adequate infrastructure both on and off site for a net long term improvement.

7.11.2 To encourage engagement with electrical power infrastructure suppliers to reduce the number of outages.

7.11.3 To encourage engagement with water companies to mitigate the loss of water supply during electrical power outages in certain areas of Netherfield.

7.11.4 To lobby for improvements to the speed and connectivity of high-speed broadband services.

7.11.5 South East Water recommend the need of a mandatory housing standards for water use which would support water efficiency on new buildings and promote the collaboration between Battle Town Council and developers. All dwellings should aim to meet the water efficiency standard of 110 litres/person/day. These are in line with South East Water https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/about-us/our-plans/water-resources-management-plan-2019/

https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/media/2901/sew_five_year_business_plan_2020-2025.pdf

7.12 AMBITION 11 – Battle, the hamlet of Telham and Netherfield: To encourage a diverse mixture of dwellings.

7.12.1 To encourage the development of affordable housing and more tourist short-stay accommodation close to the main attractions of the CP.

APPENDIX

Appendix A: Glossary

Community plan	Community plans are produced through collaboration between local residents and representatives of public, voluntary and private sector organisations and businesses. Community plans seek to influence and inform public bodies, organisations and other service providers about the priorities for people in the plan area.
Community right to build	The community right-to-build process is instigated by a 'community organisation' where the community decides to bring forward specific development proposals for the benefit of the community. This might include community facilities and affordable housing.
Core strategy	A plan setting out the spatial vision and strategic objectives of the planning framework for an area.
Habitats Regulation Assessment	This is a requirement for plans that are likely to lead to significant effects on European sites of nature conservation importance.
Local Planning Authority	A local planning authority is the local authority or council that is empowered by law to exercise statutory town planning functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom
Localism Act	The Localism Act 2011 includes five key measures that underpin the government's approach to decentralisation. •Community rights •Neighbourhood planning •Housing •General power of competence •Empowering cities and other local areas
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019)	The NPPF 2019 sets out the planning policies for England. This was a key part of the reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible, and to promote sustainable growth. The Framework sets out planning policies for England and how they are expected to be applied. It provides guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers, both in drawing up plans and making decisions about planning applications
National Planning Policy Statements and guidance notes	Planning policy guidance notes, and their replacements planning policy statements, are prepared by the government after public consultation to explain statutory provisions and provide guidance to local authorities and others on planning policy and the operation of the planning system. The majority of planning policy statements and guidance notes have been superseded by the NPPF 2019.
Neighbourhood area	A neighbourhood area has to be formally designated for a neighbourhood plan or order to be produced

Neighbourhood Development Order	A neighbourhood development order can directly grant planning permission for certain specified kinds of developments within a neighbourhood area.
Neighbourhood Plans	New type of plans introduced by the Localism Act2011. They will be prepared by Town ouncils, or constituted Neighbourhood Forums, and develop detailed planning policies for a Town (or part of them) in general conformity with the council's Local Plan or LDF.
Planning Advisory Service	The Planning Advisory Service helps councils provide faster, fairer, more efficient and better quality planning services. See www.pas.gov.uk
Qualifying Body	This can be described as: a Town Council, a Parish Council, organisation or body designated as a neighbourhood forum, authorised to act in relation to a neighbourhood area for the purposes of a Neighbourhood Plan
Statement of Community Involvement	A document setting out how the authority will consult and involve the public at every stage in the production of the Local Development Framework.
Statutory Consultees	Statutory consultees for the purposes of neighbourhood planning are defined within the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations
Steering Group	A steering group is a committee of individuals made up of community representatives who will drive forward the neighbourhood planning project on behalf of the Town Council.
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is a systematic decision support process, aiming to ensure that environmental and possibly other sustainability aspects are considered effectively in policy, plan and programme making.
Town and Country Planning Act 1990	The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is an act of the British Parliament regulating the development of land in England and Wales.

Appendix B: List of Neighbourhood Plan Policies

Housing and Development

Policy HD1: Development Boundaries
Policy HD2: Site Allocations
Policy HD3: Housing Mix
Policy HD4: Quality of Design
Policy HD5: Protection of Landscape Character
Policy HD6: Integration of New Housing
Policy HD7: Protection of the Green Gap
Policy HD8: Town Centre Boundary

Infrastructure

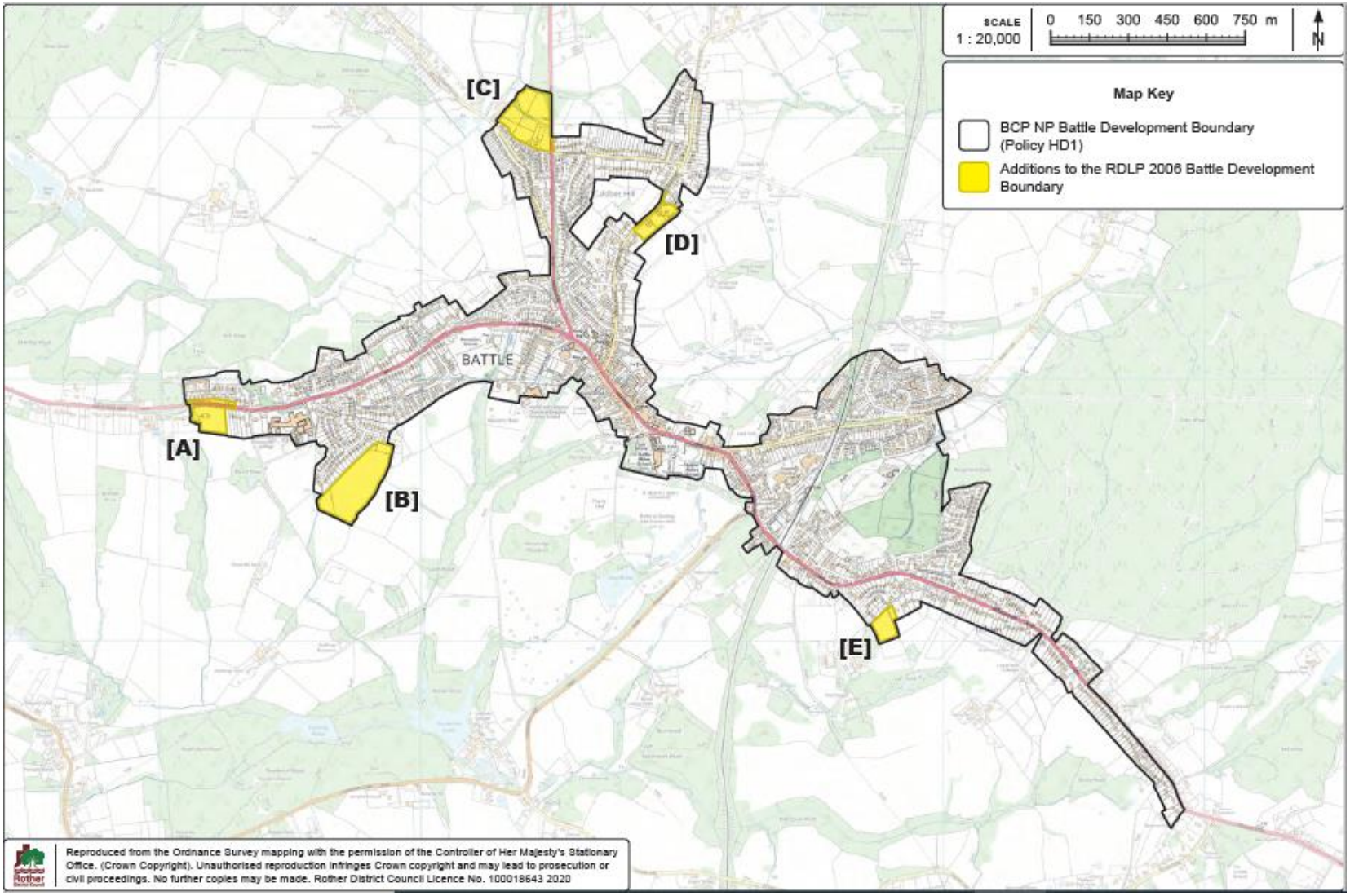
Policy IN1: Traffic Mitigation
Policy IN2: Maintain and Improve Existing Infrastructure
Policy IN3: Parking and New Development
Policy IN4: Pedestrian Provision and Safety

Environment

Policy EN1: Local Green Space Designations
Policy EN2: Conservation of the Natural Environment, Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Policy EN3: The High Weald AONB and Countryside Protection
Policy EN4: Historic Environment
Policy EN5: Locally Important Historic Buildings, Other Structures and Other Non-designated Heritage Assets

