



Historic England

YORKSHIRE

Mr. John Richardson,  
TANPSG  
c/o 12 Thorp Arch Park,  
Thorp Arch,  
Leeds,  
LS23 7AN

Our ref: PL00035382  
Your ref:  
  
Telephone 01904 601 879  
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27 September 2016

Dear Mr. Richardson,  
**Thorp Arch Neighbourhood Plan**  
**Pre-submission consultation response**

Thank you for consulting Historic England in connection with the draft Neighbourhood Plan prepared for Thorp Arch Parish Council.

Thorp Arch Parish is situated to the north east of Leeds and includes part of the former Thorp Arch Royal Ordnance Filling Factory (now the Thorp Arch Trading Estate). Along with Thorp Arch Hall, listed Grade II\*, it contains 27 Grade II listed buildings and the Thorp Arch Conservation Area in the central south west of the Parish. Additionally the area will have a number of locally important places and buildings.

### Historic England Advice

#### Built Environment Policies

We note that the heritage policies in the draft Neighbourhood Plan set out in policies BE 1 & BE 2, and the Steering Group may be of the view that other policies cover heritage issues.

We also note that Leeds City Council does not currently have a “Local List” policy, and none is proposed in the emerging Local Plan. We therefore welcome the inclusion of a “Local List” policy BE 4 in your Neighbourhood Plan, to protect the locally important buildings and places within Thorp Arch Parish. Historic England has published guidance on “Local Lists”, and we suggest that you cite this in the Neighbourhood Plan, setting out how the buildings and structures were selected for inclusion in this policy. We attach an extract from the guidance, which sets out an approach to selecting buildings and structures to a “local list”.

This guidance is available at the following link:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/local/local-designations/>



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### Former Thorp Arch Royal Ordnance Filling Factory

Thorp Arch is the most complete remaining example in England of a Second World War Royal Ordnance Filling Factory (ROFF), in extent, surviving layout and range of structures. It has value therefore as a representative example of a type of development of significance in the national narratives of the Second World War and experience of the Home Front; for the political decisions behind rearmament, the design intentions and technology of munitions filling, the scale of state investment and planning. Given the rarity of this type of site and the completeness of the layout of Thorp Arch Historic England considers the Thorp Arch Neighbourhood Plan should have specific policies relating to development within the site.

Historic England considers a policy requiring that a design code and design parameters should be drawn up and agreed with all parties. This will ensure there is a robust framework in place for bringing forward the detailed aspects of any future development within the site, and securing the heritage significance of the site.

### Housing Allocations

We note that one site, off Rudgate Park-the former Prison Social Club (SCHLAA site 4079) has been allocated for possible housing development. The evidence section of the Neighbourhood Plan, section 3.4.1.ii, para. 2 mentions "...a modest residential development within the parish of some 20-30 dwellings".

However, Policy H1 states that "...the site is anticipated to allocate a minimum of 25 new homes".

The open ended nature of the potential number of dwellings which could be constructed on this site may not elide with the stated Objective of section 3.4 of the Plan, which refers to "...appropriate small scale residential development". You may therefore wish to tighten up the wording of the policy.

We trust the advice above is helpful, but if there is anything you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to being notified about the consultation on the full Alwoodley Neighbourhood Plan, following any revisions of the current draft Plan.

Yours sincerely



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