

**HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA DESIGNATION**

PARISH OF BILLINGSHURST

DESIGNATION OF AREA

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 specify what a local authority must do to publicise an 'area application' and, following consideration and determination of the application, what it must do to publicise the outcome. Regulation 2(6) requires that a copy of the area application, details of how to make representations and the date by which those representations must be received (being not less than 6 weeks from the date the application is first publicised) must be put on the local planning authority website. Regulation 7 requires that as soon as possible after determining the application the decision should be published on their website.
- 1.2 The Council, on 25 July 2013, delegated authority to the Head of Strategic Planning and Sustainability in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Living and Working Communities, to publicise applications for neighbourhood areas, consider representations and determine applications.

2 APPLICATION

- 2.1 An application for the designation of the Parish of Billingshurst as a neighbourhood area for the purpose of producing a neighbourhood development plan was made by Billingshurst Parish Council on 28 October 2015 as shown in Annex A. The Parish Council had not made any previous application.
- 2.2 The application included a statement that the applicant was a 'relevant body', being a parish council, under Section 61(G) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 2.3 The application was accompanied by a statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area, and a map on an Ordnance Survey base identifying the intended neighbourhood plan area (Annex B).
- 2.4 The Council considers the application meets the requirements of Regulation 5.

3 PUBLICITY AND CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The Council's website explained the purpose and period of the consultation (6 weeks), and how to make a representation either on the website or in writing to the Council. There was access via the website to a copy of the application documents received from the applicant. The newspaper advertisement also appeared on the website.

- 3.2 Further discretionary publicity included paper copies of the application documents being available for inspection at the Council's principal offices in Horsham during the consultation period.
- 3.3 The Council is satisfied that this publicity has allowed the area to be brought to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in the area to which the application relates, and that it meets the requirements set out in Regulation 6.

4 REPRESENTATIONS

- 4.1 The Council received no representations in support of the application. No objections were received.

5 COMMENT

- 5.1 The plan area does not overlap with any other area and is considered to be compatible with the objective of good town planning and the strategic policies of the Horsham Development Planning Framework which was adopted on 27 November 2015.

6 DELEGATED DECISION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive and the Cabinet Member for Planning and Development hereby exercise their delegated authority to agree the application and designate the Parish of Billingshurst as a Neighbourhood Development Plan Area.
- 6.2 A copy of this note will be placed on the Council's website, sent to Billingshurst Parish Council and to relevant District Councillors. A map of the designated area will also be posted on the Council's website.
- 6.3 The publicity for the Council's decision will thereby meet the requirements of Regulation 7.



BARBARA CHILDS
HEAD OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY
Date: 23 December 2015



COUNCILLOR CLAIRE VICKERS
CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
Date: 29 December 2015