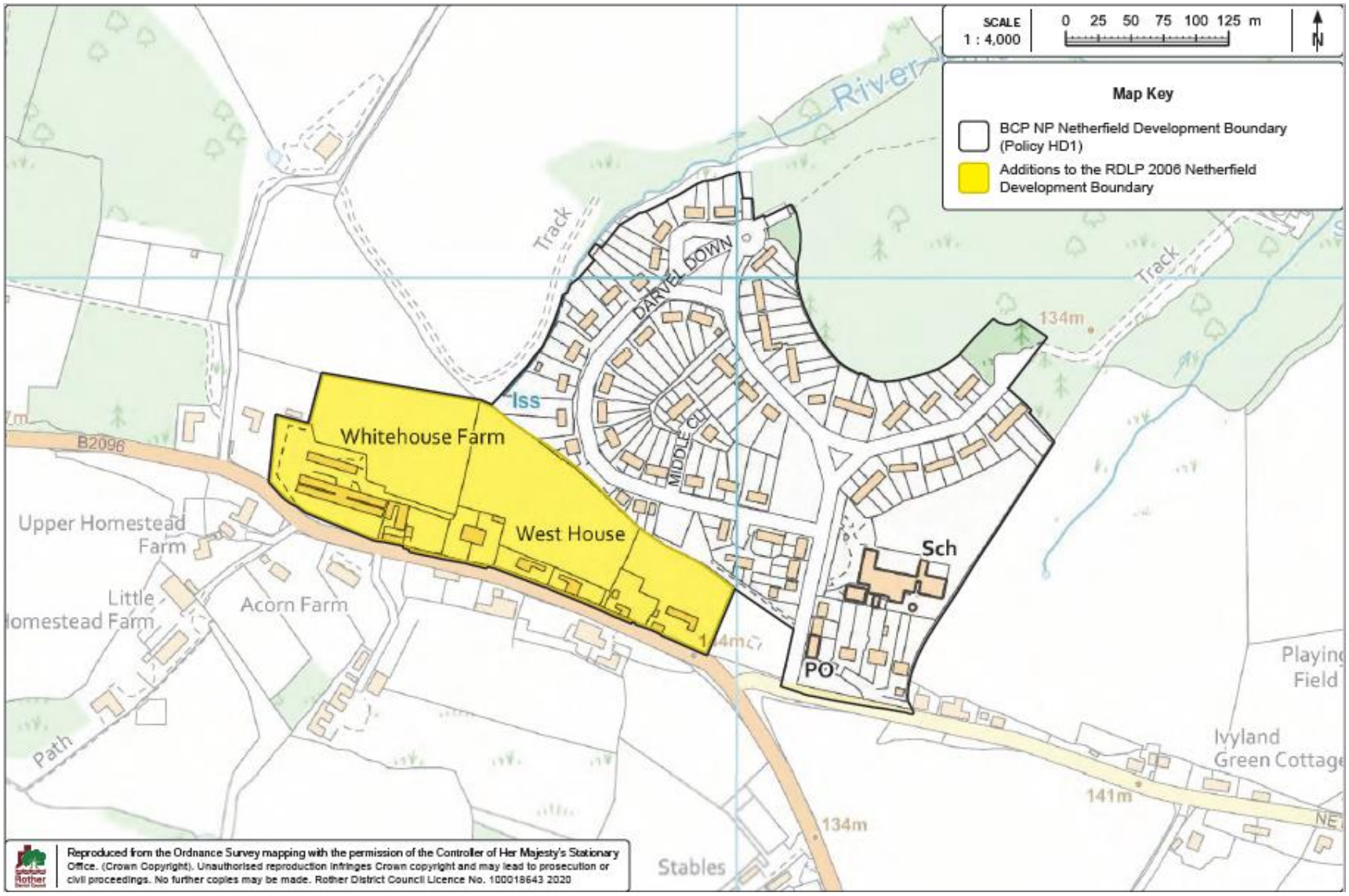
Economy and Tourism

Policy ET1: Tourism and Local Economy
Policy ET2: Community Facilities
Policy ET3: Community Leisure and Cultural Facilities



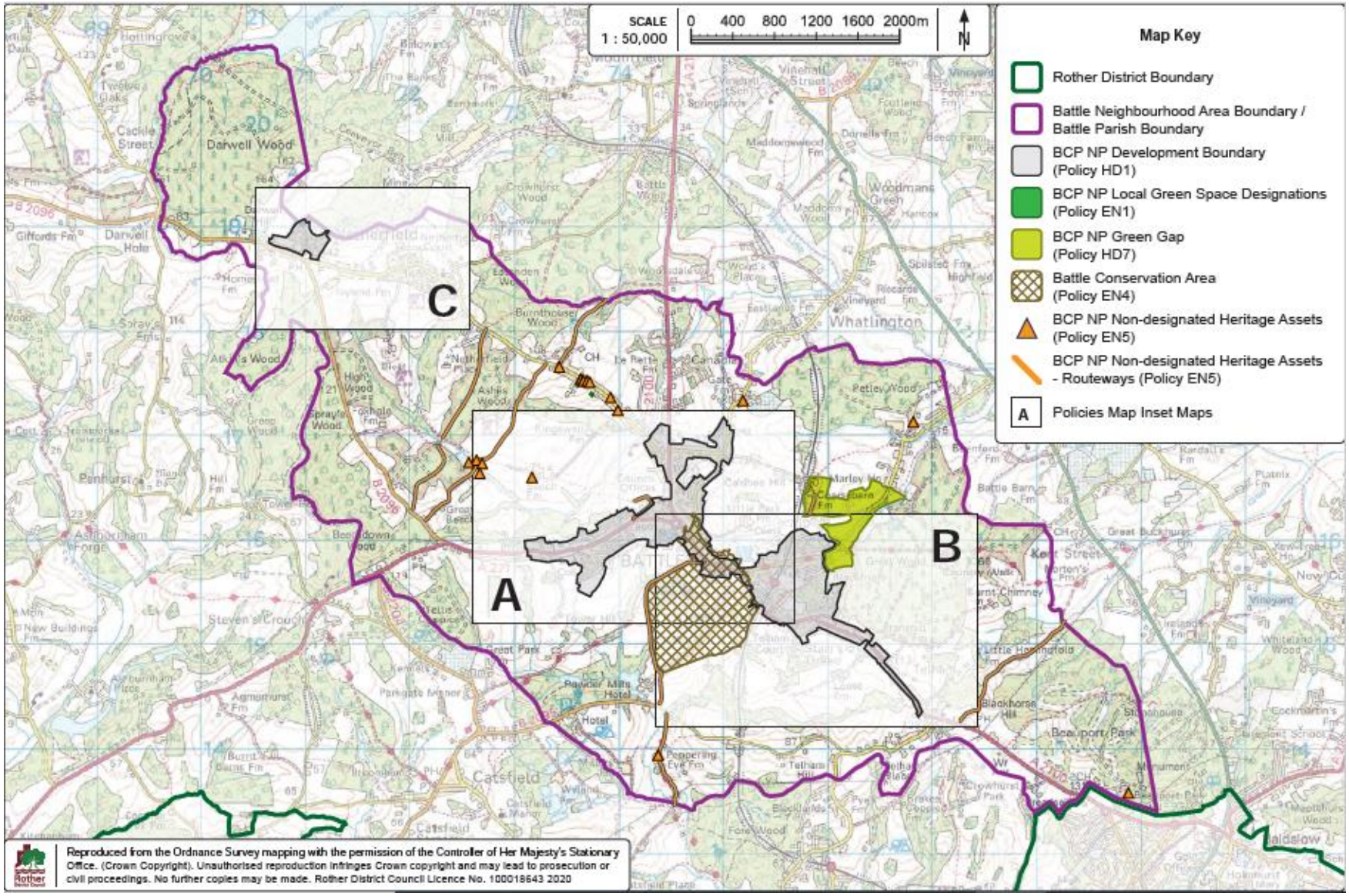
Map 1: Proposed Development Boundary – Battle and Telham

Sites (in yellow)already have Planning Permission:
RR/2016/725/P, RR/2017/1136/P - Lillybank Farm
RR/2019/1597/P - Care Home, 61/63 North Trade Road
RR/2017/1259/P, RR/2018/2985/P and RR/2020/165/P – Tollgates

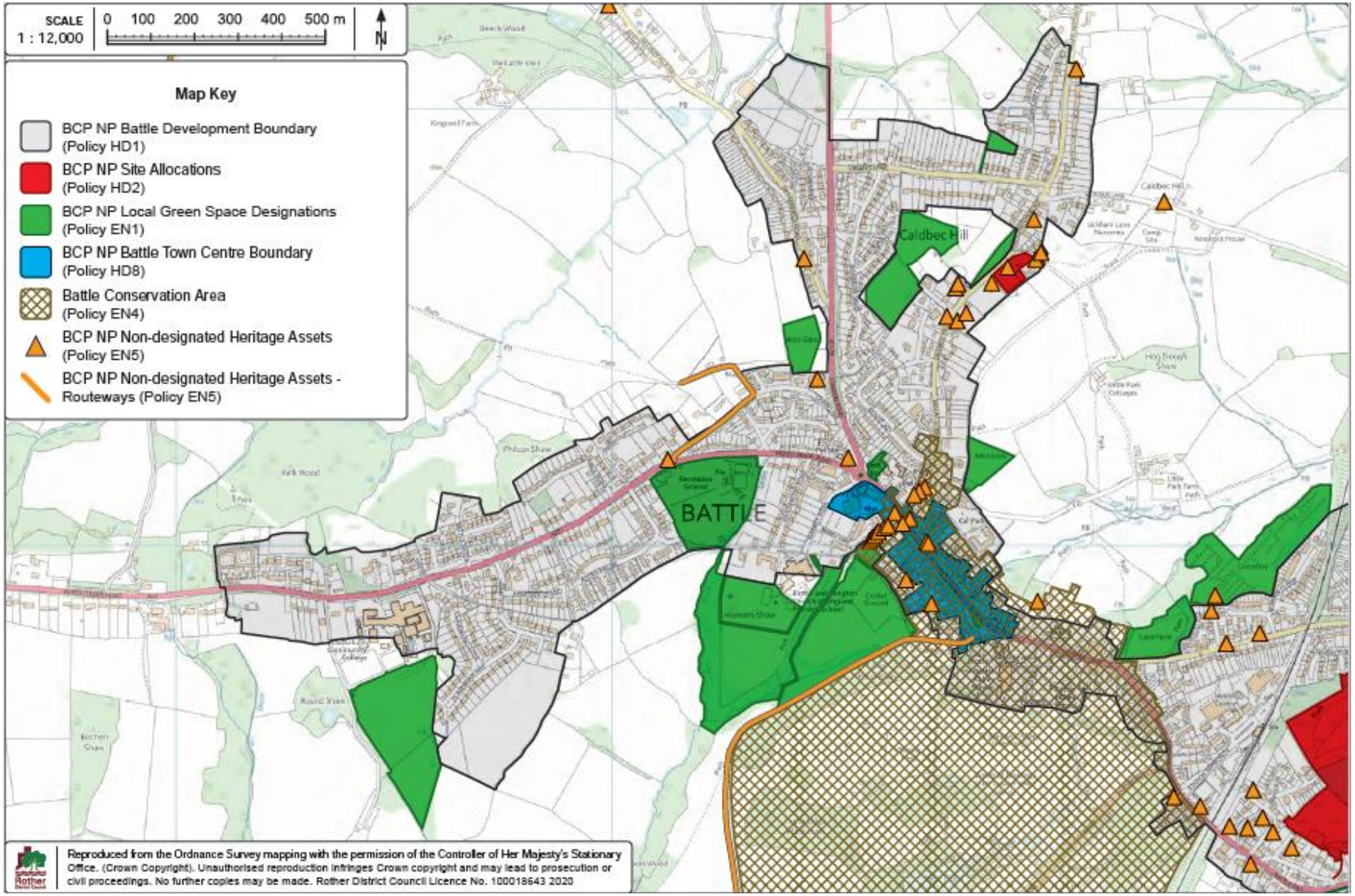


Map 2: Proposed Development Boundary – Netherfield

One site in the middle of the proposed area already has Planning Permission:
RR/2017/2308/P and RR/2019/921/P – land south-west of Darvel Down
Anyone undertaking or considering operations/ developments on that site are advised to contact British Gypsum regarding the existing and future extent of the mine, its depth, and land-stability in that area



