

Report of the Assistant Director (Planning, Transportation & Highways) to the meeting of Executive Committee to be held on 13 January 2015.

AO

Subject:

Neighbourhood Planning – Neighbourhood Area Application

Summary statement:

This report sets out an application for a Neighbourhood Area designation that has been submitted to the Council by the Village Council of:

Cullingworth

The Village Council is seeking a Neighbourhood Area designation for the sole intention to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan for their area.

Following a formal six week public consultation, including consideration by the Shipley Area Committee, the Executive are recommended to approve the Neighbourhood Area Application. This would be the first step in producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the parished area of Cullingworth.

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Portfolio:

Housing, Planning & Transport

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Regeneration & Economy





1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out an application for Neighbourhood Area designation that has been submitted to the Council by the Village Council of:
 - Cullingworth
- 1.2 The Village Council is seeking a Neighbourhood Area designation for the sole intention to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan for their area.
- 1.3 Following a formal six week public consultation, including consideration by the Shipley Area Committee, the Executive are recommended to approve this Neighbourhood Area Application. This would be the first step in producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Cullingworth parished area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Localism Act 2011 devolves planning powers to Town and Parish Councils or designated Neighbourhood Forums to lead on the preparation of Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) for their area. These powers provide local communities with the opportunity to take responsibility and accountability to shape development and growth in their areas.
- 2.2 Neighbourhood planning is one of the five key measures introduced within the Localism Act. There is now a package of non mandatory neighbourhood planning tools which are available for use by local communities through qualifying bodies should they choose to use them. These relate to the production of:
 - Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP)
 - Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDO)
 - Community Right to Build Orders (CRTBO)
- 2.3 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 came into force on 6th April 2012. The Regulations outline seven key roles and responsibilities for the Council:
 - 1. Designation of a neighbourhood plan area
 - 2. Designation of Neighbourhood Forums
 - 3. Consider compliance with statutory and EU requirements
 - 4. Organise and fund independent examination
 - 5. Organise and fund a referendum
 - 6. General 'duty to support'
 - 7. Duty to adopt





2.4 A report entitled 'Localism Act Neighbourhood Planning Provisions' was considered and approved by the Executive Committee on 9th October 2012. This report set out the legal provisions, regulatory procedures, financial and resource implications for both the Council and communities and also the implications for the Council in terms of duties (resource and financial) and legal compliance. It also set out the Council's approved governance arrangements for neighbourhood planning.

Neighbourhood Planning

- 2.5 Neighbourhood planning provides an opportunity for local communities to be fully engaged in the future of their communities and the local ownership that comes from neighbourhood planning is an opportunity to assist the Council in improving equality, diversity, cohesion and integration in our communities. Through neighbourhood planning communities can:
 - have a say on where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built;
 - have their say on what those new buildings should look like;
 - include other matters in their plan that are important to them.
- 2.6 The neighbourhood planning powers are non mandatory and it is up to each local community to consider the issues in their locality and whether the neighbourhood planning tools are the right mechanism for them to use. It will then be a community decision whether or not to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan given the issues, resources and timescales available.

Neighbourhood Development Plans

- 2.7 Neighbourhood Development Plans are required to be 'pro-development'. They cannot be used as a means to stop development from taking place within an area, or propose less development than is set out in the Local Plan (Core Strategy and Allocations Development Plan Documents). They can, however, propose more development than set out in the Local Plan.
- 2.8 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out guidance on Neighbourhood Development Plans which makes clear that they should be positive planning documents which need to confirm with the strategic policies in the Local Plan which relate to:
 - 1. The homes and jobs needed in the area;
 - 2. The provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
 - 3. The provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change
 - 4. Management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
 - 5. The provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
 - 6. Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.





2.9 The content of the plan will be decided by local communities, as will the decision to prepare the plan. The plan can be a means of setting out more detailed policies for their community over and above the Local Plan, to start to shape the choices over the use of land and the designation of land for housing, employment, community uses. Neighbourhood Development Plan should cover land use planning issues; however non-planning related issues could be included as a separate / supplementary part of the plan.

