

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 10am

The meeting took place in a virtual environment using “Zoom” video conferencing technology and members of the public and press were given the opportunity to observe or participate in the meeting by pre-registering.

PRESENT: Cllr Philip Day (Chairman)  
Cllr Gareth Deboos  
Cllr Hilary Edge  
Cllr Gloria O’Reilly  
Cllr Tony Ring  
Cllr Glenys Turner

IN ATTENDANCE: Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk  
Nicola Vodden, Meetings Administrator

ABSENT: Cllr Andy Briers  
Cllr Rae Frederick (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr Peter Kelleher

### **P/5722 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were eight members of the public present and interested in agenda items.

### **P/5723 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

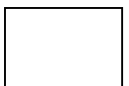
The Deputy Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Briers, Frederick and Kelleher.

### **P/5724 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

It was noted that two of the tree work applications had been submitted by the Town Council.

Cllr Day declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item number 8, regarding the premises license, as he represented the applicant. He handed over to Cllr Deboos to take the chair for that item and left the meeting.

Although they were not disclosable pecuniary interests, Cllr Ring advised Members that in respect of 20/00430 the applicant is a neighbour and 20/10666 the applicant had been an acquaintance of his for a number of years.



Although it was not a disclosable pecuniary interest, Cllr O'Reilly advised Members in respect of 20/10331 that the applicant is a neighbour and she would not take part in consideration of the application.

**P/5725**  
**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

**P/5726**  
**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

20/00430 Snails Lane – The Chairman reported that Cllrs Day, Ring and the Deputy Town Clerk attended a briefing with NFDC Officers. Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Councillors and District Councillors were also in attendance. NFDC Officers were not in a position to prepare a report or make any recommendations on the application, at this stage, as a number of issues were not resolved or answered to their satisfaction, by the developer. The Council will be advised as reports become available and given the opportunity to comment in light of new information submitted.

**RESOLVED:** That the observations summarised in *Annex A* be submitted and the decisions made under delegated powers be noted.

<b>ACTION</b> Nicola Vodden
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**P/5727**  
**NFDC CONSULTATION ON REVISED STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Members reviewed NFDC's revised Statement of Community Involvement and considered whether to respond to the consultation (*Annex B*). Members felt the changes proposed were acceptable and therefore agreed that no comment be submitted.

**RESOLVED:** That no comment be submitted in response to NFDC's consultation on its Revised Statement of Community Involvement.

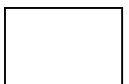
<b>ACTION</b> Jo Hurd
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**P/5728**  
**REAL WORKING PARTY**

**RESOLVED:** That the notes of the REAL Working Party meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (*Annex C*) be received.

<b>ACTION</b> Jo Hurd
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**P/5729**  
**PREMISES LICENSE**



*Cllr Day declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as he represented of the applicant. Members agreed Cllr Deboos chair this item and Cllr Day left the meeting at 11:38am.*

Members considered the application for variation of Premises Licence for India Cottage (*Annex D*) and agreed that no representation be made.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council make no representation in respect of the Premises License application for India Cottage.

<b>ACTION</b> <b>Jo Hurd</b>
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*Cllr Day re-joined the meeting.*

**P/5730  
PROJECTS**

A1: Neighbourhood Plan – dealt with under separate item (P/5732 refers).

A2: Crown Stream Maintenance – Dr Peter Street had arranged for volunteers to meet on 10<sup>th</sup> September to clear the stream. The annual flail would take place before that.

A3: Human Sundial – No update since last meeting (HCC were still awaiting competitive quotes for the work. It was understood that the delay is due to the main contractor seeking quotes from sub-contractors.)

A4: Cycle Stands – Cllr Kelleher was liaising with the owner of the shops at Butlers Lane regarding installation of three cycle stands.

C1: Pedestrian Crossing Christchurch Road – The Scheme had been approved with a commencement date of 24<sup>th</sup> August (and completion by 2<sup>nd</sup> November). A letter drop was planned for local residents and signs would be displayed to give prior warning. The HCC Officer would advise exact dates when traffic would be affected, so this can be publicised on the Council's website and via social media.

C2:

A31 Improvement Scheme - Ground investigation works are due to commence 17<sup>th</sup> August, which will include the removal of vegetation on the slip road and in the central reservation, requiring overnight lane closures. This work will be overseen by an ecologist. A number of exploratory bore holes will follow, 2 of which will be in Jubilee Gardens (the work for this will take about a week and will be carried out during the day). Work is expected to take 8 weeks to complete and the compound will be cleared by the end of October. It is also proposed to carry out a public engagement event in January. Utility diversion works will commence in March 2021.

Town Centre Improvements (Designated Funds) – The majority of the works are now complete. Works to Mansfield Road 'gateway' are still outstanding (removal of weeds and resurfacing of central reservation). HCC Engineer is still keen to install proposed wooden planter to match flower beds on roundabout. It was suggested that the Council be more positive in putting forward alternatives to the planter, which was considered a small part of the bigger plans for the gateway feature (and A31 roundabout). Members wished to have a couple of ideas, including a previously submitted sketch from a



member of the public, to put forward at the meeting with Highways England in September.

C6: Shared use path across Carvers – work was in progress.

C7: New Footpath to link Beaumont Park (Linden Homes site) with Hightown Road (alongside west of Crow Lane) – The path leading from the industrial estate at Embankment Way to the bridge had been completed. Members requested NFDC provide an update on the path under the railway bridge as it was overgrown and unpleasant.

**RESOLVED:** That the report and verbal update in respect of projects (*Annex E*) be noted.

<b>ACTION</b> Jo Hurd
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**P/5731**

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Chairman explained that it was necessary to go into private session as there was a need to discuss a commercial contract and this included confidential information in relation to payment to consultants.

**RESOLVED:** That, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential Nature (*Confidential Minute Annex F*)

**P/5732**

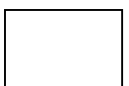
**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Chairman reported on the tender process to select consultants to assist with the next steps towards a Neighbourhood Plan. He outlined the recommendation of the Steering Group and the reasoning behind it (*Confidential Annex G*).

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that provision in the budget was £12,000, consisting of £3,000 plus £9,000 grant funding. The amount of grant available had recently increased to £10,000. As the budget had been set, she confirmed that the Committee had authority over the whole amount.

The grant application can be submitted before the designated area (to be covered by the NP) is determined. It was proposed an application be made to cover the cost of the consultants' fees for the work outlined in their quotation. Further grant applications up to the maximum amount could be made at a later date.

It was hoped that the grant would be approved, however the only work to be undertaken by the consultants prior to approval would be assistance with submission of the grant application form, if required. In the event of the grant being unsuccessful, the Council would be liable for this cost only.



**RESOLVED:** 1) That the recommendation of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group be approved and ONeill Homer be appointed to assist in the first phase of preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Ringwood, as set out in the Terms of Reference for the Engagement of Consultants; and  
2) That a grant application be submitted to cover the cost of the consultants' fees as set out in their quotation.

<b>ACTION</b> Jo Hurd
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There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 12:40 pm.