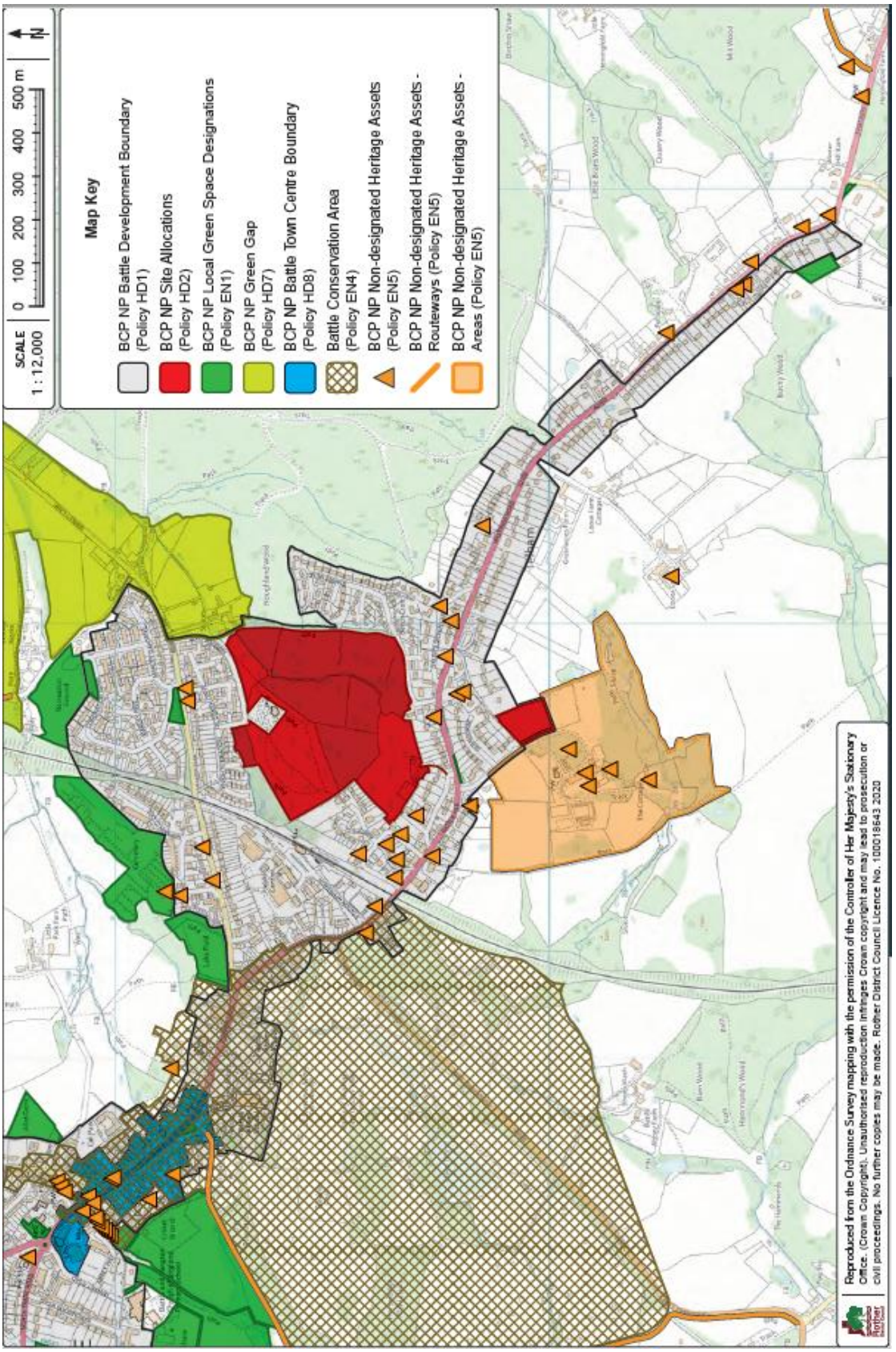
Map 3: Proposals Map – Inset maps



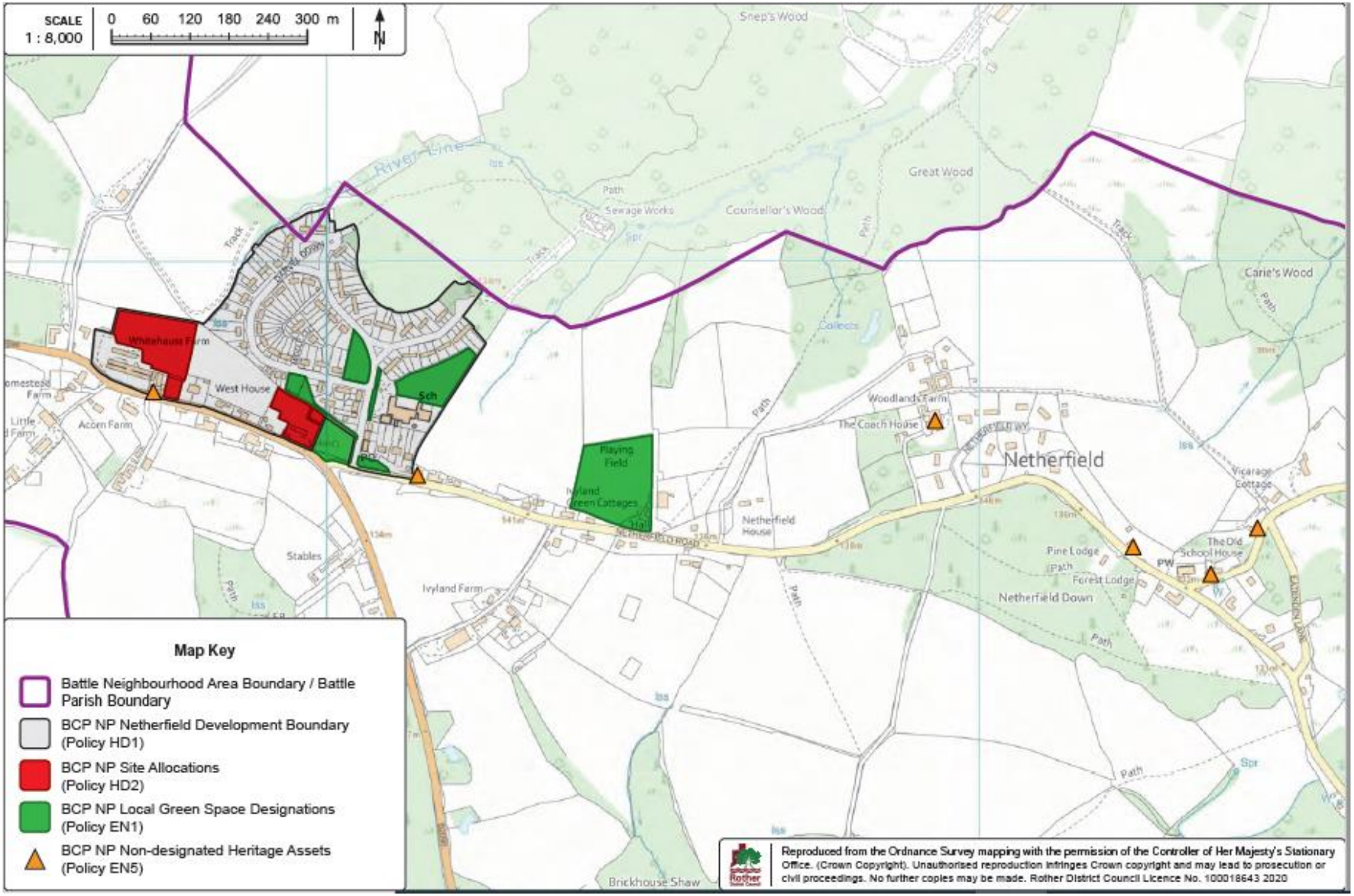
Map 4a: Policies Map – Battle North Inset

The proposed GG03 comprises a mapped area following the Reg 14 consultation response from Southern Water who believe extra space may be required at their Water Treatment Works (WTW) site, subject to detailed design to satisfy the Blackfriars development of up to 220 dwellings.