Neighbourhood Planning – The Process

- 2.10 The key stages in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan are set out in Appendix 1. This also identifies some of the key roles and duties.
- 2.11 The first step in producing the Neighbourhood Development Plan is the submission of an application to the Council for a Neighbourhood Area (i.e. an area to which a Neighbourhood Development Plan will relate) by a relevant body (parish/town council or body designated as a neighbourhood forum for the discharge of neighbourhood planning). In fully parished areas the application can only be submitted by a qualifying body, i.e. a town/parish council. The application is published by the Council and comments are invited from member of the public. Following public consultation the Council must formally decide whether or not to approve the neighbourhood Area Application. The Council's decision must then be published.
- 2.12 If the Neighbourhood Area Application is approved by the Executive the qualifying body can then commence work on their Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 2.13 Once a Neighbourhood Development Plan has been prepared by the qualifying body, it will be submitted to the Council who will then publish the Plan for formal representations. The Council will appoint an independent examiner to check that the Plan meets the basic conditions, including compliance with the Local Plan for the Bradford District. If the plan does not meet the required standards, the examiner could recommend changes. The planning authority will then need to consider the examiner's views and decide whether to make those proposed changes.
- 2.14 If the examiner recommends significant changes, then the qualifying body may decide to consult the local community again before proceeding any further.
- 2.15 If the plan is deemed acceptable following the examination by an independent person a referendum can be held. If the referendum gains a simple majority in favour of the Plan, the Neighbourhood Development Plan can then become part of the statutory Development Plan for the Bradford District; the Local Plan.





The level of interest in Neighbourhood Planning in the District

- 2.16 To date the Executive has approved seven Neighbourhoods Area Applications for the following areas:
 - Burley-in-Wharfedale
 - Haworth
 - Ilkley
 - Oxenhope
 - Menston
 - Steeton-with-Eastburn including the area of Silsden Town Council and
 - Wilsden
- 2.17 The Council has now received this Neighbourhood Area Application for:
 - Cullingworth

Menston, Steeton-with-Eastburn and Wilsden were approved at Executive on the 2nd December 2014.

The Executive is now requested to consider the Cullingworth NAA application.

Local Authority roles and responsibilities

- 2.18 The Local Planning Authority has the primary responsibility for determining applications for neighbourhood areas and designating neighbourhood forums. This includes carrying out public consultations on any Neighbourhood Area Applications and on the final Neighbourhood Development Plan prior to an examination.
- 2.19 Support from other Council services including Democratic Services, Strategic Policy and Research, Consultation and Engagement, Neighbourhood Services and Legal Services may be required as and when appropriate.
- 2.20 The Council has a general 'duty to support' local communities through the provision of advice and assistance to qualifying bodies in developing proposals for plans and plan preparation.
- 2.21 There is no requirement on the Local Planning Authority to provide financial assistance but it is not prohibited. However, the Council has a duty to pay for and organise the examination and referendum on the Neighbourhood Development Plan.





Consultation with the Area Committee

- 2.22 It was agreed at the Executive meeting on 9th October 2012 that Area Committees will have a consultative role to play in all aspects of neighbourhood planning. The approved governance arrangements are set out in Appendix 2.
- 2.23 In addition to the role outlined above it is envisaged that Area Committees and local members, through their Area Coordinators, will have the opportunity to play an important role in adding value through advising, signposting, empowering, resolving any conflict and partnership working with qualifying Town / Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Forums to aid delivery of a plan.
- 2.24 A report was presented to Shipley Area Committee on 26th November 2014 seeking their views regarding the Neighbourhood Area Application submitted by Cullingworth Village Council. The Area Committee's resolution was as follows:
 - That the proposal for a Neighbourhood Area in Cullingworth be supported.
 - That it be agreed that the area identified in Cullingworth is suitable for the basis of a Neighbourhood Area.
 - That it be agreed that the proposed boundary area identified in Cullingworth is appropriate for the basis of a Neighbourhood Area.
 - That the proposal of designating a Neighbourhood Area in Cullingworth, for the purpose of producing a Neighbourhood Plan, and the proposed boundary areas outlined in Document "AH" be supported.
 - That the resolutions be referred to the Executive for consideration at its meeting on 13 January 2015.