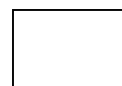
RECEIVED  
30<sup>th</sup> September 2020

APPROVED  
4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

TOWN MAYOR

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

**Note: The text in the Action Boxes above does not form part of these minutes.**



Annex A to Planning, Town Environment Committee Minutes 7th August 2020  
**Ringwood Town Council - Planning Observations - NFDC**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Site Address</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Observation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
18/11606	Land off, Snails Lane, Blashford, Ellingham Harbridge and Ibsley. BH24 3PG	Outline planning application for the demolition of existing outbuildings and the erection of up to 143 dwellings (including 50% affordable housing), public open space, recreation mitigation land, landscaping, sustainable drainage systems (Suds) and two vehicular access points from Snails Lane and Salisbury Road (Environmental Impact Application Development and effects a Public Right of Way). All matters reserved except for means of access. (AMENDED PLANS RESUBMISSION)	Consideration of this application deferred to a future date and until advised by NFDC officers that further required information is available.	
1992/49651	Former Wellworthy Sand Foundry, Christchurch Road, Ringwood	Vary mortgagee exclusion clause	Officer Decision (5)	

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal  
5 - Will accept officer's decision

<b>Number</b>	<b>Site Address</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Observation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
20/10557	Wren Cottage, Gorley Road, Ringwood. BH24 1TN	Demolish existing conservatory retaining one existing double skin wall and build single-storey extension	Permission (1)	
20/10637	14, Embankment Way, Ringwood. BH24 1WL	The units are currently designated for Use Classes B1(b), B1(c), B2 & B8. A change of use to Use Class D2 on Unit 14	Refusal (2)	The Committee was happy with the change of use on condition that the use is restricted to personal one to one training as described by the applicant.
20/10654	84, Southampton Road, Ringwood. BH24 1JD	Roof repairs including fascias and soffits (Application for Listed Building Consent)	Permission (1)	The Committee supported the Conservation Officer's comments.

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal  
5 - Will accept officer's decision

Number	Site Address	Proposal	Observation	Comments
20/10666	2, Nursery Road, Ringwood. BH24 1NG	Demolish existing outbuildings; conversion of front building to 2 bed cottage; erect 6 No 3 bed; 1 No 2 bed house with parking (8 in total)	Refusal (4)	The Committee had a number of concerns with the proposed development. It was considered overdevelopment of the site, with too many units for the space available. The general appearance of properties would be out of keeping and have a detrimental impact on the character of the area, as detailed in the Local Distinctiveness SPD, with most properties on Nursery Road and Hightown Road being red brick semi-detached houses, with notable gaps in the roofline. There would be a lack of amenity for the new properties, with little outdoor space and small gardens. Neighbouring properties' amenities would be adversely affected in terms of overlooking, overshadowing, loss of light and privacy to a significant degree. The parking provision is too low and contrary to NFDC Parking Standards. This would exacerbate the current issues with parking in the locality generally. No information has been provided by the applicant to indicate how flooding and drainage would be managed on site. There is no provision for the collection of waste. No detailed heritage statement has been provided nor an assessment of the impact of the development on the Conservation Area and The Railway Public House as an important building in the locality. There is a need for a noise assessment to be carried out to assess the impact on the proposed new properties adjacent to the beer garden. It is understood the land has been used for

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal  
5 - Will accept officer's decision



Number	Site Address	Proposal	Observation	Comments
				various uses and a contaminated land survey has not been submitted. It was noted that no comment had yet been received from Hampshire Highways. The Committee had concerns regarding the safety of the junction of Nursery Road and Hightown Road, as the line of sight is poor. There are no pavements, nor a turning circle in Nursery Road and the road itself is extremely narrow. No ecological assessment had been provided nor biodiversity enhancement measures. A construction management statement would be required from the applicant in advance of any works, should development be allowed.
20/10682	158 Christchurch Road, Ringwood. BH24 3AP	Change of use from disused dairy to Hand Car Wash	Refusal (2)	The Committee had no objection, in principle, to the change of use as proposed, however was concerned about the treatment of waste water generated by the activity and wanted to be assured that this is properly disposed of and causes no environmental issues.
20/10698	61, Poplar Way, Ringwood. BH24 1UY	Replace existing single storey workshop/store with 2 storey extension to dwelling	Permission (1)	
20/10777	Ballantrae, Gorley Road, Ringwood. BH24 1TN	Demolition of existing garage and conservatory; single-storey extension to side; new raised pitched roof with dormer windows to the front and to rear of extended bungalow	Refusal (2)	The proposal did not provide for adequate parking provision given the change from a 2 bed to a 3 bed property and the loss of the garage.

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal  
5 - Will accept officer's decision

Number	Site Address	Proposal	Observation	Comments
20/10782	65, Addison Square, Ringwood. BH24 1NY	Proposed single-storey rear extension	Permission (1)	
CONS/20/0321	Church Of St Peter And St Paul, Market Place, Ringwood	Ash x 5 Reduce	Permission (1)	
CONS/20/0327	King Edgar Lodge, 65 Christchurch Road, Ringwood. BH24 1DH	Sycamore x 2 Reduce Oak x 1 Reduce	Permission (1)	
CONS/20/0331	Potters Lodge, The Bickerley, Ringwood. BH24 1ET	Ash x 1 Reduce	Permission (1)	
TPO/20/0318	Branksea, 18 New Road, Ringwood. BH24 3AU	Montery Pine x 3 Reduce	Permission (1)	
TPO/20/0322	Orchard Mount, Ringwood. BH24 1HW	Cherry x 1 Fell to ground level	Permission (1)	
TPO/20/0333	15 Lin Brook Drive, Ringwood, BH24 3LJ	Ash x 1 Reduce	Permission (1)	

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal  
5 - Will accept officer's decision

## Ringwood Town Council - Planning Observations - NFNPA

<b>Number</b>	<b>Site Address</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Observation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
20/00430	Oaklands, Hightown Hill, Ringwood, BH24 3HE	3 bay car port/garage block; demolition of 2no. existing outbuildings	Permission (1)	
20/00470	Fernside, Cowpitts Lane, Poulner common, Ringwood. BH24 3LB	Retention of container and gabions to stabilize bank; additional new retaining works to stabilize bank; reinstate land	Permission (1)	The Committee understand the necessity to do the work and whilst not a perfect solution, felt that in the circumstances this proposal was acceptable.
20/00506	Forest Oaks, Linford Road, Shobley, Ringwood. BH24 3HT	Garage	Permission (1)	
20/00516	Land adjacent to Site of Holly Hill, Hangersley Hill, Hangersley, BH24 3JN	Stable block	Permission (1)	

1 - Recommend Permission, but would accept officer's decision 2 - Recommend Refusal but would accept officer's decision 3 - Recommend Permission 4 - Recommend Refusal  
 5 - Will accept officer's decision

Applications decided under delegated powers on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020, to be noted on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Number	Site Address	Proposal	RTC recommendation
CONS/20/0290	Bumbleby Cottage, 60, Southampton Road, Ringwood. BH24 1JD	Box Elder x 1 Reduce	Deadline for comments 27.7.20 Observation:- P(1) Recommend permission, but would accept the Tree Officer's decision.