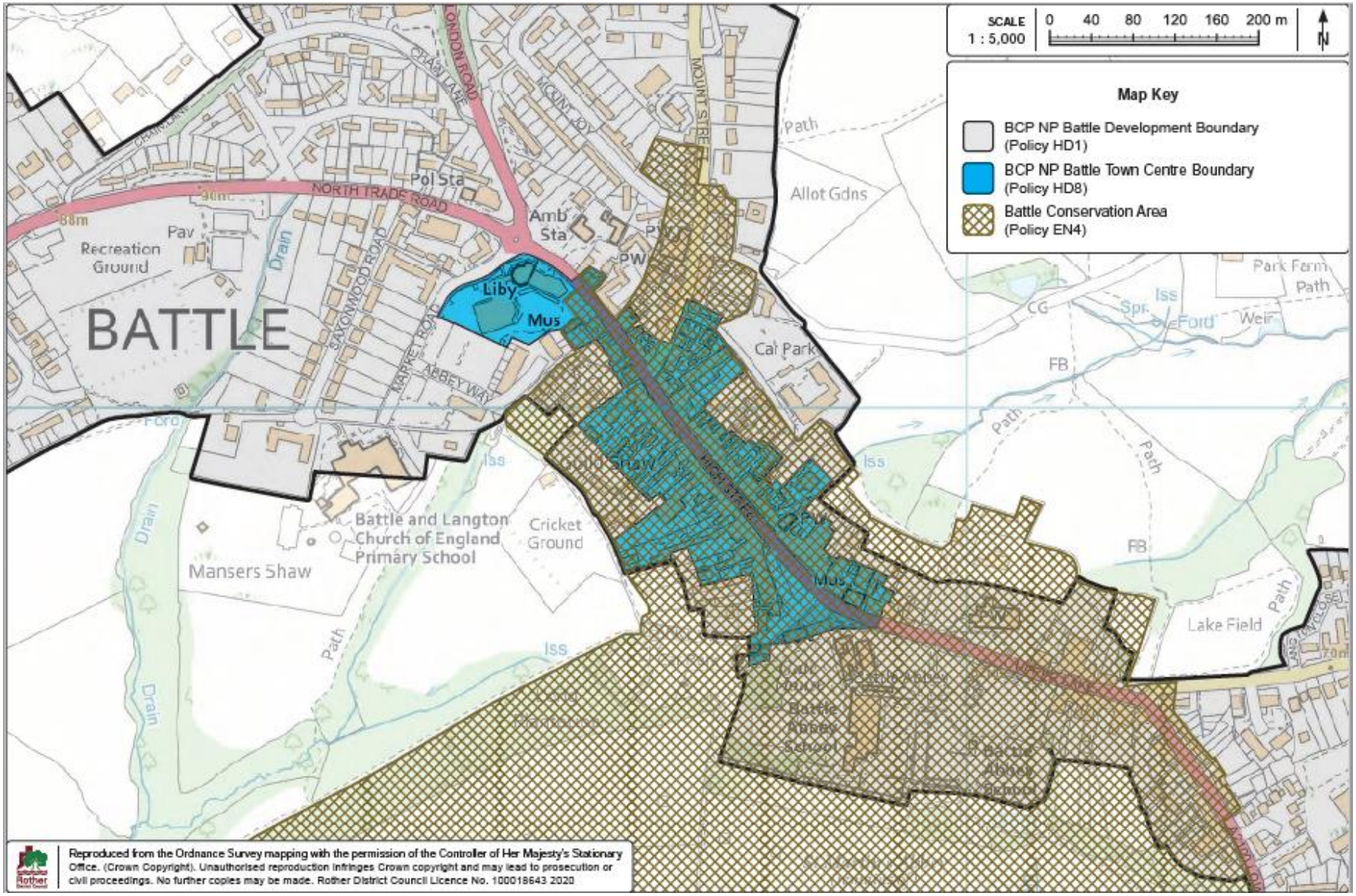
This GG is specifically designed to protect views of Battle from the east, north and south; the boundary of the GG abuts the Southern Water WTW site fence on these sides and the GG includes all mature hedge-lines and trees that surround the site and provide a vital 'green barrier'. Footpath Battle FP57 remains unaffected and remains within the designated GG. If any development on the Southern Water WTW site takes place, particular care regarding design must ensure the hedges and mature trees adjacent to the site are not damaged in any way.



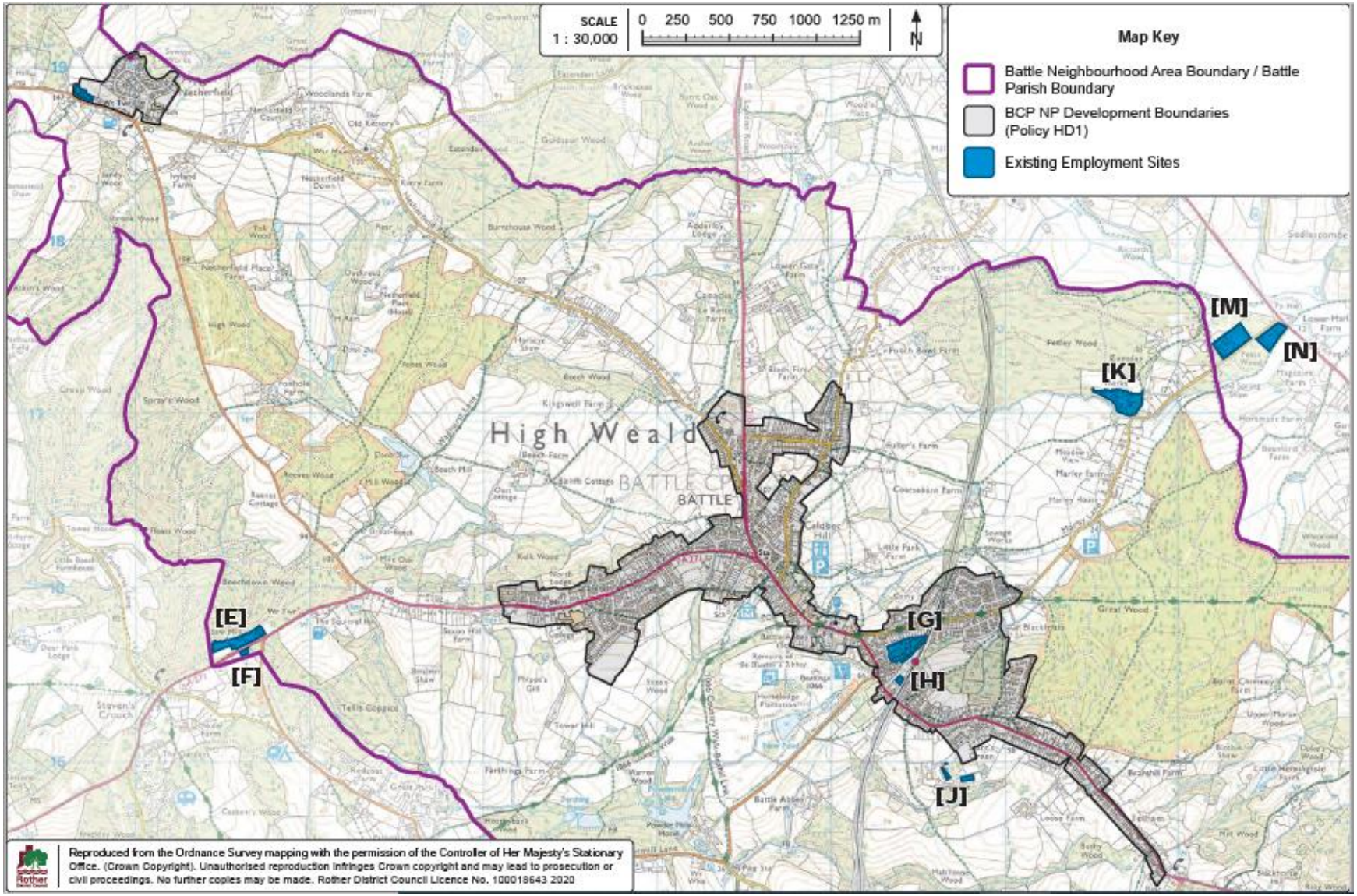
Map 4b: Policies Map – Battle South Inset



Map 5: Policies Map – Netherfield Inset



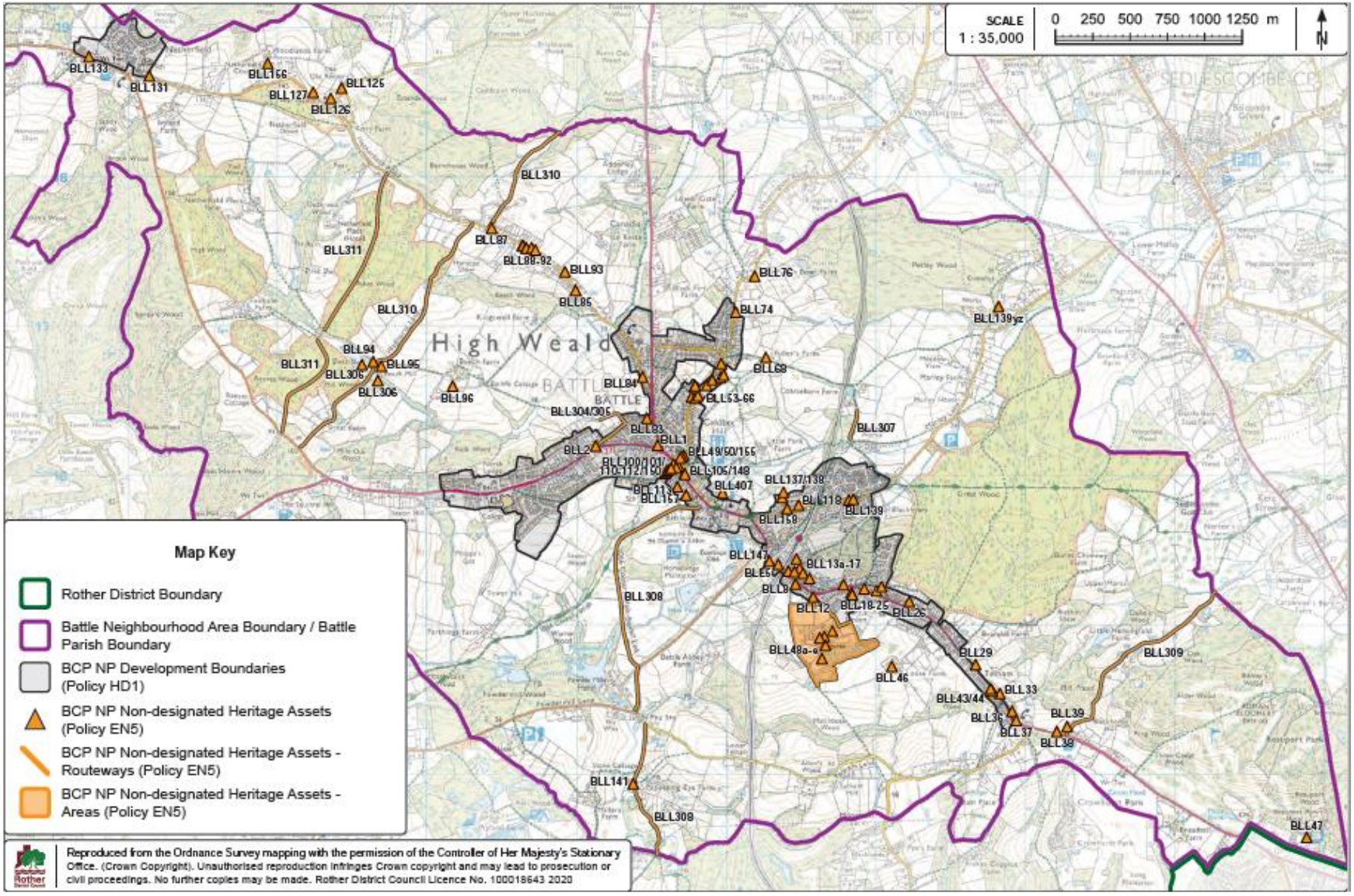
Map 6: Town Centre Boundary



Map 7: Existing Employment sites

Codes A, B, C and D not used

NOTE: Existing Employment Sites (Blue colour) show sites with capacity for "industrial" activities only and do not include offices, which are in many locations, particularly in and around the Town Centre.