Neighbourhood Area Applications

- 2.25 The Council is responsible for receiving and determining applications for the designation of a neighbourhood area (i.e. an area to which a Neighbourhood Development Plan would relate). Part 2, Section 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 states that an application for designation of a neighbourhood area must include:
 - a. a map which identifies the area to which the area application applies;
 - b. a statement explaining why the area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area; and
 - c. a statement that the organisation or body making the area application is the relevant body for the purpose of section 61G of the 1990 Act.





- 2.26 As soon as practicable after receiving an area application, the Council must formally publish it on its website for a minimum statutory period of 6 weeks. This must include a copy of the area application, details of how to make representations and a date by which those representations must be received. The Council is then required to consider any representations received.
- 2.27 At this stage, it is only the **principle** of becoming a neighbourhood area and the extent of the proposed boundary which is being requested for consideration and approval. The determination of the applications should not consider the content or approach of the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 2.28 Cullingworth Village Council's Neighbourhood Area Application is considered to have met the requirements of the Neighbourhood Planning regulations, as set out above.
- 2.29 The Executive Committee is requested to consider this Neighbourhood Area Application:

<u>Cullingworth Village Council - Neighbourhood Area Application</u>

- 2.30 The Council received a formal application from Cullingworth Village Council on 14th August 2014 requesting to become designated a neighbourhood area for the purpose of producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan. The application covers the parish of Cullingworth.
- 2.31 The Neighbourhood Area Application, included as part of Appendix 3, submitted by Cullingworth Village Council complied with Part 2, Section 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, in that
 - a) it included a map which identifies the area to which the area application applies;
 - b) it contained a statement explaining why the area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area; and
 - c) it contained a statement that the organisation or body making the area application, namely Cullingworth Village Council, is the relevant body for the purpose of section 61G of the 1990 Act.
- 2.32 The application was reviewed by the Assistant Director to ensure it included the key requirements under the relevant regulations. The accepted application was then published by the Council on its website and formal representations invited over a 6 week period from 22nd September to 3rd November 2014. A press release was issued to raise the awareness of those living and working in the area. The Council also notified relevant parties on the Local Plan consultation database.
- 2.33 On 1st December 2010 Cullingworth Parish Council changed its name to become Cullingworth Village Council. They are still a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Act.





- 2.34 The Council received a total of 9 representations within the formal consultation period and 1 after. There was general support in principle for the designation of a neighbourhood area covering the parish of Cullingworth. A summary of the representations and the Council's response to the issues raised by those making representations is set out in Appendix 4.
- 2.35 Shipley Area Committee, at their meeting on 26th November 2014, resolved to support the Neighbourhood Area Application for Cullingworth as noted in paragraph 2.24.
- 2.36 Upon consideration of the Act, the relevant planning regulations as well as the representations received and comments from the Area Committee, it is recommended that the neighbourhood area application be approved.
- 2.37 Although not required for the determination of the application, the Village Council have set out their essential aims for their Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Neighbourhood Area Application Considerations

- 2.38 The Act sets out the considerations relevant to the determination of a neighbourhood area application at section 61G. Principles for consideration in parished areas include:
 - Can include whole or part of a parished area
 - Consideration of the desirability of designating the whole of the area of a parish council as a neighbourhood area
 - An area can only be included in one neighbourhood area designation
 - Council can modify areas in light of later applications if appropriate with consent of the parish council
- 2.39 There is no further guidance on how local authorities should determine the acceptability of a proposed area. Given that the application proposes to designate the whole of Cullingworth parished area there are no considerations that suggest a smaller or larger area would be more appropriate given the supporting statements.
- 2.40 If approved by the Executive, the Village Council will be formally notified in writing of the decision. The decision will also be published on the Council's web site together with the following information:
 - The name of the neighbourhood area;
 - A map which identifies the boundary of the proposed area; and
 - The name of the relevant body who applied for the designation.