**Appendix 1 track change version**



**Statement of Community Involvement**



First adopted February 2015

# B

## **Contents**

Preface

Introduction

1. What is a Statement of Community Involvement?
2. A brief guide to the planning system
3. Planning in New Forest District
4. The process of Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document preparation
5. How we will involve and consult others on the preparation of the Local Plan
6. How we will involve and consult others on the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents
7. Neighbourhood Planning
8. How we will involve others on allocating the Community Infrastructure Levy to projects
- [9. Community Involvement and Development Management](#)

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Local Planning documents - consultees

Appendix 2: Neighbourhood Planning Protocol

[Appendix 3: Who the Qualifying Neighbourhood Plan body seek to engage with](#)

[Appendix 4: Publicising Planning and related Applications](#)

[Appendix 5: How we will notify neighbours](#)

[Appendix 6: Glossary](#)

## Preface

**Preface**

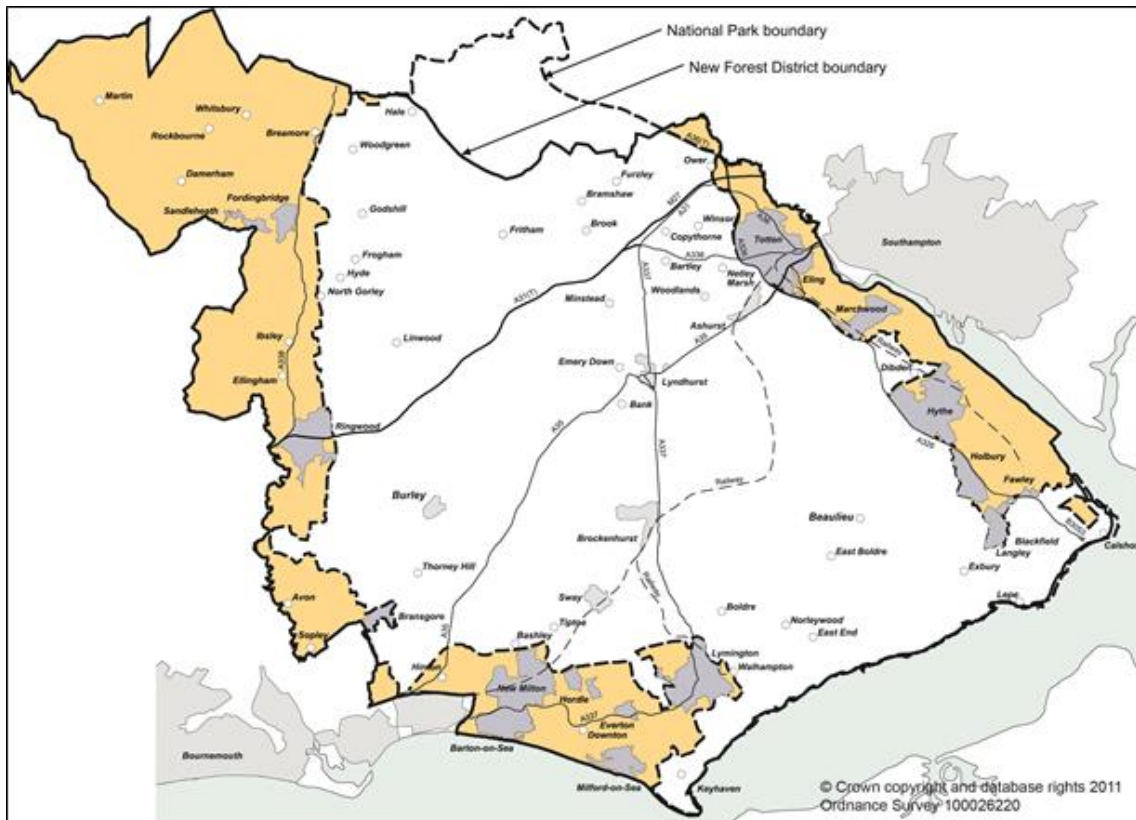
This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was originally adopted and published in February 2015. It was first updated in August 2018 to reflect the provisions in the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017 (Commencement No. 3) Regulations 2018.

The revision that respond to Covid 19 will apply until restrictions on personal and group interaction arising from coronavirus are lifted, or sufficiently relaxed, to allow events held for the visiting public to take place safely.

# B

## Introduction

New Forest District Council is the local planning authority for the parts of the District outside of the New Forest National Park. As the local planning authority, it is responsible for producing the Local Plan and other planning documents for its area and for determining planning applications for most forms of development (Hampshire County Council is the planning authority for minerals and waste planning matters). Within the National Park the National Park Authority is the local planning authority. This document relates to the parts of New Forest District outside of the National Park (the area shaded orange on the map below) referred to as the ‘Plan Area’ henceforth.



The Council is committed to engage with local people, organisations and businesses to get their views on different aspects of its work. Planning directly affects the places where people live and work and meaningful public consultation and engagement on all aspects of planning is vital.

### 1. What is a Statement of Community Involvement?

- 1.1 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the District Council will consult and involve others in planning matters in New Forest District outside the National Park. It covers both the preparation of local plans and planning guidance, and applications for planning permission.



## 2. A brief guide to the planning system

- 2.1 Local planning authorities are responsible for producing Local Plans and other planning policy documents which set the framework under which decisions on planning applications are made. All local planning authorities are expected to have an up-to-date Local Plan for their area. The Plan guides new development, setting the overall planning strategy for the area and setting policies and proposals for what development can happen, and where. The Local Plan is the main planning policy document for the area but can be supplemented by Supplementary Planning Documents (which provide additional guidance on the implementation of policies in the Local Plan) and by Neighbourhood Plans (which are community-led plans).
- 2.2 The Government sets national planning policies in the ‘National Planning Policy Framework’ (NPPF). Local Plan policies must comply with this national framework. The Government also publishes national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), which gives further guidance and advice on how local authorities are expected to prepare local planning documents and implement Government policy.
- 2.3 The current planning system has no hierarchy of plans between national and local planning policies. However, the Localism Act established a new ‘Duty to Co-operate’ which requires local planning authorities and other organisations to work together constructively in preparing their plans, to try to resolve cross boundary planning issues.

## 3. Planning in New Forest District

- 3.1 The Council has an adopted Local Plan for the area. The key documents which make up the Local Plan for New Forest District (outside the National Park) are:
  - The Local Plan 2016-2036 Part One: Planning Strategy, adopted in 2020, which sets the planning strategy for housing and employment provision, protection of sensitive environments, town centres, and transportation for the area up until 2036. It replaces and updates parts of the adopted 2009 Core Strategy, and a small number of the more strategic policies in the Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Development Management adopted in 2014.
  - The Local Plan Part Two: Sites and Development Management, adopted in April 2014, which sets out more detailed policies implementing the strategy, including identifying sites for new development. The remaining policies of the adopted 2009 Core Strategy and 2014 Local Plan Part 2 are either saved for continued use pending review as part of the Local Plan Review 2016-2036 Part Two, or are deleted, as set out in Appendix A of the Local Plan Part One. It includes allocations of specific sites for new housing, affordable housing and employment land. It also provides additional development management policies to assist the implementation of the Part One Local Plan.
- 3.2 DELETED.
- 3.3

# B

- 3.4 The Council has adopted several Supplementary Planning Documents. These include Local Distinctiveness SPDs and the Mitigation Strategy for European Sites SPD.
- 3.5 Full details of all current planning policy documents prepared by New Forest District Council are available on the Planning Policy page of the Council's web-site:  
[www.newforest.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.newforest.gov.uk/planningpolicy)

## **Working with others**

### The New Forest National Park

- 3.8 The Council attaches great importance to having a close working relationship with the New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA). Given the geography of the Plan Area and its relationship with the National Park, it is essential to the proper planning of the area that there is collaboration between the two planning authorities. The Council also has a duty to have regard to the purposes of the National Park under Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000). Planning policies for the area recognise that development proposals within the Plan Area can have a significant impact on the National Park, and on protected European nature conservation sites within the National Park.