Map 8: Locally Important Non-designated Heritage Assets

Appendix D: Green Gap Analysis

The Battle Civil Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BATTLE CP NP SG), accept the Rother District Council (RDC) definition of a Strategic Gap or a Green Gap as "an area of land which helps determine the separation of settlements and protect their individual character".

"The particular objectives of the Gap are:
a. To maintain the separate identity and distinctiveness between settlements
b. To maintain the strategic settlement pattern
c. To prevent the coalescence of settlements"

The Steering Group analysed and considered the following potential Green Gaps:

- GG01 Battle north, east of A2100
- GG02 Battle north-east, Whatlington Road
- GG03 Battle east, Marley Lane
- GG04 Telham, A2100 and Telham Lane

However, in view of the Examiners advice and in discussion with RDC it has been decided to only designate GG03 Battle east, Marley Lane, which fulfils the objectives criteria. (The other potential Green Gaps do not fulfil the above objectives, nevertheless the areas covered have extensive protection by virtue of several other RDC and NP Policies.)

Appendix E: List of Evidence Base documents

The Plan is supported by various evidence documents which have been used to inform the policies within the Plan. Including the following would make the Plan too unwieldy so it should be noted that the Plan should be read in conjunction with these documents where further detail/evidence is required.

The key evidence base documents are listed below and can be found on the BATTLE CP NP website:

- Action in Rural Sussex 2016 Parish Survey (AiRS)
- AECOM Site Assessments
- Battle CP Design Guidelines (Annexe 1)
- Battle CP Local Heritage List
- Battle CP Character Appraisal (Annexe 2)
- Battle CP Analysis Study
- Battle CP Heritage Charter
- Battle CP Young Persons Survey 2019
- Battle CP Call for Sites for Retail and Employment 2020
- Battle Conservation Area Appraisal 2006
- Battle Town Study 2011
- Battle Observer regular monthly articles
- Communication Strategy
- Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (UK)
- Community Infrastructure Levy (Rother)

- Draft Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 14)
- Development and Site Allocations (DaSA) Strategic Gap Background Paper (Rother District Council) March 2016
- East Sussex County Council Parking Standards for Development
- East Sussex Historic Environment Record (ESHER) 2020
- Feedback from 2017 consultation "Have your say"
- Feedback from 2019 consultation
- Green Gap Analysis
- Green Infrastructure Study
- Heritage Trails
- Historic England - Listed Buildings
- High Weald Housing Design Guide
- Local Green Spaces Analysis
- Preferred Sites List
- Preferred Sites Maps
- Proposed Assets of Community Value
- South East Water resources management plan - https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/about-us/our-plans/water-resources-management-plan-2019/
- https://corporate.southeastwater.co.uk/media/2901/sew_five_year_business_plan_2020-2025.pdf
- Statutory Environmental Assessment
- Sussex Biodiversity record centre information
- The Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012
- The High Weald AONB Management Plan (2019 – 2024)
- Updated Strategic Gap Paper (Rother District Council) July 2019
- www.rother.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Battle_Conservation_Area_Map.pdf

Archived Documents

- Consultation Feedback Form May 2019
- Call for Sites letter March 2018
- New Website announcement
- Offered site listing August 2017
- AiRS Evidence survey (accompanying letter) 2016
- AiRS Evidence survey (form) 2016
- Potential ACV list at March 2017
- Built Environment and ACV list displayed at first consultation
- "Have Your Say" public consultation (suggestions form, dated April 2017)
- SHLAA sites list June 2017
- List of offered sites August 2017
- Offered sites maps August 2017
- Consultation documents used May 2019
- List of offered sites April 2018
- Preferred Sites – Extracts from SHLAA June 2013
- SHLAA sites maps June 2017

Appendix F: SEA Screening Determination

Your ref:
Our ref: 6.3a BNP
Please ask for: Frank Rallings
Direct dial no: 01424 787634
Date: 11 March 2019

Donna Moles Consultancy
moles.consultancy@gmail.com
by email

Dr Anthony Leonard
Executive Director

Town Hall
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex TN39 3JX

Dear Donna

SEA Screening for the Battle Neighbourhood Plan

Further to your request for an SEA screening opinion I have now received the comments of the Statutory Environmental Bodies (SEB's) which are as stated below :

Natural England

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening opinion
Where Neighbourhood Plans could have significant environmental effects, they may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended). Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance at:
http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/sustainability-appraisal-requirements-for-neighbourhood-plans
We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Historic England
Thank you for consulting Historic England on the requested screening opinion for SEA of the Battle Neighbourhood Plan. We are pleased to see positive elements of plan making already emerging, including the character assessment document among the supporting information that you have supplied.

We note that the steering group have already undertaken some review of potential housing sites and have established a short list. Given the plan area's importance for it's historic environment and the density of heritage assets (including larger designated assets such as the Conservation Area and Registered Battlefield, which are likely to have extensive settings, we suggest that allocating sites for development that have not otherwise been assessed for a higher level or equivalent plan document, such as the Local Plan, has potential for likely significant environmental effects, depending on the locations of those sites and their relationship with heritage assets (including non-designated assets and previously unidentified assets). As such, unless it is demonstrable that none of the sites assessed as potential allocation sites would have impacts that merit assessment (including where their allocation might be suitable subject to mitigation), we feel that SEA of the plan should be required.

To determine the likely effects of the plan and any mitigation measures that may be required, it may be necessary for any assessment of potential allocation options to include consideration of sites that have already been rejected where there is any reasonable potential of their being considered for allocation.

We would be pleased to advise on any potential sustainability objectives that should be considered, but given Battle's particular historic significance we would suggest that whilst it may be suitable to include one or more general objectives to consider the plan area's designated and non-designated heritage assets according to their significance, it would also be appropriate to include separate objectives to focus attention on the need to conserve and enhance the heritage significance of the registered battlefield and listed and scheduled abbey complex. It would also be helpful to consider whether an objective should be identified to manage potential conflict between the promotion and enjoyment of the town's heritage as an asset attracting visitors and its continuing conservation and the character and amenity of the town as a whole - sorry this is a bit of a mouthful - It might be helpful to discuss with you and the steering group whether there are any perceived conflicts in the town in this area.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries

Yours sincerely

Rob Lloyd-Sweet

Rob Lloyd-Sweet | Historic Places Adviser | South East England | Historic England
Mobile: 07825 907288

Eastgate Court | 195 – 205 High Street | Guildford | Surrey | GU1 3EH

Environment Agency
We have no comments to make at this stage from a planning point of view but are happy to respond at the scoping stage under our discretionary planning advice service.

Neighbourhood Planning –National Planning Practice Guidance

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans in light of the SEA Directive is contained within the National Planning Practice Guidance. The guidance highlights three triggers that may require the production of an SEA, for instance where:

•a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
•the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
•the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

In the opinion of the Local Planning Authority, an SEA should be undertaken for the Battle Neighbourhood Plan (BNP). I have set out the reasoning below in relation to the criteria for determining the likely significance of effects, as contained in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

1. The BNP will allocate sites and form part of the 'development plan' and thereby exert a direct and substantial influence over development proposals coming forward in the period.

2 As regards the characteristics of the area covered by the BNP (as set out in Schedule 1(2) of the regulations), I note particularly that:

a) the area is wholly within the High Weald AONB, which enjoys the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty;
b) Battle is an historic town containing the Abbey and the 1066 Battlefield, a Conservation Area, and many listed buildings along with Ancient Monuments. Parks & Gardens of Special Historic Interest, Archaeological Notification Areas and Archaeologically Sensitive Areas located within the town and its environs;
c) Within the rural part of Battle parish there are different components of the AONB including Ancient Woodlands, SSSI's, Local Wildlife Sites (SNCI's) and certain BAP habitats, along with areas liable to flooding.

Also, to clarify the process in relation to the 'scoping' stage, RDC has already produced a 'Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report' that is considered applicable to the SEA process of Neighbourhood Plans produced within the District. It can be found on our web-site here: http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=5006

Particular reference should be made to the 'Sustainability Appraisal Framework' (Task A4) which contains decision-aiding questions to help inform the SEA process. As the Scoping Report states, this framework *'is also considered relevant and applicable to Neighbourhood Plans produced within the District'*. The scope of information to be included in the environmental report should address the SEA objectives set out below. The level of detail should reflect the geographical extent of the NP as far as practicable, drawing on the Council's own Scoping Report referred to above and baseline information already provided and any available from other sources to meet regulatory requirements.

In relation to the SEA process for the Battle Neighbourhood Plan, it is considered that the following objectives from the Sustainability Appraisal Framework should be screened in for SEA purposes:

7: Improve accessibility to services and facilities for all ages across the District
9: Improve efficiency in land use and encourage the prudent use of natural resources
10: Reduce road congestion and pollution levels and ensure air quality continues to improve by increasing travel choice and reducing car usage
11: Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
12: Minimise the risk of flooding and resulting detriment to people and property
13: Maintain, improve and manage water resources in a sustainable way
14: Conserve and enhance bio-diversity and geo-diversity
15: Protect and enhance the high quality natural and built environment

In addition, whilst these objectives are likely to be most relevant to this particular Neighbourhood Plan in terms of potential significant environmental effects, you may wish to also consider the other SA/SEA objectives in the Framework for the purposes of assessing the overall sustainability of proposed policies.

