



Historic England

SOUTH EAST OFFICE

Ms Jenny Barker  
Cherwell District Council  
Development Control & Major Developments  
Bodicote House, Bodicote  
Banbury  
Oxfordshire  
OX15 4AA

Direct Dial: 01483 252078

Our ref: P00443887

1 October 2015

Dear Ms Barker

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015 &  
T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015  
PROPOSED HIMLEY VILLAGE NORTH WEST BICESTER MIDDLETON STONEY  
ROAD BICESTER OXFORDSHIRE  
Application No 14/02121/OUT**

We have received amended proposals for the above scheme. We do not wish to comment in detail, but offer the following general observations.

**Historic England Advice**

Historic England welcomes the decision to provide additional green space around the Grade II listed barns at Himley Farm (shown in amended Parameter Plan 3) as this would help reinforce an understanding of the buildings historic relationship to the surrounding agricultural field system.

However, this amendment would not and cannot hope to completely offset the residual harm that will inevitably arise from the loss of the wider agricultural landscape setting currently afforded to the buildings at Himley Farm. That said the impact of the new development could be mitigated (as highlighted by Paragraph 129 of the NPPF) through the detailed design of landscaping close to the listed barns. This should reference the character of the existing landscape (as an agricultural holding) as far as possible. We would also suggest the scale of new development close to the barns should be kept to the minimum necessary to avoid the possibility of large buildings overwhelming the more diminutive scale of the barns. If your Council is minded to approve this application because you consider the public benefits of providing new housing outweighs the harm entailed to the significance of the Grade II barn (as required by Paragraph 134), we suggest our comments above are taken into account at reserved matters.

**Recommendation**



EASTGATE COURT 195-205 HIGH STREET GUILDFORD SURREY GU1 3EH

Telephone 01483 252020  
HistoricEngland.org.uk





Historic England

SOUTH EAST OFFICE

We would urge you to address the above issues, and recommend that the application should be determined in accordance with national and local policy guidance, and on the basis of your specialist conservation advice. It is not necessary for us to be consulted again. However, if you would like further advice, please contact us to explain your request.

Yours sincerely



**Alice Brockway**

Assistant Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

E-mail: [alice.brockway@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:alice.brockway@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

cc Jenny Ballinger, Cherwell District Council



EASTGATE COURT 195-205 HIGH STREET GUILDFORD SURREY GU1 3EH

Telephone 01483 252020  
[HistoricEngland.org.uk](http://HistoricEngland.org.uk)