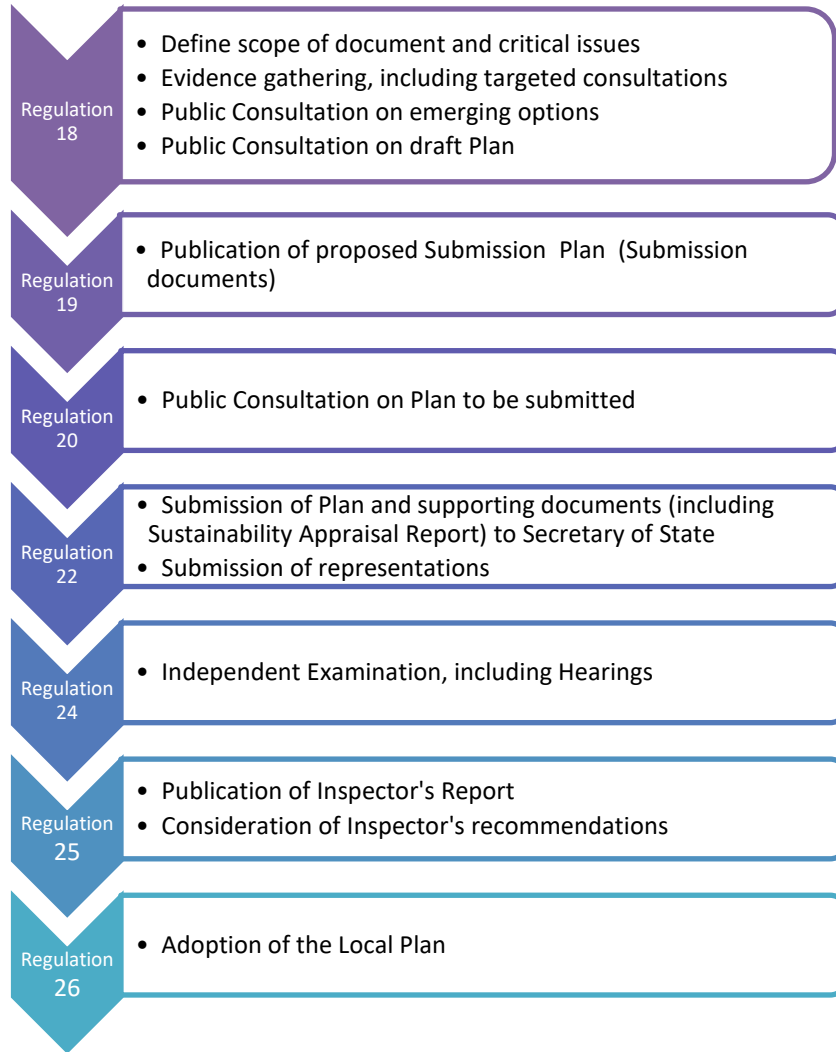
### Neighbouring authorities and Local Economic Partnerships

- 3.9 The Duty to Co-operate (DTC), brought into effect by the Localism Act (2011), aims to ensure that bodies engaged in planning work together on issues that are of more than local significance. The Council will continue to work with a wide range of statutory and non-statutory bodies in fulfilling its planning duties and ensuring that issues of more than local significance are dealt with by working with its neighbours and other appropriate bodies.
- 3.10 The Council will work with neighbouring authorities and other authorities in the sub-regions on matters of strategic significance, where cross-boundary working is essential to ensure an appropriate planning strategy for the wider area is established (including the work of the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership, the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire, and other neighbouring Local Enterprise Partnerships). This will include the joint commissioning of appropriate studies to assess housing and business needs locally and within the wider area.

See Section 5 for further information on the Duty to Co-operate.

- 4. The process of Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document preparation**
- 4.1 Procedures for preparing development plan documents are set out in national regulations, currently the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The figure below sets out the stages in plan preparation, indicating consultation stages, as set out in the Regulations.