If there are any queries we would be happy to advise further and please accept our apologies in the delay in getting this response to you.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Rallings

Frank Rallings DipTP(Nottm) FRTPI
Neighbourhood Planning Liaison Consultant
Strategy & Planning Service
Rother District Council

SCHEDULES

Schedule 1: Local Green Space Designations Analysis

A specific NP set of numbers has been invoked for Green Spaces, numbered thus:
NE GS 01, NE GS 02… = Netherfield Green Space number series – not priority ordered
BA GS 01, BA GS 02… = Battle Green Space number series – not priority ordered

NETHERFIELD SITES

Ref. No.	Green Space / Location	Justification / Owner
NE GS01	Children's Play equipment area, Darvel Down [NE 11]	This area has a fenced child safety area with play equipment and open green space - much used and revered by younger families. Owner: RDC
NE GS02	Village Green, Darvel Down / B2096 opposite shop [NE 07]	This area provides an open area for informal sports activity fenced off from the road to avoid players being endangered. Provides footway between shop and GS01 and houses to west of village. Owner: RDC
NE GS03	Green space, Netherfield Road	This area provides a village seat with specimen tree planting – adding significantly to the wider hill-top village feel - frequently used and provides a safe viewing point looking south towards coast. Owner: ESCC
NE GS04	Recreation Ground, off Netherfield Road	This area is used by villagers for recreational sports activities and includes the Village Hall/Pavilion. Owner: RDC
NE GS05	Green space in front of school, Darvel Down south-east	This area provides a narrow buffer strip in front of the school, immediately adjacent to the roadway offering some safety to children and families. Owner: ESCC
NE GS06	Estate green space opposite school, Darvel Down east, middle	This area provides a remarkable and large open area ("green lung") within the very densely arrayed houses – it is a significant feature of the Darvel Down village street scene centre. Owner: Optivo requested - NO RESPONSE
NE GS07	School playing field, east of Darvel Down	Fenced, grass play area providing a safe yet vital school facility. Owner: ESCC/LEA

BATTLE AND THE HAMLET OF TELHAM SITES

Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS01	Netherfield Hill Allotments (8 plots), off Beech Close	BTC leased and operated – utilisation: 100% Owner: Optivo
BA GS02	Watch Oak Allotments (26 plots), Chain Lane	BTC leased and operated – utilisation: 50% Owner: RDC
BA GS03	Virgins Croft Allotments (14 plots), off Virgins Lane	BTC operated – utilisation: 90% Owner: BTC
BA GS04	Kingsmead Open Space – two interconnected fields, between Virgins Lane and Caldbec Hill	Important public space, with spectacular views to the north – site of an OS triangulation point underlying the high visibility in the landscape of this area. As a result of local initiatives some of the area has been sown with wildflowers; a small emerging population of wild orchids indicating improving biodiversity due to appropriate management over recent years. Supposed site of King Harold's 1066 army overnight stop before 1066 battle. Site of several significant trees, including the 950th anniversary planted commemorative tree. Very significant daily footfall of residents, using PRoW footpaths. Owned and maintained: RDC
BA GS05	Green Space (roadside and including north-western footway and hedge/trees), Caldbec Hill, Whatlington Road (summit)	This area is the site of special wildflower cultivation and is a defining street scene summit. NOTE: ESCC Highways planning to provide roadside protection fence, in co-operation with BTC. Owners: ESCC/Highways (grass area and footway) and Private Owner (hedge and trees, subject of TPO 394)
BA GS06	Claverham College, playing fields, off North Trade Road	Fenced, grass play area providing a safe yet vital school facility. Owner: ESCC/LEA

…continued

Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS07	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment areas), North Trade Road	BTC operated central recreation area with ground staff workshop, play areas, tennis courts, limited car parking, football pitches and Pavilion. Long term development plans and projects projected for further additional facilities. Owner: BTC
BA GS08	Teaching & Education Centre (includes grass area with seat overlooking roadway & skateboard ramp), off A2100 – east of "TenSixtySix roundabout"	Open public access play area providing a safe off road skateboard ramp area, adjacent to education building. Owner: ESCC/LEA
BA GS09	Battle & Langton CE Primary School, additional field, south of school compound	Unfenced, grass area providing an additional wild meadow adjacent to school – accessible only from adjacent areas BA GS10. Owner: ESCC/LEA
BA GS10	Mansers Shaw and Amenity Field & adjacent to 1066 Country Walk	Mansers Shaw provides a woodland/ghyll-side permissive walk with hard surfaces and play zones. Very high daily footfall mainly residents. Connected to Amenity Field providing open grassland circular walk Market Road and to 1066 Country Walk/Park Lane. Mansers Shaw Owner: BTC and Amenity Field Owner: ESCC, leased to BTC
BA GS11	Guild Shaw, off Western Avenue	An unusual very peaceful haven comprising copse trees and grass with extensive spring bulb flowers – much enjoyed by residents and tourists. Owner: BTC
BA GS12	George Meadow and Upper Stumbletts including cricket ground (includes field further south-west – not mapped), off Park Lane, west of the High Street	Fenced area used by an active Cricket Club, including nets out-of-season. This land is subject to long term agricultural lease for cattle grazing and includes the high footfall 1066 Country Walk connections to Bexhill and west to Pevensey. From Footpath Battle 84 there are views south-west across the cricket ground towards the South Downs Beachy Head ridge. Owner: BTC

…continued

Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS13	The Abbey "Green" (English Heritage), High Street	Hard surface area at the heart of Battle town, in front of Battle Abbey Gatehouse- site of the "Bull-ring" and annual bonfire. Provides for a significant number of off street events (e.g. markets, maypole dancing, etc.) annually and seating for residents and tourists. Managed by BTC Owner: English Heritage
BA GS15	Cherry Gardens Allotments (40 plots), off Mount Street – via FP31a/track to Little Park Farm	BTC operated – utilisation: 100% Owner: BTC
BA GS16	Lake Meadow (National Trust), adjacent to Marley Lane	Important managed grassland with excellent views northwards, includes PRoW with heavy footfall onto countryside path network. Owner: National Trust
BA GS17	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment area), Coronation Gardens	Large flat grass area for sports activities and low fenced children's play area with recently renewed equipment, lobbied for by local residents who much need this facility without having to cross High Street. Will be important for children living in new housing at Blackfriars. Owner: RDC
BA GS18	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment area), off Hastings Road, Telham	Small grass area for sports activities and children's play area with equipment, local residents use. This site commands excellent uninterrupted views north-west towards the listed 1066 battlefield and west towards Catsfield, with distant views of the South Downs Beachy Head ridge. Owner: BTC
BA GS19	Green Space, Telham, west side of A2100, Hastings Road/Telham Lane junction	Site important to nearby residents, providing rural post box, BTC noticeboard with single car layby. It has a shrubbery planted raised bed that provides a 'visual marker' on the roadside, when travelling from east, of the start of the CP dwellings. Owner: Adopted highway / Gas utility u/g access
BA GS 20	Green space with Heritage Trail marker/seat, beside Marley Lane	This site forms a safe off-road resting place for Heritage Trail walkers to rest and plan their next walking segments through the Coronation Gardens estate. Owner: RDC and adopted highway

…continued

Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS 23	Cemetery, off Marley Lane	Cemetery actively used and recent developed by BTC includes important specimen trees and areas of exceptional wildflowers, including several species of orchids and nationally rare plants. Owner: BTC
BA GS 25	"TenSixtySix roundabout" with Battle Memorial sculpture, junction of A2100, London Road and North Trade Road	Significant modern sculpture commemorating the 1066 Battle of Hastings with small wild grass/flowers under-mat. Managed by BTC Owner: ESCC/Highways
BA GS 28	Green Space, Hastings Road, trees & daffodils planting, South side - east of Glengorse junction	Wide grass verge mixing wildflowers with planted spring bulbs providing an important cherished green area, much cared for by local residents. Includes many mid-maturity trees along its length softening the visual impact of housing fences. Includes the Battle Town "Gate" sign and road sign: "Battle Hill". Owner: ESCC/Highways

Schedule 2: Battle CP Local Heritage List – Non-designated Heritage Assets

SUMMARY LIST OF NOMINATIONS MADE TO RDC OF NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS.
(V9 16.11.20)
Full version of nominations including description and assessment of the significance of each asset can be found in separate document on the Neighbourhood Plan website:
BATTLE CP LOCAL HERITAGE LIST OF BUILDINGS AND OTHER NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS v20 (revised at BTC Full council 17.11.20)

BATTLE CP LOCAL LIST OF ASSETS THAT ARE BUILDINGS

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

A number of criteria were categorised, based on guidance documentation from Historic England: Architectural style, aesthetic value, build date, date of alterations or extensions, rarity or typicality, associations with notable persons or events, community value. These were summarised into architectural significance and historic significance.

CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION
Architectural and/or Historic significance were each assessed as follows:
Substantial: Moderate: Slight: None
The threshold for first moderation of inclusion on the list was at least one assessment of a substantial level of significance, architectural or historic, or 1x Substantial or 2x Moderate for one or either types of significance.

EXTENT OF HERITAGE ASSET(S)
Following practice for the National Heritage List the extent of an individual asset would be considered as the extent of the asset's Land Registry entry. Where a number of individual assets are attached, as in a terrace of houses, the group of buildings would be regarded as a single asset.

GRID REFERENCES: Where BLL entry refers to a number of adjacent buildings, the grid reference is read from the centre of the group.

