
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 7
DATE OF MEETING:	26 SEPTEMBER 2019	CATEGORY: DELEGATED OPEN
REPORT FROM:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)	
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SUBJECT:	DESIGNATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	WILLINGTON	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Committee formally designates the Willington Neighbourhood Area in accordance with the application from Willington Parish Council.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To draw the Committee's attention to the requirements placed upon the Council within the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) regarding supporting the neighbourhood planning process and specifically the need to designate the Willington Neighbourhood Area to enable this process.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) the Council has a statutory duty to assist communities in the development of neighbourhood development plans. Within this it is necessary for the Council as Local Planning Authority to consider the designation of Neighbourhood Areas.
- 3.2 In order for a community to proceed with the production of a neighbourhood development plan the specific neighbourhood needs to be identified and designated.
- 3.3 There are no planning reasons why the area identified within the map at appendix A should not be designated because:
- Willington Parish Council is an appropriate body to make the application.
 - The area applied for is an appropriate area.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The District is eligible for grant support from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to cover costs associated with supporting communities undertaking neighbourhood development plans.

- 4.2 At the Finance and Management Committee of 23 April 2015 it was agreed that the District make a grant, equivalent to the element relating specifically to the designation of a neighbourhood area, to parish councils undertaking neighbourhood planning.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 There is a requirement for the Local Planning Authority to formally designate Neighbourhood Areas if certain conditions are met. These conditions have been met and this designation will ensure that the Council is in compliance with its duties.

6.0 Community Implications

- 5.1 Local communities are not able to progress with a neighbourhood development plan unless the identified area has been formally designated. Willington Parish Council has identified a desire to pursue this course of action supported by community volunteers who have already been identified. Designation will enable the community to exercise its rights established within the Localism Bill.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The appropriate regulations have been followed and there is no reason to not designate a Neighbourhood Area.

8.0 Background Papers

- 8.1 Appendix A – Map of area to be designated.
Appendix B – Application from Willington Parish Council.