**Figure 1 – Stages in Local Plan preparation**

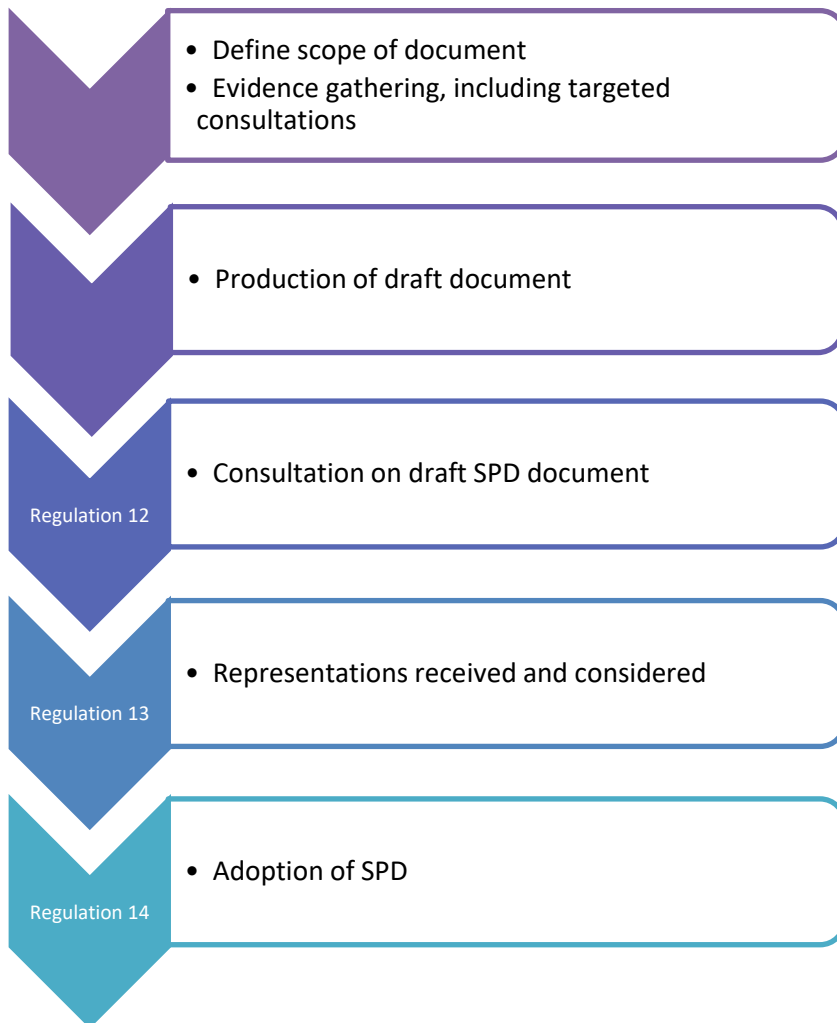


- 4.2 In the preparation of documents the Council will be consulting and involving others at various stages of plan preparation, from evidence gathering and developing strategic approaches to preparing the Plan for Submission and public Examination by an independent Inspector. The methods and techniques used to involve the community will vary depending on the stage of preparation reached and the type of planning document being prepared. More detail is given in section 5.
- 4.3 The Local Development Scheme sets out the programme for preparing local planning documents. As well as the Local Plan itself, Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), covering particular areas, sites or topics may be prepared. Examples of SPDs which have been prepared by New Forest District Council include the Lymington Local Distinctiveness SPD and the Mitigation Strategy for European Sites SPD (a full list of current SPDs is provided in the Local Development Scheme). The process for preparing Supplementary Planning Documents is simpler than for the Local Plan, the main difference being that an SPD is not subject to public Examination by an

# B

independent Inspector. However, the procedure followed in preparing Supplementary Planning Documents includes targeted involvement and consultation during the preparation of the document. The process is set out in the figure below.

**Figure 2 – Stages in Supplementary Planning Document preparation**



Further details of how we will involve others in the production of SPDs is set out in section 6.

## **5. How we will involve and consult others on the preparation of the Local Plan**

- 5.1 The National Planning Policy Guidance requires that Local Plans are prepared with meaningful engagement and collaboration with neighbourhoods, local organisations and businesses. The final Plan should aim to be a ‘collective vision and a set of agreed priorities for the sustainable development of the area’ (Paragraph 155).
- 5.2 The Town and Country (Local Planning (England) Regulations 2012 set out the procedure to be followed by local planning authorities in relation to the preparation of local plans and supplementary planning documents, including consultation with interested persons and bodies and the documents which must be made available at each stage. The Regulations can change over time; therefore the Council will comply with the relevant Regulations in force at the time.

5.3 The main means of finding out the latest news about progress with Plan preparation will be the Council's web-site [www.newforest.gov.uk](http://www.newforest.gov.uk).

The Council will use its website to:

- Provide information about progress with the preparation of planning documents
- Publish all current planning policy documents
- Give notice and details of current public consultations on planning policy documents under preparation
- Publish summaries of comments it has received on draft planning policy documents

5.4 The Council will keep a database of those wishing to be kept informed directly (normally by e-mail) about stages in plan preparation (the LDF contacts database).

5.5 Table 1 below sets out how the Council will involve others in the preparation of its Local Plan at various stages of plan preparation.

**Table 1 - The key stages of involving and consulting on Development Plan Documents (DPD):**

Stage:	What we will do:
<b>Early preparation Evidence gathering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consult on the scope of the Plan: identifying matters which may need particular attention in a new Plan</li> <li>- Gather relevant social, economic and environmental information to provide for background information and evidence</li> <li>- Engage in discussions and joint studies with neighbouring authorities</li> </ul>
<b>Production of draft plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prepare a draft Plan based on evidence and views collected</li> </ul>
<b>Formal Consultation on draft plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide a minimum period of six weeks for comments to be made on the draft Plan</li> <li>- Publish the consultation document with supporting information and background studies on the Council's website</li> <li>- Give details of the consultation and how to comment in a news release and on the Council's website</li> <li>- Notify all those on the LDF contacts database of the opportunity to comment (<u>including, where appropriate, local representative groups for those who do not have internet access</u>).</li> <li>- Hold, <u>virtual exhibitions, digital consultations, publicising on social media and providing documents for inspection on the council website</u></li> <li>- Make all documents available for public inspection at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst or Publish a summary of the comments received on the website</li> </ul>
<b>Production of Plan for Submission</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Take into consideration all comments received on the draft Plan in preparing the Plan for submission</li> </ul>
<b>Publication of Plan for Submission to the Secretary of State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Publish the Plan with supporting information and background studies on <u>the Council's website</u></li> </ul>

# B

Stage:	What we will do:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Give details of the consultation and how to comment in a news release and on the Council's website</li> <li>- Provide a minimum period of six weeks for representations to be made on the Plan</li> <li>- Notify all those who commented on the draft Plan that a revised Plan has been published and where the relevant documents can be inspected</li> <li>- Publish a summary of the representations received on the Council's website</li> </ul>
<b>Submission to Secretary of State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Submit for public Examination the Submission Plan, all supporting documents and all representations received on the Submission documents</li> <li>- <u>Make all documents available for public inspection on the council's website.</u></li> <li>- Make all documents available for public inspection at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst <u>on request</u></li> <li>- Give notice to those persons who requested to be notified of the submission of the local plan to the Secretary of State that it has been so submitted.</li> </ul>
<b>Examination by independent inspector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Those making representations on the Plan will be invited by the Local Plan Inspector to respond to questions on matters identified</li> <li>- If required, Hearing sessions will be held during the Examination on matters decided by the Inspector <u>(the method for holding these will be a matter for the inspector to decide, subject to social distancing rules in place at that time)</u></li> <li>- Those indicating they wish to appear at a physical or virtual Hearing session will be given the opportunity to do so</li> </ul> <p>(Note: the organisation and content of the Examination is a matter for the appointed Inspector)</p>
<b>Formal Adoption by NFDC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Publication of Inspector's Report and any Modifications to the plan required for Soundness</li> <li>- Adoption Statement published alongside the adopted DPD.</li> <li>- Notify all those who commented on the draft Plan that the DPD has been adopted.</li> </ul>

## Sustainability Appraisal

- 5.6 Alongside the preparation of the Local Plan the Council will undertake a Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging Plan and its proposals. This work will consider the impact of proposals on environmental, social and economic factors, including internationally significant nature conservation sites, which will be a key consideration. The Sustainability Appraisal will be subject to targeted consultation at

its ‘scoping’ stage, and wider consultation when published for comment alongside a consultation draft Local Plan and submission Local Plan.