3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Funding and Support

- 3.1 There are several sources of advice and support for Councils and communities that are interested in neighbourhood planning.
- 3.2 From April 2013 Local Planning Authorities could claim for up to 20 area designations (£100,000) in each financial year 2013 to 2014 and 2014 to 2015. This money recognised the duties that local authorities have in relation to neighbourhood planning.
- 3.3 The payments are broken down into three stages to reflect the work involved in getting a plan to the point of being published prior to an examination. The payments are broken down as follows:
 - 1) First payment of £5,000 is payable to the LPA upon designation of a neighbourhood area in recognition of officer time supporting and advising the community in taking the Neighbourhood Development Plan forward.
 - 2) Second payment of £5,000 is made to the LPA once it publicises the Neighbourhood Development Plan prior to examination. This will contribute towards the costs of the examination as well as other staff costs incurred at this stage.
 - 3) Third payment of £20,000 is made upon successful completion of a Neighbourhood Development Plan examination. This fund will, in part, pay for the examination and any other further steps that maybe needed for the Neighbourhood Development Plan to come into legal forces, including a local referendum.
- 3.4 The Department for Communities and Local Government has established separate support for communities. From May 2013 the Government ran a £10.5 million, 2-year rolling programme to provide support and grants to communities to progress their Neighbourhood Development Plans. Communities could apply for direct support and / or grants of up to £7,000 to help then develop a Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 3.5 With effect from 20th August 2014 the Government were no longer accepting any new expressions of interest of grants. However Government Ministers announced on 31st Oct 2014 that they will make available £22.5 million over 2015 to 2018 to provide community groups with advice and grant funding to help get their neighbourhood plans into force following a local referendum. They will also provide £100,000 so community groups can organise neighbourhood planning workshops.





The Government has pledged funding along with support to communities directly through organisations such as Locality, mycommunityrights.org, RTPI and Planning Aid England. There is an array of support networks available to communities should they wish to request assistance.

Community Infrastructure Levy

- 3.7 The Government has announced that Local Planning Authorities operating a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will pass on 25% of the money raised from development within a neighbourhood plan area to the community itself, so that they can decide how the money is to be spent. The Localism Act sets out what neighbourhood CIL can be spent on: the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or anything else that is concerned with addressing demands that development places on an area. Communities without a Neighbourhood Development Plan would only be entitled to 15% of any CIL. To qualify, a Neighbourhood Development Plan must have been through a referendum and brought into force and the local authority needs to have introduced CIL.
- 3.8 The Council is currently investigating the potential of a Community Infrastructure Levy for the Bradford District. This will be the subject of a future report to the Executive Committee.

Bradford's Local Plan

- 3.9 Progress in putting in place an up-to-date Development Plan, now known as the Local Plan, to replace the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP) is critical to support the take up of the new neighbourhood planning provisions. The Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) will provide the key strategic planning policies against which Neighbourhood Development Plans will be tested to ensure conformity. At present it is anticipated that the Core Strategy will be adopted in 2015 following an independent examination. Work on identifying sites via the Allocations DPD as well as the two area Action Plans for the City Centre and Shipley Canal Road Corridor will follow on from the Core Strategy.
- 3.10 Details of the timetable of the Local Plan are contained within the Local Development Scheme 2014-2017. At its meeting on 22nd July 2014, the Executive approved the revised Local Development Scheme.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

4.1 There are potentially significant financial and resource implications from the discharge of the new duties under the Localism Act. The full scope of the financial and resource implications from the discharge of the new duties is documented in the 9 October 2012 report to the Executive (Background document 12.4).





- 4.2 These burdens will depend in the main upon the overall take up by communities of these non mandatory activities. The government has made available resources to cover these additional burdens, and the Council will make prompt application for payment, at each appropriate stage, as long as the funding support is available. However as this is a relatively new process the implications are yet unknown for Bradford. The impact on resources of the council will need to be carefully monitored and may need to be subject to prioritisation.
- 4.3 For the year 2014/2015, the Government pledged further financial support to councils with neighbourhood planning. The Council is able to claim for up to £30,000 per area designation. For further information please refer to paragraphs 3.1 to 3.8 of this report.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

- 5.1 The Executive, on the 9th October 2012 (see background document 12.4), approved the governance arrangements for the discharge of the Councils duties under the Act in relation to Neighbourhood Planning.
- 5.2 The portfolio holder for Change Programme, Planning and Housing will take the lead for neighbourhood planning.
- 5.3 The Assistant Director for Planning, Transportation and Highways will coordinate and manage the Council's neighbourhood planning role and responsibilities.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

7.1 The legal requirements related to neighbourhood planning are set out in the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The implications of discharging the Council's legal duty are considered above.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