BLL number	Location	OS National Grid Reference
1	Police Station and (former) Court House 1 North Trade Road, TN33 0EX	TQ 74538 16204
2	Lavender Cottage 15 North Trade Road, TN33 0HB	TQ 74133 16199
5	The Railway (formerly The Senlac), Station Road, TN33 0DE	TQ 75342 15407
8	The Nook, Battle Hill, TN33 0BJ	TQ 75465 15275
12	The Lodge, Glengorse, Battle, TN33 0TX	TQ 75585 15191
13a	1, 2 St Marys Gardens, Battle Hill, TN33 0DB	TQ 75420 15360
14	3 to 12 St Mary's Villas, TN33 0BY	TQ 75485 15379
14a	1 and 2 St Mary's Villas, TN33 0BY	TQ 75453 15362
15	St Mary's Farmhouse and Cottage, St Mary's Villas, TN33 0BY	TQ 75464 15440
16a	5-8 St Mary's Terrace, TN33 0BU	TQ 75503 15339
17	1-12 Harold Terrace, Hastings Road, TN33 0TA	TQ 75555 15313
18	19, 21, 23 and 23 Annexe, Hastings Road, TN33 0TA	TQ 75783 15263
19	Homestead 4 and 2, Hastings Road, TN33 0TB	TQ 75835 15213
20	1, 2 & 3 Normans Gate (10,12,14 Hastings Road), Hastings Road, TN33 0TB	TQ 75842 15199

BLL number	Location	OS National Grid Reference
22	29 and Spittal Cottage, 31 Hastings Road, TN33 0TA	TQ 75919 15241
23	Rear of 37 Hastings Road,TN33 0TF	TQ 75996 15231
25	Edgewood Cottages 1 and 2 Starrs Green Lane, TN33 0TD	TQ 76038 15250
26	Rats Castle, 67 Hastings Road, TN33 0TE	TQ 76243 15162
29	145 Hastings Road, TN33 0TP	TQ 76668 14728
33	175 and 177 Hastings Road, TN33 0TR	TQ 76824 14540
36	Brae Cottage, 193 Hastings Road, TN33 0TP	TQ 76908 14417
37	197 Hastings Road, TN33 0TP	TQ 76938 14359
38	Church of the Ascension Hastings Road, TN33 0TW	TQ 77202 14284
39	Hemingford Grange Hastings Road, TN33 0SH	TQ 77282 14312
43	Dragon's Weir, 144 Hastings Road, TN33 0TW	TQ 76781 14558
44	Annandale, 142 Hastings Road,TN33 0TW	TQ 76772 14573
46	Small Barn, Great Barn, 3 Loose Farm Barns	TQ 76169 14731 TQ 76106 14723
47	Bannatyne Spa Hotel formerly Beauport Park Hotel, Battle Road, Hastings, TN38 8EA	TQ 78872 13575
48	Glengorse aka Telham Court, TN33 0TX	TQ 75657 14936
48b	Annie's Cottage	TQ 75639 14774
48c	Secret Garden and Woodland Walk	TQ 75661 14857
48d	Landscaped grounds, Glengorse	
48e	Former lower (southern) school playing fields and other parts of the estate land The northern upper playing field adjacent to the existing Glengorse housing estate is not included in this nomination as a non-designated heritage asset.	
49	Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael 14 Mount Street, TN33 0EG	TQ 74712 16133
50	1-4 Florence Cottages, Mount Street, TN33 0EG	TQ 74706 16122
53	Providence Cottage, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JS	TQ 74768 16524
54	Bankside Cottage, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JS	TQ 74795 16513
56	Westcourt, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JS	TQ 74814 16530
57 & 58	High Croft and Old Wellington House, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JS	TQ 74789 16603
59	Hammonds, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JS	TQ 74873 16597
60	Caldbec House, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JR	TQ 74909 16638
61	Caldbec Cottage, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JR	TQ 74967 16677
66	Briar House, Caldbec Hill, TN33 0JR	TQ 74977 16750
68	The White House, Uckham Lane, TN33 0LY	TQ 75268 16787
74	The Old Barrack Inn, Whatlington Road, TN33 0JN	TQ 75063 17086
76	Petley Cottage, Whatlington Road, TN33 0NA	TQ 76269 18633
83	Watch Oak, Chain Lane, TN33 0HG	TQ 74469 16388
84	3 Watch Oak Cottages, Netherfield Hill, TN33 0HJ	TQ 74454 16663
87	Mount View, Netherfield Hill, TN33 0LH	TQ 73429 17653

BLL number	Location	OS National Grid Reference
88 – 91	Wayside Cottage, Nether Cottage, Rookery Nook and Tina Cottage, Netherfield Hill, TN33 0LH	TQ 73648 17531
92	1-4 St John's Cottages, Netherfield Hill TN33 0LH	TQ 73715 17531
93	Heather Croft, Netherfield Hill	TQ 73895 17393
94 & 95	Beech Mill Farm, TN33 9QU See BLL306 for separate listing of ponds.	
94	Beech Mill Oast	TQ 72640 16760
95	Beech Mill Farm House	TQ 72691 16728
96	Oast Cottage, Beech Farm, TN33 0HL	TQ 73170 16601
100	Jempson's Undertakers, 38 High Street, TN33 0EA	TQ 74642 16079
101	Smooth Operators, 44 High Street, TN33 0EE	TQ 74681 16062
104	52 High Street (Taylors of Battle)	TQ 74879 15826
105	Day Lewis Pharmacy, 53 High Street, TN33 0AE	TQ 74879 15826
106	65-65b High Street Bakers & Demelza	TQ 74879 15826
110	Martin's Oak Surgery, 36 High Street, TN33 0EA	TQ 74664 16055
111	3 to 10, Western Avenue, TN33 0ES	TQ 74600 16020
112	Little Thatch, 2 Western Avenue, TN33 0ES	TQ 74612 16031
113	The Barn, George's Mews, TN33 0FR	TQ 74674 15922
118	Little Orchard and Fuchsia Cottage, Marley Lane, TN33 0BB	TQ 75549 15811
125	The Shooting Box, The Triangle, TN33 9PT	TQ 72426 18603
126	Vicarage Cottage, Eatenden Lane, Netherfield, TN33 9PT	TQ 72355 18518
127	The Lodge, Netherfield Road, TN33 9PX	TQ 72121 18679
131	Fairview and Seaview, Netherfield Road, TN33 9QD	TQ 71163 18676
133	White House Farm, Netherfield Road, TN33 9QH	TQ 70742 18810
137	Sexton Cottage, Battle Cemetery, Marley Lane, TN33 0DQ	TQ 75376 15857
138	Cemetery Chapels, Battle Cemetery, Marley Lane, TN33 0DQ	TQ 75383 15885
139	Little Orchard & Flora Cottages, Marley Lane, TN33 0AY	TQ 75824 15837
141	Peppering Eye Oast, Peppering Eye Lane, TN33 0ST	TQ 74398 13931
147	Electricity Sub-station, Lower Lake, TN33 0DE	TQ 75300 15419
148	White's Seafood & Steak Bar, The Chapel, 54-55 High Street, TN33 0EN	TQ 74719 16011
150	Limpet Cottage, 1 Western Avenue, TN33 0ES (Might be linked with nomination BL112 and as grouped with BL111)	TQ 74641 16055
155	Fords Cottage, Rue de Bayeux, TN33 0EB	TQ 74689 16114
156	Netherfield Court, Netherfield Road, TN33 9PX	TQ 71975 18773
157	G W Harmer and Son Ltd., 60 High Street, Old Brewery Yard, Battle, TN33 0AF	TQ 74727 15865
158	White House, Marley Lane, TN33 0BB	TQ 75402 15772
161	Marley Cottages, Marley Lane	TQ 76821 17128

Battle CP Local List of Assets that are not buildings follows on next page.

BATTLE CP LOCAL LIST OF ASSETS THAT ARE NOT BUILDINGS

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

A number of criteria were used, based on guidance documentation from Historic England and Civic Voice - A Guide for communities on how to develop a Local Heritage List April 2018: age, rarity, archival interest, historical association, designed landscape interest, landmark status, social and communal value, representativeness and townscape or landscape value.

CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION

The asset has met at least two of the above criteria

EXTENT OF HERITAGE ASSET(S)

Following practice for the National Heritage List the extent of an individual asset would be considered as the extent of the asset's Land Registry entry. Where a number of individual assets are co-located, as in, for example, linked ponds, the group of assets would be regarded as a single asset.

GRID REFERENCES: Where BLL entry refers to a number of adjacent assets, separate grid references have been used. Where an asset is in linear form the grid reference is read from the beginning to the end of its location.

BLL number	Location	OS National Grid Reference
304	Chain Lane ancient routeway	TQ 74160 16219 to TQ 74321 16344 and
305	Kelklands	TQ 74321 16344 to TQ 74138 16370
306	Beech Mill Hammer Ponds	TQ 72531 16764 & TQ 72671 16639
311	Drovers' track through Ashes Woods with links to Ashburnham. Footpath 14	TQ 72027 16292 to TQ 72267 16904 & Footpath 16 to TQ 72720 18003
407	Anti-Tank Cubes located either side of the access road to St Mary's Church Hall, Battle	TQ 7495 1587 to TQ 7499 1587
310	Wadhurst Lane ancient routeway	TQ 72157 16182 to TQ 73313 17678 and TQ 73415 17664 to TQ 73832 18254
307	Fragment of Droveway - Footpath Battle 108 between Coarse Barn Farm and the Water Treatment Works – a small part of the Uckham Lane Bridleway 109 between Marley Lane and Whatlington Road at Caldbec Hill	TQ 75871 16448 to TQ 75828 16231
308	Ancient routeway to Battle Town Centre	TQ 74542 13473 to TQ 74396 14420 Telham Lane and then to TQ 74689 15788
309	Hemingfold ancient routeway	TQ 77272 14264 to TQ 78280 15086
401	Railings Mount Street	TQ 76821 17128

Schedule 3: Allocated Housing Sites

1. Introduction

1.1 The Battle Civil Parish (CP) Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Steering Group, have prepared the following maps to show the Preferred sites following the AECOM and Steering Group analysis of offered sites and SHLAA suggestions.

1.2 This version follows the Reg. 14 consultation review; it only includes sites intended to be submitted for Reg.15.

1.3 Analysis methodology is covered in <Battle CP-NP Preferred sites list>.

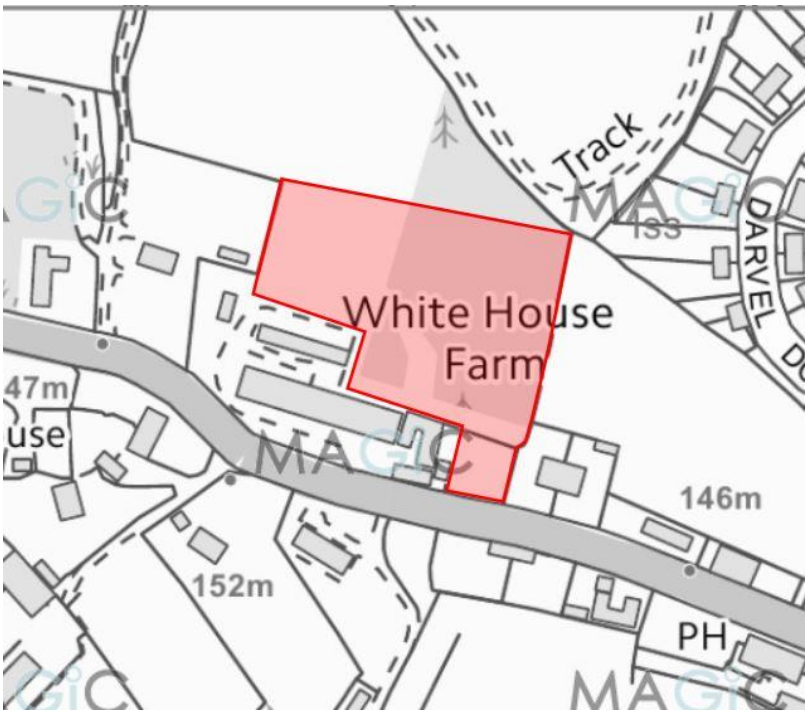
1.4 The following maps show the chosen sites at readable scale to indicate their outline extent. Not shown in priority order for Battle and Netherfield.