### **Fulfilling the Duty to Cooperate**

- 5.7 The “Duty to Co-operate” requires local authorities and other prescribed bodies to work together on planning issues, and particularly on strategic matters which have a significant impact on at least two planning areas.
  - 5.8 New Forest District Council will work co-operatively with neighbouring planning authorities in Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset and other relevant public bodies on matters relating to the development of appropriate planning strategies within the Plan Area and in neighbouring areas.
  - 5.9 In addition to formal written consultations, this co-operation will involve discussions at both Officer, and as appropriate, Member level. Cross- boundary issues will be identified and, where possible, appropriate planning strategies will be agreed as a basis for preparing Local Plans and ensuring compatibility across administrative boundaries.
  - 5.10 In south Hampshire a formal partnership of local authorities (Partnership for South Hampshire – PfSH) is well established as a vehicle for developing planning strategies for the area. The Council will participate in and contribute to the work of PfSH at both Officer and Member level.
  - 5.11 New Forest District Council will also cooperate with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) and have regard to their activities when preparing the Local Plan, so long as those activities are relevant to local plan making. For the New Forest District area these are currently the Solent LEP, and the Hampshire & Isle of Wight LNP. Local Enterprise Partnerships have a key role to play in delivering local growth by directing strategic regeneration funds and in providing economic leadership through their Strategic Economic Plans. Local Nature Partnerships work strategically to help their local areas manage the natural environment and they are encouraged to work at a broader ‘landscape scale’.
  - 5.12 Working relationships on strategic planning matters with neighbouring authorities in Wiltshire and Dorset have been established and will developed as each authorities plan preparation progresses.
- 6. How we will involve and consult others on the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents**
- 6.1 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide additional guidance on the implementation of Local Plan policies.
  - 6.2 Although supplementary to the main policies, it is also important that the local community and interested organisations are involved in the preparation of these documents and have a chance to comment on the detail of how Local Plan policies and/or proposals are to be implemented. Supplementary Planning Documents are not subject to a formal examination by an independent Inspector.

**Table 2 - The key stages of involving and consulting on Supplementary Planning Documents:**

<b>Stage:</b>	<b>What we will do:</b>
<b>Awareness raising and evidence gathering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gather relevant background information and evidence</li> <li>- Engage in selective discussions and targeted consultation as appropriate</li> </ul>

# B

	<u>Hold virtual exhibitions, digital consultations, publicising on social media and providing documents for inspection on the council website.</u>
<b>Production of draft plan</b>	- Prepare a draft document based on evidence and views collected
<b>Formal Consultation on draft plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Publish the consultation document with supporting information on the website</li> <li>- Contact those on the LDF contacts database by e-mail to inform of the draft publication and opportunity to comment</li> <li>- Give details of the consultation and how to comment in a news release and on the Council's website</li> <li>- Provide a minimum period of four weeks for comments to be made on the draft SPD document (although the norm will be for a six week consultation period)</li> <li>- Write to all those specifically requesting postal notification of publication of a specific SPD</li> <li>- Make all documents available for public inspection at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst and on the Council's website.</li> <li>- Publish a summary of the comments received on the website</li> </ul>
<b>Adoption by NFDC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revised plan submitted with summary of comments received and how comments have been addressed</li> <li>- Comments received reported to members (with summary of comments)</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Publication of Consultation Statement, Cabinet / Full Council papers, and final document for adoption</li> <li>- Adoption Statement released alongside the adopted SPD</li> </ul>

## 7. Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders

- 7.1 The Localism Act 2011 introduced statutory Neighbourhood Planning in England. It enables communities to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan for their area (within certain limits and parameters set by the agreed strategy in the Local Plan). Through preparing a Neighbourhood Plan (or a Neighbourhood Development Order) local communities can have a greater say in deciding how the planned development is accommodated in their area. These can be taken forward by Town / Parish Councils.
- 7.2 Parish and Town Councils can use neighbourhood planning powers to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in their neighbourhood through the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan or the granting of planning permission for a specific type of development through a Neighbourhood Development Order.
- 7.3 It is the role of the local planning authority to agree the (geographical) neighbourhood planning area. Additionally, the local planning authority must provide advice and assistance; hold an examination; and make arrangements for a referendum. The District Council has published a Neighbourhood planning protocol, and this is contained in Appendix 2 of this Statement. The protocol outlines how the District Council will undertake its statutory duties, and the level and extent of the technical advice and assistance that the Council will provide.



7.4 Appendix 3 sets out the guidance specifically designed to support qualifying bodies, which includes Parish or Town Council, on the consultation process relating to the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. It contains advice on when, who, how and where to consult to ensure effective community engagement. It suggests the qualifying body considers the following consultation mechanisms when developing a Plan or Order:

- Holding events/drop in's
- Adverts/posters
- Letters/flyers to everyone in neighbourhood area
- Questionnaires/comments forms
- Use of websites, social media and e-mail
- Notice in parish newsletters/local magazines
- Visiting/contacting already established local groups.

7.5 Neighbourhood Plans / Orders must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan which the District Council will continue to produce.

7.5 They must also meet a number of conditions before they can be put to a community referendum and legally come into force. The conditions ensure that plans are legally compliant and take account of wider policy considerations (e.g. national policy and the Local Plan strategy). Neighbourhood Plans do not take effect unless there is a majority of support for it in a local Referendum and the Plan is adopted by the District Council.

7.6 It will be for those preparing a Neighbourhood Plan to decide how best to consult during the preparation of the document, but they must comply with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations in place at the time. More information about Neighbourhood Planning can be found at.  
[Http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/)

## **8. How we will involve others on allocating the Community Infrastructure Levy to projects**

8.1 The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 require the Council to set out a list of those projects or types of infrastructure that it intends to fund, or may fund, through the levy. This list of projects may be revised from time to time following appropriate consultation.

8.2 The consultation process will involve providers of infrastructure including bodies such as HCC, the Police and Health Authorities, NFDC departments and Town and Parish Councils, as appropriate. A recommended list of projects (known as a Regulation 123 list) will then be prepared and subject to further consultation before being presented for approval by the Council's Cabinet at the start of the year. Requirements for who should be consulted are currently set out in Regulation 15 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (with amendments) and the Council will apply the relevant regulations in force at the time.

## **9. Community Involvement and Development Management**

9.1 For many people, the most visible impact of the planning system is the regulation of development through planning applications. Applications are normally determined in accordance with the policies and proposals of the statutory development plan for the

# B

area unless there are other material considerations that justify departing from these policies. Whenever an application is determined contrary to the provisions of the development plan, there should be specific and justified material considerations for doing so. Community involvement in considering planning applications can be an important means of identifying other material considerations. Community involvement can also help shape proposals so that they are more acceptable and appropriate to the area where the development is occurring.

9.2 There are four main stages in the Development Management Process:

- Pre-application
- Planning applications
- Appeals
- Enforcement

The following provides an overview of the Council's publicity and consultation arrangements for these four elements of Development Management.

## **Pre-application Stage**

9.3 The Council welcomes and encourages discussion with applicants and developers before planning applications are submitted. Receiving considered advice prior to the formal submission of a planning application can ensure that the quality of a development is improved and that certainty in the outcome can be increased for the applicant. Applicants or developers are encouraged to consult with the community before submitting planning applications which are likely to generate public interest.

9.4 Whilst there is no statutory requirement for the Council to engage with the community at the pre-application stage on pre-application schemes. Paragraphs 39 to 46 of the NPPF states that early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties, and that good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community. Entering into a Planning Performance Agreement with the Council provides an opportunity for identifying the preferred approach to community engagement.

## **Planning Application Stage**

### **What happens when a planning application is received?**

9.5 All planning applications are checked to ensure that necessary plans and details are provided to enable the application to be determined. When an application has been validated neighbours (those occupying properties that adjoin the site) are notified by letter. Consultees are also notified (as relevant depending on the nature of the application). All applications are placed on the Council's Website for public view. Full details of notification undertaken are provided at Appendix 4.