- 7.1.1 Any Neighbourhood Development Plan that is produced by a Parish/ Town Council must be in line with the policies and plans contained within the Local Plan which has been subjected to its own Equality Impact Assessment.
- 7.1.2 Good practice would suggest that the qualifying body should seek to ensure compliance with equality legislation in preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan, including the production of an Equality Impact Assessment where relevant and appropriate.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

7.2.1 Neighbourhood Development Plans are required to conform to national and local





policy which is supported by sustainability appraisals. However, depending on the nature of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the Plan may need to be supported by its own Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

7.3.1 Any Neighbourhood Development Plan would need to ensure compliance with national and local policy which promote sustainable development and seek to minimise impact on climate change.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

7.4.1 There are no community safety issues.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

7.5.1 All neighbourhood planning tools are subject to consultation and engagement. There is a third party right to be heard at the independent examination.

7.6 TRADE UNION

7.6.1 There are no trade union implications.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

7.7.1 The neighbourhood planning tools can be picked up by communities and can relate to small areas within and across wards. At present there are seven Parish Councils who are actively taking forward a neighbourhood planning, of which relate to the following wards:

• <u>Craven ward</u> Steeton-with-Easburn, and Silsden

• <u>Bingley Rural ward</u> Cullingworth and Wilsden

Ilkley ward
 Ilkley

Wharfedale ward Burley-in-Wharfedale and Menston

Worth Valley ward Haworth, Cross Roads & Stanbury and Oxenhope

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 None





9. OPTIONS

- 9.1 The Executive is requested to consider the Neighbourhood Area Application for the designation a Neighbourhood Area in Cullingworth.
- 9.2 There are two options for the Executive, these are:
 - Option 1 to approve the Neighbourhood Area Application, following the satisfactory assessment set out in Section 2 of this report.
 - Option 2 is to refuse the Neighbourhood Area Application; although there are no grounds for this, given the satisfactory assessment is set out in Section 2 of this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the Neighbourhood Area Application submitted by Cullingworth Village Council be approved and the Assistant Director (Planning, Transportation & Highways) be authorised to arrange formal publication of the decision in line with the relevant Neighbourhood Planning regulations.

11. APPENDICES

- 1 Neighbourhood Plans Process
- The governance arrangements for the key decisions within the respective processes for neighbourhood planning.
- 3 Cullingworth Parish Council Neighbourhood Area Application
- 4 Summary of representations and Council's response to Cullingworth Neighbourhood Area Application

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 12.1 The Localism Act 2011 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted
- 12.2 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/made
- 12.3 National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf
- 12.4 Report of the Assistant Director (Planning, Transportation & Highways) to the meeting of Executive to be held on 9 October 2012. (Document AE)
- 12.5 Report of the Assistant Director (Planning Transportation & Highways) to the meeting of Shipley Area Committee to be held on 26 November 2014





Appendix 1

Neighbourhood Plan Process

1. Getting Started

- · Review neighbourhood planning tools
- · Consider Local Plan for the areas and local issues and priorities to inform which tool is most appropriate
- Where no established relevant body set up a Neighbourhood Forum (Reg 8-12)
- Develop community communications and local information and evidence
- Scope out project plan for neighbourhood plan to inform early discussions with Council and inform neighbourhood area application.

2. Neighbourhood Area (Regulation 5-7)

- Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum submit application to Council for designation of area. To include: map, statement
 of why area is appropriate and statement that they are a relevant body (Reg 8)
- Council publish for 6 weeks for comment (Reg 9)
- Following decision Council to publish name of area, map of area and name of relevant body (Reg 10)
- Where refuse to designate an area, publish reason and where decision documents can be inspected.

3. Developing Vision and Approach

- Establish your project team and governance arrangements
- Produce a project plan to identify timetable, key activities (research, consultation, analysis etc), and resources (people, material and funds)
- Establish a vision for the plan and objectives against which any plan can be developed and tested
- Collecting and analysing relevant data and information
- Generating options and choices of approach to deliver the vision and objectives
- · Draft plan including policies and any proposals.

