

WEST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Ms Tammy Williams
Alvechurch Parish Council
1a George Road
Alvechurch
B48 7PB

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00182483

23 October 2017

Dear Ms Williams

ALVECHURCH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the above Neighbourhood Plan. Historic England is supportive of the content of the document, the vision and aims set out in it and the approaches taken to the historic environment of Alvechurch. The emphasis on the conservation of local distinctiveness as evidenced by historic characterization through the Historic Environment Resource Assessment (AHERA) and on reflecting variations in local character through good design including the protection of locally significant buildings, historic farmsteads and townscape character and important green spaces is to be applauded. In conjunction with the Alvechurch Historic Environment Resource Assessment (AHERA) and supporting Historic Environment Action Plans (HEAPS) the excellent Design Statement at Appendix 2 will no doubt prove invaluable as a detailed context and guide for future development. In relation to Policy APNP 10 "Local Distinctiveness" and paragraph 4.2.58 (b). This references Local Heritage Assets that are listed in Appendix E. We note that it is the intention to offer these assets to Bromsgrove District Council for inclusion in their "Local List". Clearly there may be a considerable elapse of time before this happens which may leave the Local Heritage Assets vulnerable in the short to medium term. In this respect you may find it helpful to be aware of the approach taken to a similar issue by Bredon Parish Council in their Neighbourhood Plan:

<https://www.wychavon.gov.uk/documents/10586/0/Bredon+Parish+Neighbourhood+Plan+%28Referendum+Version%29+February+2017.pdf/d70e47e2-4fd6-6f29-5f19-d64a3349df9f>

In particular, please see Policy NP9: "Local Heritage Assets" of the Bredon Neighbourhood Plan and paragraph 7.38, where it is made clear that the policy applies whether or not the Council move to formally adopt the assets onto their Local List.

In conclusion, overall Historic England consider that the plan reads as a very well written, well-considered and concise document which is eminently fit for purpose. We consider that the Plan takes an exemplary approach to the historic environment of the Parish and that it constitutes a very good example of community led planning. Those involved in the production of the Plan should be congratulated. I hope you find these comments and advice helpful.



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Historic England

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Yours sincerely,

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cc:



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