9.6 The minimum requirements for publicising and consulting on planning applications are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. We comply with the minimum requirement in all cases, in most cases we exceed this to ensure that our communities are as involved as possible. Irrespective of how the community hear about a proposal, anyone can submit

comments on an application. The notification letter, site notice and press advertisement explain where the planning application can be viewed.

9.7 Comments are invited on planning applications for a period of 21 days, which is a statutory period set out by government. All comments received prior to the determination of an application, even if outside of the 21 day publicity period will be taken into consideration. In most cases a site notice is also provided, and this will be displayed for 21 days.

### **Who we will consult?**

9.8 The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 specifies the stages at which statutory consultation will take place on planning applications and notifications. The Regulations set out that certain bodies must be consulted, depending on the type of application and/or constraints that affect the site. The relevant bodies are listed in Appendix 4: 'Publicising Planning and related Application'. We will notify such bodies either by sending them the weekly list, an email or consultation letter. Statutory bodies are made up of both internal and external consultees.

9.9 Schedule 1, paragraph 8, of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, states that there is only a statutory requirement for local planning authorities to notify Parish Councils of planning applications received if the Parish Council has requested that it be notified. The local planning authority is then required to send a copy of the application or indicate to the Parish Council the nature of the development identifying the land to which the application relates. The Council e mail automatically the weekly lists of applications received, decisions made, and appeals received to all Town and Parish Councils. All town and Parish councils are notified on applications.

### **How is a planning application determined?**

9.10 Whilst a planning application is determined primarily against the Development Plan and National policies, material consideration is also given to:

- i) Representations of objections and support
- ii) Advice from external specialists such as Natural England or Historic England
- iii) Government guidance
- iv) Comments from town and parish council
- v) Any other material consideration

9.11 The planning case officer assesses of the application will be based on the above and their judgement on the impact the proposed development will have. The publicity requirements mean that we will not receive all the relevant views until about a month after the council register the application and this will be longer in some cases.

9.15 The council will determine planning applications on the information submitted. There may however be some circumstances whereby, at the discretion of the council, amendments can be accepted prior to a determination to resolve outstanding issues. In these instances, the case officer will provide the necessary time in order to provide the applicant with an opportunity to amend the application depending on the degree of change. Under no circumstances should applicants amend an application following a consultation response they have read online.

# B

- 9.13 Where the Council receives significant amendments to a current planning application, that it can accept, it will re-publish the application making it clear that amendments to the application have been proposed.
- 9.14 Following a review and analysis of all the information and submissions to a development proposal, a report is prepared on the acceptability of the development. The decision on whether to grant planning permission is made either under delegated powers by the Chief Planning Officer, which will be the case for majority of applications, or by the Planning Committee. In cases where applications are to be considered by the Planning Committee, those who have already made written comments on the application can request to address the Committee at the relevant meeting.
- 9.15 Once the decision is issued on planning applications the decision notice, plans and officer report are available to view online, but letters of representation will be removed one year after decision date.
- 9.16 The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (England) Order 2015 introduced a prior approval arrangement for certain single storey extensions to dwelling houses with a statutory requirement being placed on the Council to serve notice on any owner or occupiers of adjoining properties and give them a minimum of 21 days to object. These prior approval notifications introduce a new procedure differing from that for planning applications.

## **Assisting the Local Planning Authority**

- 9.17 The council expects planning applications to be determined within timescales set by national guidance unless an alternative period has been agreed (in writing) with an applicant to allow positive and proactive discussion. The national targets are as follows:
- (1) Major applications accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment – sixteen weeks
  - (2) Major applications- thirteen weeks
  - (3) Minor and other applications – eight weeks

## **Post decision**

### **Appeals**

- 9.17 Applicants have the right to appeal against the refusal of a planning permission to the Planning Inspectorate. There is no third-party right of appeal (i.e. for those who objected to a planning application). The Council will notify relevant parties who commented on the planning application of the appeal and advise them how they may make comments to the Planning Inspectorate. Information relating to the appeal will also be available to view on the Council's Online Planning Register.

## **Discharge of conditions**

- 9.19 The grant of planning permission is commonly subject to planning conditions which may require the submission of further information to the council for approval. This may

address matters such as materials, landscaping, natural green space and green infrastructure and highway matters.

9.20 The Council will seek to deal with such applications within eight weeks from the date of receipt. Submissions made for approval of details are not subject to publicity.

### **Post decision Amended Plans**

9.21 Post-decision amendments are only accepted if the amendment is very minor and are considered on a case by case basis. In cases where amendments are accepted, the amendments will not be the subject of publicity.

### **Enforcement**

9.22 If members of the local community draw possible breaches of planning to the attention of the Council these will be investigated in accordance with the Local Enforcement Plan which is published on the Council Website.

## **Appendix 1: Local Planning documents - consultees**

New Forest District Council has an electronic database used solely for the purpose of contacting interested organisations, groups, and individuals about the preparation of local planning documents. There are four types of consultee identified on the database, as set out below.

### **Type A - Specific Consultation bodies**

In accordance with the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, this Council will consult the following organisations on parts of the Local Plan to the extent that it considers the document to be relevant to the organisation:

- All town and parish councils within New Forest District
- The New Forest National Park Authority
- Hampshire County Council
- Dorset County Council
- Wiltshire Council
- Test Valley Borough Council
- Isle of Wight Council
- Melchet Park & Plaitford; Nursling & Rownhams; Romsey Extra; Wellow Parish Councils
- Bishopstone; Bower Chalke; Broad Chalke; Coombe Bisset; Downton; Landford; Odstock; Redlynch; Stratford Tony Parish Councils.
- Southampton City Council
- Christchurch Borough Council
- Burton; Hurn Parish councils
- East Dorset District Council
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Alderholt; Cranborne & Edmondsham; Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge; St Leonards & St Ives; Verwood Parish council
- The Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH)
- The Coal Authority
- The Homes and Communities Agency
- The Environment Agency
- Natural England

# B

- Network Rail
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (English Heritage)
- The Highways Agency
- The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership
- NHS West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- British Telecommunications PLC
- Southern Electricity
- Scottish and Southern Energy
- Southern Gas Networks
- RWE npower
- EON PLC
- The National Grid Company PLC
- British Gas
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire
- The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership
- The Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership
- The Marine Management Organisation
- Wessex Water
- Southern Water
- Sembcorp Bournemouth Water PLC
- The Mobile Operators Association (which represents telecommunications operators such as: Airwave, Dolphin Communications; Hutchinson 3G; Mercury; NTL; One2One; Orange; O2; T-Mobile; Vodafone etc).

## **Type B - General Consultation bodies**

In addition to the identified 'Specific' consultees set out above, the Regulations require the Council to also notify and consult additional bodies it considers appropriate.

The list below represents the type of different organisations which are likely to have an interest in the Local Plan process, and is not meant to be exhaustive.

The Council has created a contacts database which includes local groups and organisations in the categories below. However, the Council is dependent on up-to-date information being provided by these local groups and organisations in order to effectively contact them. The Council is keen to hear from other organisations that wish to be involved in the plan-making process, and will be happy to add local groups and organisations to its LDF contacts database on request.