4. Developing The Plan (Regulations 14-15)

- Publicise and invite comments on the emerging plan proposal including consultation bodies referred to in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 whose interests may be affected by the plan
- · Formally submit a plan proposal to the Council
- Plan to be supported by 1) a map or statement which identifies the area to which the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan relates, 2) a consultation statement setting out persons consulted, the main issues raised and how these have been considered, 3) a statement explaining how the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 48 to the 1990 Act.

5. Publication for Comment (Regulation 16)

- As soon as possible after receiving a plan proposal, the Council must publicise it on their website and in such other
 manner as they consider is likely to bring the proposal to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business in the
 neighbourhood area
- Invite representations for a period of not less than 6 weeks
- Issue a statement that any representations may include a request to be notified of the Councils decision under Regulation 19
- Notify any consultation body which is referred to in the consultation statement submitted in accordance with Regulation 15.

6 Evernination

- The Council appoint a person to undertake an examination and have a duty to pay their costs
- Examination by independent person followed by issuing of report
- · Consideration by Council of examiners report

6. Examination (Regulation 17-18)

- Publication of the examiners report
- Publicise the Councils decision in a statement setting out its reasons
- Notify decision to qualifying body and others who requested to be notified.

7. Referendum

• The Council arrange and undertake referendum on plan for those communities which are impacted by the plan proposals

8. Adoption

- · As soon as possible after making a Neighbourhood Development Plan, the Council publish the plan online
- The Council notify those who have asked to be notified about the making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Appendix 2

The approved governance arrangements for the key decisions within the respective processes for neighbourhood planning.

Neighbourhood Planning Decis Activity	Stage	Consultation	Decision
Application to set up Neighbourhood forum	Application received and published for comment	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
	Application decision	Area Committee	Executive
Neighbourhood Area Application	Application received and published for comment	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
	Application decision	Area Committee	Executive
Neighbourhood Plan	Draft received by Council and published for representations	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
	Submit for independent examination	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
	Receipt of independent persons report and decision on plan and move to referendum	Area Committee	Executive
	Adoption	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
Neighbourhood Development Order/Community Right To Build Order	Draft received by Council and published for representations	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
	Submit for independent examination	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH
	Receipt of independent persons report and decision on plan and move to referendum	Area Committee	Executive
	Adoption	Portfolio holder	Assistant Director PTH



Clerk to the Village Council: Mrs A Holmes, The Haven, 9 Keighley Road Cullingworth BD13 5JA Tel: 01535 273265 Email: angela9haven:hotmail.com

Mr A Marshall
Planning & Transport Strategic Manager
Bradford Metropolitan District council
Floor 2 South
Jacob's Well
Bradford
BD1 5RW

9 August 2014

Dear Mr Marshall



- 1 Statement to confirm status as a qualifying body
- 2 Map showing area for the proposed neighbourhood plan
- 3 Statement explaining why the area is appropriate and what the plan will address

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Angela Holmes

Clerk to the Village Council



Appendix 1

STATEMENT TO CONFIRM STATUS AS A QUALIFYING BODY

Cullingworth Village Council is a qualifying or relevant body to apply for designated area status under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 Schedule 9 Neighbourhood Planning section 61G, paragraph (2)A.

- (2) A "relevant body" means:
 - (a) a parish council or
 - (b) an organisation or body which is, or is capable of being, designated as a neighbourhood forum (on the assumption that, for this purpose, the specified area is a designated as a neighbourhood area.)



