

| Sustainability theme/Objectives | Assessment criteria |
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| <p>1/Env To preserve and enhance the natural beauty of Thurston in terms of its geology, landform, soils, water systems and climate</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sites within flood zone 3 should be eliminated. - Sites in flood zone 1 should be prioritised over sites in flood zone 2 |
| <p>2/Env To protect and enhance the biodiversity of the parish, its wildlife habitats and species.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the site impact on areas of habitat sensitivity or nature conservation site, e.g. SSSIs, biodiversity action plan areas, local/county wildlife sites, Natura 2000 site, ancient woodlands? - Which agricultural land classification (ALC) Grade is the site in? |
| <p>3/Env To protect the landscape setting of Thurston village through use of land with a low landscape impact and by focusing development on previously developed land</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is the site in open countryside/will it encroach unacceptably on open countryside? - Will the site have a detrimental impact on the landscape? - Is the site greenfield or previously developed land? - Would the amenity of residents of the new development be affected by the neighbouring uses? |
| <p>4/Soc To ensure that housing addresses the needs of the existing community of Thurston before addressing wider needs</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sites should be considered favourably if they are capable (by virtue of size) to accommodate needs of all identified groups. - Is the site large enough to provide for affordable housing needs (i.e. the site is capable of delivering 10 or more dwellings)? |
| <p>5/Econ To maximise the potential of existing employment/employers and support the need for new employment opportunities.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will development of the site result in the loss of commercial business premises? If so, will there be significant job losses? - Will the development provide new employment to serve local needs? |

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| <p>6/Env To protect the identity and local distinctiveness of Thurston as a rural settlement and to enhance the village streetscape.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does the site impact on the setting of a listed building(s) and/or Scheduled Ancient Monument? - Does the site have any trees with TPOs that could have to be removed? |
| <p>7/Soc To ensure that the community has a high quality and healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>8/Soc To ensure the provision of a range of community facilities that provide for the needs of the community</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does the site create the opportunity to provide new community infrastructure and/or green open space in an accessible location for the wider community? '- Is the site capable of providing safe and improved linkages to community facilities? |
| <p>9/Soc To improve safe movement around the parish and to key service centres outside the parish by a range of modes</p> <p>10/Soc To ensure that the community has adequate access to the key services it needs, including health facilities, convenience shops, and schools</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will the site impact on any existing footpaths or other rights of way (ROW)? - Is the site on a safe cycling route into the village centre or does it create the opportunity to deliver a new cycle route? - Does a site, by virtue of its location and scale, have a severe impact on the existing highway network? - Is the site within a desirable or acceptable walking distance of the village centre? - Are there safe crossing points between the site and the Community College and Primary School? - Is the site within a desirable or acceptable walking distance from the railway station? - Is the site within a desirable or acceptable walking distance from nearest bus stop? |