Dear Sir

Lydiate Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you for consulting Historic England about the above document.

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). We champion and protect England’s historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

Your Neighbourhood Plan includes or may affect a number of heritage assets including the domestic chapel of St Katharine of Alexandria and burial ground (scheduled monument), St Katharine’s Chapel (Grade II*), The Scotch Piper Public House (Grade II*) and various Grade II listed buildings as well as the Lydiate Hall and Chapel Conservation Area. It will be important that the strategy you put together for this area safeguards those elements which contribute to the importance of those historic assets. This will assist in ensuring they can be enjoyed by future generations of the area and make sure it is in line with national planning policy.

Historic England has produced further information and guidance on how heritage can be incorporated into Neighbourhood Plans. It signposts Forums to documents which communities may find useful to identify what it is about their areas which makes them distinctive and how best ensure that the character of the area is retained. More information can be found at http://www.historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/.

Neighbourhood Plan

We have the following comments to make on the neighbourhood plan:

1.0 Section
It would be helpful if this section was expanded to provide a more detailed portrait of the character of Lydiate describing its growth and what contributes to making it unique using a summary of the findings of the character assessment.
This section should provide some more detailed information on the historic environment that contributes to the character and appearance of Maghull as a settlement. This information has been provided on the Council's website on Conservation Areas including the leaflet on the Lydiate Hall and Chapel Conservation Area (https://www.setfongov.uk/media/1430807/lydiate-caa-leaflet-2018.pdf). This would also provide some evidence for the Plan's subsequent policies.

Section 2 Vision and Objectives

Vision
Whilst we welcome the content of this section of the Plan, given the Plan has policies on heritage, refers to the Lydiate Character Assessment and its unique character and identity for consistency and conformity it should be mentioned in the Plans Vision for Lydiate – at the moment it only refers to rural character.

Objectives
Objective 5: heritage assets under the NPPF definition includes listed buildings non-designated assets and cultural assets, so there is no need to list the types if this term is used. Also it would benefit from reference to local character and distinctiveness which is mentioned in the rest of the Plan but not in the objectives.

Section 4: Policies

Para 4.11
See comments above on Objective 5. In view of this Policy LNP DEV1 Protecting and Enhancing the Character of Lydiate would not meet Objective 5 as this specific topic has not been mentioned.

Policy LNP HOU1 Land North of Kenyon Lane
Para 4.21 states that this policy meets the Neighbourhood Plan Objective on Heritage. However, there is no Criterion within the drafted policy which deals with heritage.

LNP HER Protecting and Enhancing Non-Designated Heritage and Cultural Assets
Whilst Historic England supports the inclusion of this policy, it would benefit from a number of amendments:
• Local Heritage assets and their designation on a "local list" for example is usually an ongoing process which is amended and added to over time. Whilst there is nothing wrong with including buildings within the policy that are defined as locally significant, it may be helpful if there was an extra line introduced within the policy which ensured that should any buildings be identified in the future then this policy would apply. This would then provide the same level of protection for any other assets as those put forward within the Plan.
• Also, rather than the use of "aspects" amend to read elements which contribute towards the significance of the asset which would strengthen the policy.

If you have any queries about this matter or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,