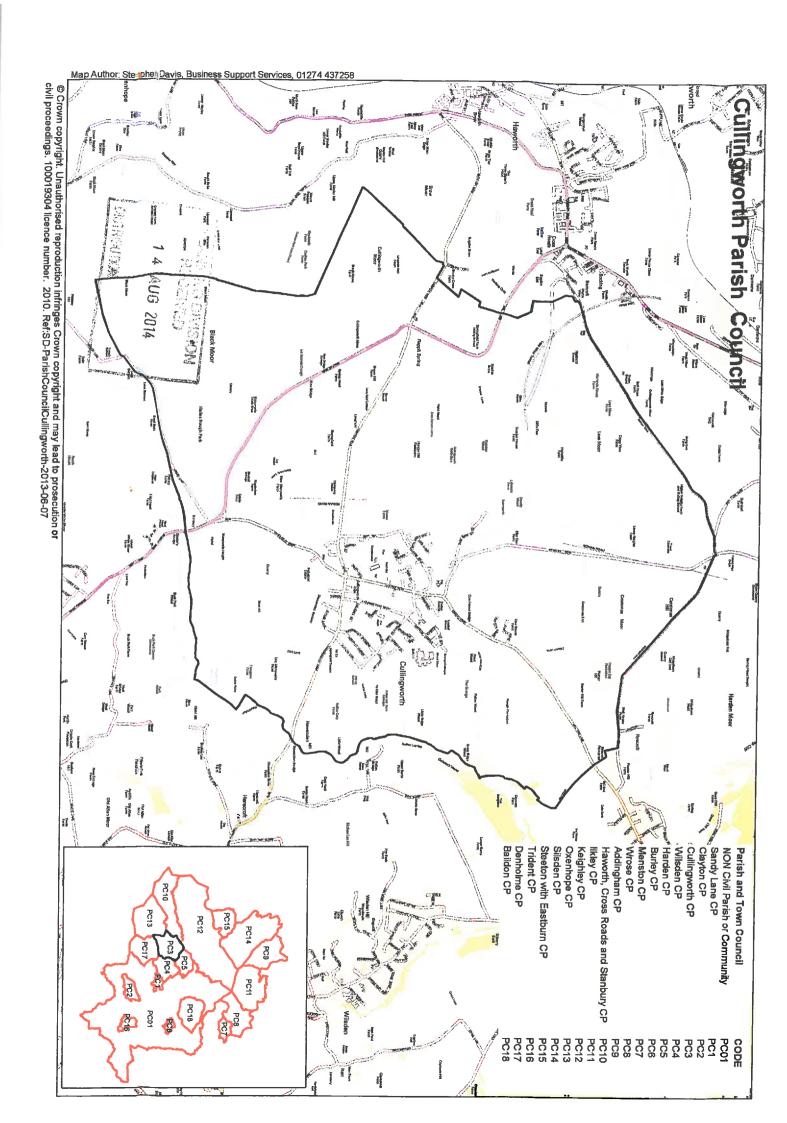


Appendix 2

MAP SHOWING AREA FOR PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The attached map shows the Cullingworth Parish boundary and is taken from an Ordnance Survey map supplied by Bradford Council.







Appendix 3

STATEMENT EXPLAINING WHY THE AREA IS APPROPRIATE AND WHAT THE PLAN WILL ADDRESS

Cullingworth Village Council operates within the confines of the Cullingworth Parish boundaries shown on Appendix 2. The area is considered as being appropriate to be designated as "The Cullingworth Parish Neighbourhood Area" as it is already administered by Cullingworth Village Council.

The chief aim of Cullingworth Village Council is to create a Neighbourhood Development Plan in consultation with key local interest groups, residents and neighbouring parishes to generate evidence which will ensure that the parish develops whilst protecting the area's heritage. Maintaining its attractiveness, providing for housing needs and building for a viable economic future.

Culllingworth Village Council recognises the need for some development but improvements in infrastructure need to be commensurate with the additional housing in the Aire Valley.

In applying for designated area status, the essential aim of any resultant Neighbourhood Plan will be to:

- 1) Preserve the character of Cullingworth and its parish as an attractive rural area retaining a district community protecting and cherishing the natural and built environment.
- Meet defined housing needs commensurate with the Local Development Plan and character of the designated area whilst maintaining good shopping, recreation and cultural facilities integrating well with neighbouring communities.
- 3) Enhance employment opportunities for its residents now and in the future.
- 4) Ensure a flourishing commercial, retail business and economic environment.
- 5) Meet the needs of all residents in the areas of education, health, leisure, recreation, sport and transport including footpaths and cycleways.
- 6) Maintain and protect the natural environment and availability of green spaces and green belt within the designated parish boundaries.
- 7) Maintain on-going dialogue with local organisations, developers, individuals, neighbouring communities and the LPA to ensure that the Local Development Plan criteria are met.



