

WEST MIDLANDS

Designation Team Email Response

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8 July 2015

Dear Deborah,

Re: Consultation seeking whether to amend the boundary of the designation for the Registered Battlefield at Shrewsbury.

Thank you for consulting Historic England West Midlands office on the above consultation. We have the following comments:

We object to the removal of two parcels of land, currently within the designated boundary, to the south of the A5124.

We recommend the retention of the detached parts of the Registered Battlefield adjacent to the Battlefield enterprise Park for the following reasons:

- The two parcels of land south of the A5124 are important areas protecting the setting of the Registered Battlefield from nearby employment development.
- The two parcels of land enable key views into the Registered Battlefield towards St Mary Magdalene Church to be protected and also offer glimpses outward from the Registered Battlefield, allowing for a greater appreciation within the southern area of the designation, towards the town of Shrewsbury.
- The two parcels of land have enabled the development of a mature screening belt that protects the setting of the Registered Battlefield. If the two parcels were lost from the designation boundary it is possible that it would encourage/allow employment development right up to the A5124 and cause harm to the wider Registered Battlefield designation.
- The West Midlands team have worked closely with Shropshire Council, since March 2014, to remove these two parcels of land from an employment allocation within the SAMDev Local Plan. These conversations have been successful and as a result Shropshire Council has committed to preparing a Battlefield Guidance document to manage development within the setting of the Registered Battlefield.

This work went forward as part of our representation to the Local Plan to an Examination in Public with the Planning Inspectorate before Christmas last year. We are now nearing the





end of a public consultation on the Planning Inspector's proposed Main Modifications to the Plan and expect the Plan to be adopted in September/October 2015. To remove the two parcels of land at this stage would send a mixed message to the Inspector regarding our commitment to working with the Council to improve the Council's consideration of the historic environment. It may also necessitate a further consultation period on the Local Plan. Whilst we understand the rationale behind the current Designation consultation and fully support that process, our view is that it would be more appropriately considered at a future time after the adoption of the Local Plan.

We hope that you are in a position to consider our response and we look forward to the outcome of the consultation.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

Kezia Taylerson

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Historic Environment Planning Adviser

Historic England (West Midlands)



