

BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of: Mark Kiddle-Morris, Executive Member for Assets and Strategic Development

To: Cabinet 13th January 2015

Author: Sarah Robertson Planning Policy Officer (Capita)

Subject: Kenninghall Neighbourhood Plan – Plan Area Designation

Purpose: The purpose of this report is for Members to consider any strategic issues or consultation responses and to formally designate the Kenninghall Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Recommendation(s):

- 1) It is recommended that Members consider the contents of this report and endorse Option 1, confirming the Kenninghall Neighbourhood Plan Area as shown at Appendix A.

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Localism Act introduced the concept of neighbourhood planning, and allows for Town and Parish councils to prepare community-led frameworks to guide the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. When adopted, Neighbourhood Plans have Development Plans status and are therefore a material consideration in the determination of planning applications for their area. As such, their preparation is subject to the provisions of the Localism Act alongside the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

1.2 The first step in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan is the designation of the plan area by the Local Planning Authority. Members will be aware that Kenninghall Parish Council submitted a proposal for the designation of a Neighbourhood Plan area to the Council on 5th November.

1.3 This is the fourth request to the Council to designate a plan area and this report deals with this proposal.

Assessment and publication of the proposed plan area

1.4 The Neighbourhood Plan area was submitted by the Parish Council. The Parish Council form the relevant body for the purposes of plan making as set out within section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990).

1.5 In conjunction with the Neighbourhood Plan area map covering the entirety of the parish boundary, the Parish Council have also submitted a Neighbourhood Plan area statement, detailing their aspirations for the plan. These include:

- Affordable residential development in conjunction with local needs
- Requirement and provision of community facilities
- Provide and maintain a sustainable parish
- Protection of landscape and nature conservation
- Improvements to transport infrastructure
- Development of employment and business within the parish
- Maintain and develop the village school

- 1.6 The Town and Country Planning Act (1990) requires the Council to consider the desirability of confirming the whole or part of a Parish as a Neighbourhood Plan area. Section 61G(10) of the 1990 Act states that Neighbourhood areas must not overlap. The proposal for Kenninghall's Neighbourhood Plan Area is based on the entirety of the Parish boundary. There are no other Neighbourhood Plan areas designated or that have been submitted which overlap with this proposal.
- 1.7 Members will be aware that the Council is currently consulting on the Issues and Options for the new Local Plan. The Council has a duty to support the Neighbourhood Plan process, but will also need to work with Kenninghall as it moves forward to ensure the plans are developed in a sound manner. The Neighbourhood Plan will need to be in broad conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan.
- 1.8 The Council has published the proposed plan area for a six week public consultation, as required under Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The consultation closed on 22nd December. The consultation was advertised in the local press (the Attleborough and Wymondham Mercury), as well as the Council's website advising the publication period and how to make responses. Copies of the material were placed in Attleborough Library and at Elizabeth House Dereham. In addition adjoining Parish Councils were advised of the publication by letter.
- 1.9 No comments were received on the proposed plan area during the course of the consultation.

2.0 **OPTIONS**

- 2.1 There are two options for members to consider
- **Option 1** – Cabinet endorse the Kenninghall neighbourhood plan area boundary, following the full extent of the parish boundary as set out at Appendix A.
 - **Option 2** – Cabinet consider the contents of this report and reject the neighbourhood plan area.

3.0 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 It is recommended that cabinet endorse option 1. The proposed boundary is considered appropriate to be designated without modification. The area is considered to represent a logical boundary which will be suitable to meet the plan aims, as set out within their neighbourhood plan statement.

4.0 **EXPECTED BENEFITS**

- 4.1 The expected benefits of confirming the plan area is to enable the community to move forward with the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

5.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 **Carbon Footprint / Environmental Issues**

- 5.1.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.2 **Constitution & Legal**

- 5.2.1 The designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area is in accordance with the Neighbourhood

Planning (General) Regulations 2012, as well as the provisions of the Localism Act 2011.

5.3 **Contracts**

5.3.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.4 **Corporate Priorities**

5.4.1 The Kenninghall Neighbourhood Plan area designation meets the following corporate priorities:

- To have pride in Breckland
- To develop stronger communities

5.5 **Crime and Disorder**

5.5.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.6 **Equality and Diversity / Human Rights**

5.6.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.7 **Financial**

5.7.1 There will be a small cost to the Council for the placing of the required press notices upon confirmation of the Plan area boundary.

5.8 **Health & Wellbeing**

5.8.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.9 **Risk Management**

5.9.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.10 **Staffing**

5.10.1 It is the opinion of the Report Author that there are no implications.

5.11 **Stakeholders / Consultation / Timescales**

5.11.1 The Neighbourhood Plan area boundary was publicised in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, which include a notice in the local press. Copies will also be placed in Attleborough Library and at Elizabeth House Dereham. The Council will also write to adjoining Parish Councils to advise them of the decision.

6.0 **WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED**

6.1 West Guiltcross, specifically Kenninghall Parish

7.0 **ACRONYMS**

7.1 None

Background papers:- [See The Committee Report Guide](#)

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Director / Officer who will be attending the Meeting

Name and Post: Sarah Robertson Planning Policy Officer

Key Decision: No

Exempt Decision: No

This report refers to a Mandatory Service

Appendices attached to this report:

Appendix A Kenninghall Neighbourhood Plan Area boundary