NOTES:

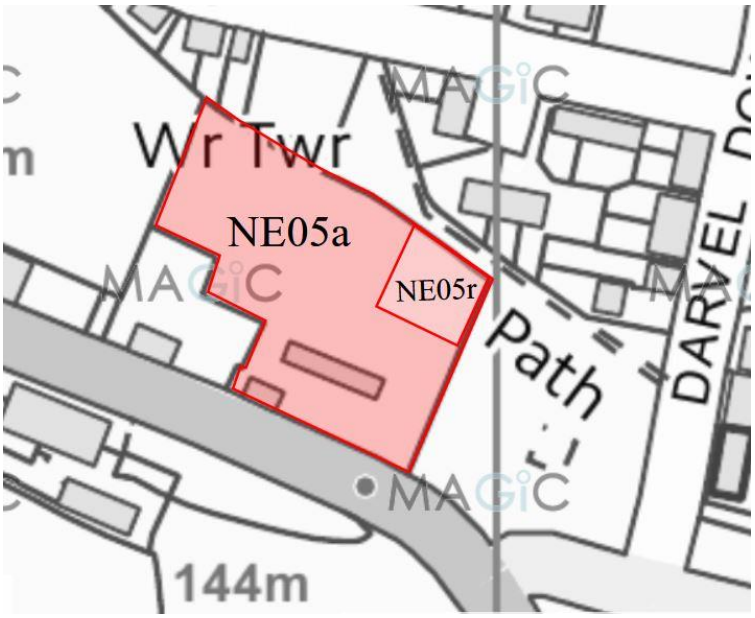
- This schedule does not include sites that have already been given planning permission by RDC; however, the development boundary is extended to include them.
- Plans are not at a specific scale – but generally taken from" Magic-map" at 1:2500 or where larger areas are shown 1:5000 to present at 2 per page size for readability.
- OS NGR are given for the most southerly and, where sensible, the south-westerly point of site.

BA31a: Land to east of Glengorse (part of BA31)	TQ 7575 1498

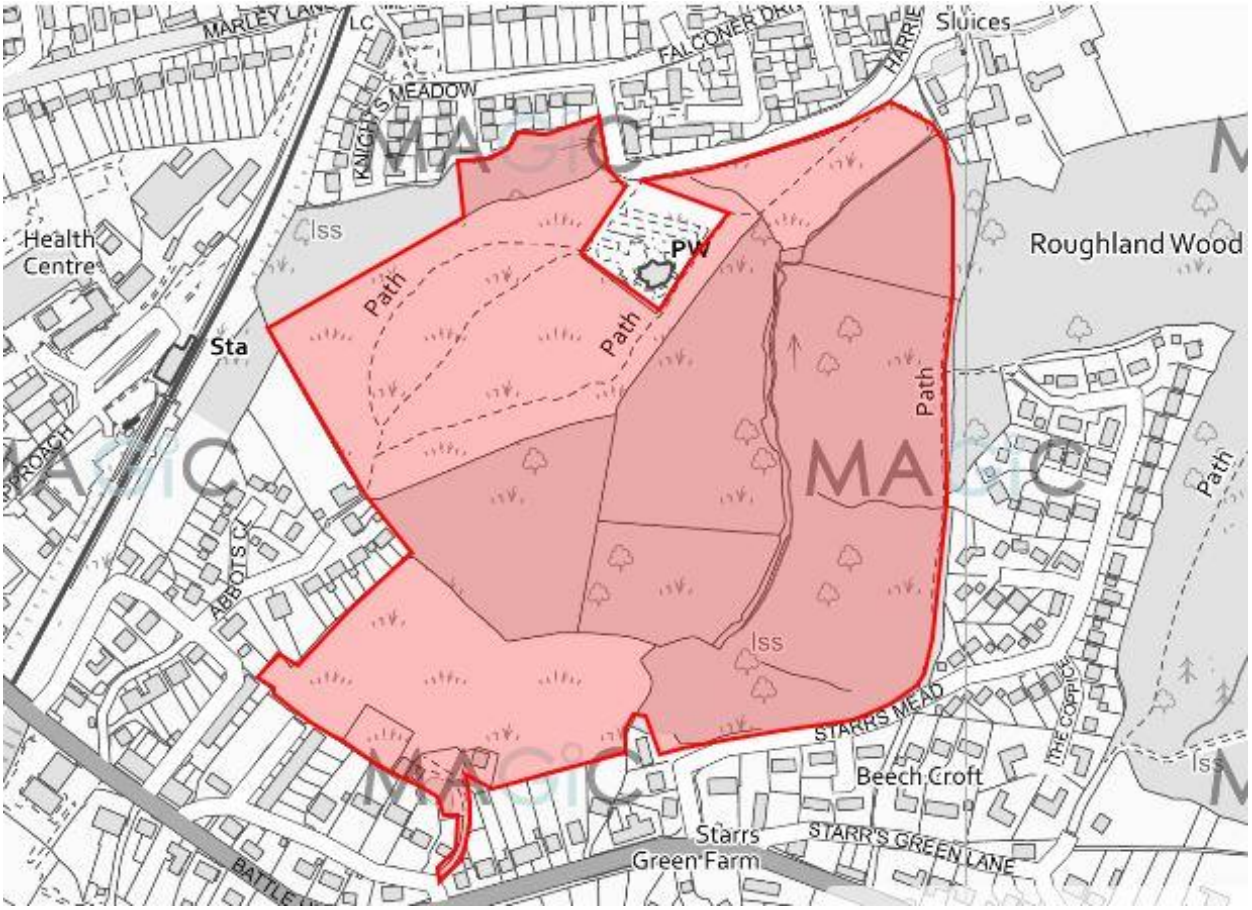
BA36a: Land at Caldbec House, Caldbec Hill (part of BA36)	TQ 7490 1657



NE NS102 : White House Poultry Farm, Netherfield (part of NE06)	TQ 7074 1880



NE05a and NE05r: Swallow Barn, Netherfield, off B2096	TQ 7093 1873



BA11: Blackfriars, overall site (diagrammatic copy of Site Location Plan (23817A) as shown in RR/2019/604/P)	TQ 7554 1536

Schedule 4: Proposed List of Assets of Community Value (not yet designated)

1. Battle Memorial Hall (also listed by Historic England) 81 High St, Battle TN33 0AQ
2. Battle Library
3. Youth Centre
4. Land in front of Youth Centre/Teachers Centre Battle High Street – currently used as a skate board ramp (the land is also listed in the Neighbourhood Plan as a Local Green Space BA GS08)
5. White Hart Pub Netherfield
6. The Post Office and village shop in Netherfield
7. Village Hall Netherfield
8. Marley Stores Coronation Gardens Marley Lane
9. The Emmanuel Centre, Harrier Lane
10. Mount Street Car Parks
11. Market Road Car Parks
12. The Guide Hut in the Recreation Ground North Trade Road Battle
13. The Pavilion on the Recreation Ground North Trade Road Battle (current and future)
14. Battle Club (91 High Street)
15. The Kings Head, 37 Mount St, Battle TN33 0EG
16. The Bull Inn, High Street, Battle 27 High St, Battle TN33 0EA
17. The Abbey Hotel Pub 84 High St, Battle TN33 0AQ
18. The Chequers Inn, Lower Lake, Battle TN33 0AT
19. The Railway (ex-Senlac), Station Approach, Battle TN33 0DE
20. The Black Horse Hastings Rd, Battle TN33 0SH

Schedule 5: List of Existing Community Leisure and Cultural Facilities

1. Netherfield Village Hall
2. Netherfield Shop, including Post Office & Cafe
3. Netherfield Village Green (LGS NE GS02)
4. Netherfield Play Equipment Area (LGS NE GS01)
5. Netherfield Recreation Ground (LGS NE GS04)
6. The White Hart Public House
7. The Netherfield Arms (licensed restaurant)
8. St. John the Baptist Church
9. The Squirrel Inn
10. Claverham Community College (public sports hall, adult education)
11. Claverham Day Nursery
12. Guide Hut, Recreation Ground, North Trade Road
13. Sports Pavilion, Recreation Ground, North Trade Road
14. Recreation Ground (outdoor facilities), North Trade Road
15. Pre-School Playgroup, Asten Fields
16. Battle Library
17. Skate ramp (at Education Centre)
18. Caterpillar Pre-School at Battle Baptist Church, Mount Street
19. The Manna House meeting room at Battle Baptist Church, Mount Street
20. The Kings Head Public House
21. Almonry meeting room
22. Battle Museum of Local History
23. The Bull Inn
24. Cricket Ground / Pavilion (LGS BA GS12)
25. Memorial Hall meeting rooms
26. The Abbey Hotel
27. Battle Abbey Gatehouse meeting room
28. Battle Abbey School meeting rooms (hall and library)
29. Battle Club meeting room
30. St Marys Church: Benedicta Whistler Centre, St Mary's Nursery and Air Cadets at St Mary's Church Halls
31. The Chequers Inn
32. Battle Bowls Club, Station Road
33. The Railway Inn
34. Battle Railway Station
35. Ceremonies room at Cemetery
36. Coronation Gardens Recreation Ground (outdoor facilities) (LGS BA17)
37. Emmanuel Centre meeting rooms
38. Powdermills Hotel
39. Telham Recreation Ground (outdoor facilities)
40. Church of the Ascension
41. Black Horse Public House (rooms for hire, outdoor facilities and skittle alley)
42. Beauport Park Country Club (Golf Club)
43. Bannatyne Hotel