Appendix 4 - Cullingworth Neighbourhood Area Application

Summary of Representations and Council's Response

No.	Respondent	Issues Raised / Comment	Council's Response
1	David Bland	Support given to the proposal, agrees that the area is suitable and that the boundary is appropriate. No specific comments made.	Support noted
2	National Farming Union	No specific comments on the application.	Noted.
		Within the Neighbourhood Development Plan there is potential to adequately address the issues and opportunities of farming within the Plan area. The National Farmers Union has set out their vision, key priorities (within present day farming) and guiding principles for consideration during the preparation of the Plan.	It is for the Parish Council to determine the detailed scope of their Neighbourhood Development Plan, not the Council. However the Council will ensure that the Parish Council receive a copy of these comments.
3	Wakefield Council	No objections to the proposals.	Support noted
		Support given to the proposal, agrees that the area is suitable and that the boundary is appropriate. No specific comments made.	
4	Natural England	Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft Neighbourhood Development Plans where proposals are likely to affect a Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI), or 20 hectares or more of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. The organisation should also be consulted on Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA), Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA) screening and Environmental Impact	Noted. Natural England will continue to be consulted on the Neighbourhood Development Plan, subject to the content of the Plan and where appropriate.

No.	Respondent	Issues Raised / Comment	Council's Response
		Assessments, where these are required.	
		 Natural England can provide sources of additional advice for the Parish Council with regard to: Advice on sources of environmental information and ideas of incorporating the environment into plans and proposals; Protected landscapes; Protected species; Local Wildlife Sites; Best and Most Versatile agricultural land; Opportunities for enhancing the natural environment. 	Noted. The Council will ensure that the Parish Council receive a copy of these comments contained within the original representation to the Parish Council for their consideration.
5	Sports England	No specific comments on the application.	Noted
		Within the Neighbourhood Development Plan there is potential to address sport and recreational facilities. Sport England outlines several points for consideration during the preparation of the Plan.	It is for the Parish Council to determine the detailed scope of their Neighbourhood Development Plan, not the Council. However the Council will ensure that the Parish Council receive a copy of these comments and Sport England documentation.
6	Environment Agency	No specific comments on the application.	Noted
		Request that the Parish Council take note of the content of the representation and refer to the submitted guidance note - 'Planning for the environment at the neighbourhood level' when considering how to develop the Plan.	Comment noted. The Council will pass these comments/documents/ contact details onto the Parish Council for consideration during the preparation of their Plan.
7	The Coal Authority	No specific comments on the application at this stage	Noted
		Cullingworth Parish lies within the current defined coalfield. There are recorded mine entries and	Noted. The decision at this stage is on the appropriateness of the neighbourhood plan

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		probable shallow coal workings in the area. If the Neighbourhood Plan allocates sites for future development consideration will need to be given to them.	application. The Council will pass the details in your response on to the Village council and recommend they consult the Coal authority during the preparation of their Plan.
8	English Heritage	No objection to this proposal	Noted
		The area identified by Cullingworth Village Council for the Neighbourhood Plan includes a number of important designated heritage assets. The Heritage at Risk register 2014 for Yorkshire	Comment noted. The Council will pass these comments/documents / links to information onto the Village Council for consideration during the preparation of their Plan.
		& Humberside will itemise any heritage assets which are at risk.	
	Both English Heritage and the local Council can provide support, advice and evidence on the historic environment.		
		Plan preparation offers the opportunity to harness a community's interest in the historic environment by getting them to help add to the evidence base, perhaps by creating and or reviewing a local heritage list, inputting to the preparation of conservation area appraisals and undertaking historic characterisation surveys.	
		English Heritage has a statutory role in the development plan process and there is a duty on either the Local Planning Authority or the Neighbourhood Planning Forums to consult English Heritage on any Neighbourhood Plan where our interests are considered to be affected.	Comment noted
		Should a Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal be required	

No.	Respondent	Issues Raised / Comment	Council's Response
		we again have a formal role in that process.	
9	Kirklees Council	No comments	Noted
10	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	Supports the Neighbourhood Area as appropriate for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.	Support noted
		With the Neighbourhood Development Plan there will be potential to include details about supporting and improving the natural environment. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust encloses a document containing information on the natural environment within Neighbourhood Plan areas for consideration during the preparation of the Plan.	It is for the Parish Council to determine the detailed scope of their Neighbourhood Development Plan, not the Council. However the Council will ensure that the Parish Council receive a copy of these comments and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust documentation.