

Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area for Neighbourhood Plan under Town and Country Planning Act and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

Name of Neighbourhood Area

Brackenfield Parish

Relevant Body

Brackenfield Parish Council is the relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the 1990 Act.

A decision to develop a Neighbourhood Plan, in accordance with the relevant legislation, was taken at a meeting of Brackenfield Parish Council held on Monday 13th March 2017.

This followed a public meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2017, attended by 34 village residents, at which there was a two-thirds majority vote in favour of the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. A group consisting of nine residents and county councillors have volunteered to form a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Terms of reference of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

To prepare a Neighbourhood Plan

Contact details

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Extent of area

The whole of Brackenfield Parish with the exception of two fields which have previously been included in the Wessington Neighbourhood Area, as shown on map attached, in blue.

Justification Statement

The neighbourhood boundary has been selected to conform as far as possible to the existing Brackenfield Parish boundary. This has a number of benefits:

- It is an established and recognised area - both geographically and electorally.
- It enables Brackenfield Parish Council to align and work closely with Brackenfield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- It ensures that the whole Parish benefits from the plan and any future funding
- It enables the emerging plan to work within the already recognised Parish boundary, which will aid the local community in understanding its purpose and potential effect.
- It is expected that working on the plan will have major benefits in bringing the residents closer together and improving the social cohesion within the village.

Two fields situated on the edge of the Parish boundary have been included, by mutual agreement, in the Wessington Neighbourhood Area. This was justified in their application letter dated 4th June 2015, see the following quote:

"It became apparent that the additional area (highlighted in green) should be included because, although it is within Brackenfield Parish, it is proposed to include this area for the following reasons:

The land is owned by the occupants of Roadnook Farm (the farm itself is within Wessington Parish). This land has been used for many years by the people of Wessington for recreational purposes and is locally known as 'the park'. It is the starting point of the main footpath between Wessington and the adjoining villages of Brackenfield and Higham and is directly adjacent to the main concentration of Wessington's Housing.

Brackenfield Parish Council agreed to the inclusion of the area in green on 8 September 2014 and observed that it would be sensible to include the area in green which adjoins part of the housing area of Wessington and would benefit from all discussions and observations of the Wessington Neighbourhood Plan."

For the reasons explained above, it was agreed that inclusion of these two fields in the Wessington Neighbourhood Area was the most practical way forward. This situation remains and the Neighbourhood Plan for the Wessington area is progressing towards conclusion. The proposal is, therefore, that the Brackenfield Neighbourhood Area covers the entire Parish with the exception of these two fields.

I hereby apply to designate a Neighbourhood Area, as described on this form and the accompanying map.

William McCartney
Clerk to Brackenfield Parish Council

28th March 2017