Organisations likely to have an interest in the Local Plan process will include:

- Residents groups and associations.
- Amenity and conservation societies.
- Sports & recreation organisations.
- Schools & colleges.
- Disability organisations and groups.
- Older persons groups.
- Ethnic minority groups.
- Gypsies and travelling show people, including the Traveller Education Service.
- Churches and other religious organisations.
- Housing associations and registered social landlords.
- Tourism organisations.
- Youth groups and organisations.
- Businesses and chambers of trade/commerce.
- Developers and planning agents/architects.

- New Forest Verderers, Commoners and other representative organisations.
- Port operators and harbour authorities at Southampton and Lymington.
- Transport operators and managers including Network Rail, train and bus companies.
- Coastal interests including commercial, leisure and amenity organisations.
- Major estates.
- The Ministry of Defence.
- Southampton and Bournemouth Airports.
- Other Government organisations not already listed in Annex B

### **Type C - Statutory consultees for the Duty to co-operate**

In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, this Council will co-operate with the following organisations on matters in the Local Plan it considers to be of strategic significance.

- The Environment Agency.
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as English Heritage).
- Natural England.
- The Civil Aviation Authority.
- The Highways Agency
- The Homes and Communities Agency.
- Each Primary Care Trust established under section 18 of the National Health Service Act 2006(16) or continued in existence by virtue of that section (in 2014 this was the NHS West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group).
- The Office of Rail Regulation
- The Solent Local Transport Body / Transport for South Hampshire
- The Marine Management Organisation.
- The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership.
- The Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership.
- The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership

### **Type D - Individuals**

In addition to the above, any individual that has a particular interest in local planning, for example as a landowner or a local resident, can ask to be included in the LDF contacts database, and will receive notification of consultation stages in Local Plan preparation. Anyone making a comment during public consultation stages of plan preparation will be added to the LDF contacts database and will receive further notifications (normally by e-mail) about the preparation of that document until the time it is adopted.

## **Appendix 2 – Neighbourhood Planning Protocol**

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### **Neighbourhood Planning support**

#### **1. Introduction and Purpose**

- 1.1. New Forest District Council supports the concept of Neighbourhood Planning and the potential it offers to communities to help shape the places where they live. In deciding whether or how to progress a Neighbourhood Plan, communities will need to consider how they would carry out the work required to deliver an effective and evidence-based Neighbourhood Plan.

# B

- 1.2. There are a range of national and other published sources of information and advice on Neighbourhood Planning, and that advice is not repeated here (see appendix one for some useful links). The aim of this note is to define the nature, scope and limitations of support that will be provided by New Forest District Council Planning Services to Town and Parish councils for the purposes of the preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 1.3. The note is also applicable to Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.
- 1.4. Planning Services will coordinate the involvement of other parts of the Council as and when required, including involvement of Electoral Services at referendum stage.
- 1.5. The District Council is responsible for:
  - a. fulfilling certain statutory requirements at the beginning and end of the process (see section 3)
  - b. the provision of proportionate advice and assistance (see section 4)
- 1.6. This note outlines:
  - a. how the District Council will undertake its statutory duties
  - b. the level and extent of the technical advice and assistance that the District Council will provide
- 2. Context: Neighbourhood Planning and the District Local Plan**
- 2.1. The primary focus and first priority of the District Council is the preparation and adoption of the Local Plan. The ability of the District Council to offer support and advice for Neighbourhood Planning will vary depending on the stage of the Local Plan and the workload of the Local Plan team.
- 2.2. The Local Plan Part One covers strategic matters including strategic housing allocations, and proposes strategic housing allocations in designated Neighbourhood Areas.
- 2.3. Other sites and policies will be progressed through the Local Plan Part Two, scheduled to commence in 2018. The content and coverage of the Local Plan Part Two for designated Neighbourhood Areas would consider the aims and scope of Neighbourhood Plans and their progress.
- 3. The statutory obligations of the District Council**
- 3.1. The District Council will fulfil its statutory Neighbourhood Planning obligations as required by the prevailing regulations, which include
  - i As soon as possible after receiving the Neighbourhood Area application, publicise and consult in accordance with the statutory timeframes (Regulation 6)
  - ii To consider the consultation responses received, and (where appropriate) designate the Neighbourhood Area and publicise it on the NFDC website (Regulation 7)
- 3.2. Upon submission of a Plan Proposal by the Town/Parish Council to the District Council, the District Council will (liaising with the New Forest National Park Authority as appropriate):
  - i Confirm to the Town or Parish Council whether or not the submission plan proposal complies with Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations
  - ii Publicise and start consultation with the public on the submission plan proposal and other relevant documentation (Regulation 16)
  - iii Contact the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examiner Referral Service (or equivalent) and appoint an appropriately qualified and experienced examiner
  - iv Submit the draft Neighbourhood Plan, supporting documents and representation to the Independent Examiner (Regulation 17) in a timeframe commensurate with the volume of representations received (Regulation 17)



- v Arrange an Examination hearing and date in consultation with the Town or Parish Council. If a public hearing is required as part of the Examination process (rather than written representations), the hearing will be virtual if circumstances necessitate. If a physical hearing is possible and appropriate, wherever possible the venue will be in the local area.
- vi Publish a ‘Decision Statement’ (Regulation 18/19) as soon as practicable following the receipt of the inspector’s examination report
- vii Subject to the Examiner’s recommendations, make arrangements for holding the referendum, by post or digital means if necessary.
- viii Adopt the Neighbourhood Plan (Regulation 19/20) at the first available meeting of the District Council following confirmation of majority support at referendum, and make it available through the District Council website.

#### **4. District Council advice and assistance**

- 4.1. This section relates to the preparation of a draft Neighbourhood Plan by the Town / Parish Council prior to submission of a plan proposal to the District Council.
- 4.2. For each Neighbourhood Area, the District Council will identify an officer from the Policy and Plans Team as the first point of contact.  
Initial meeting
- 4.3. At the request of the Town or Parish council and following designation of the Neighbourhood Area the liaison officer will host or attend an initial exploratory meeting on the first mutually acceptable date.  
Neighbourhood plan objectives, scope and working arrangements
- 4.4. Before the District Council can provide technical advice or assistance on the preparation or proposed content of the Neighbourhood Plan the Town / Parish Council will first need to decide upon and provide a concise statement that sets out
  - the likely aims and objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan e.g. what it is seeking to influence, change, manage, protect or deliver
  - whether or not the Neighbourhood Plan will identify or allocate housing development sites large enough to accommodate ten or more homes
  - what other policy areas or issues the Neighbourhood Plan will address
  - proposed working and decision making arrangements and how they may be resourced
  - an indicative timetable
- 4.5. The District Council accepts that the above matters may change over time.  
Background Data and Evidence
- 4.6. Upon request the Council will make electronically available or provide access to the following, subject as applicable to licensing, Data Protection and commercial confidentiality
  - Published reports and studies in the Local Plan evidence base
  - Mapping data (fees may be applicable)
  - Any other specific, relevant and proportionate requests for existing planning and environmental information for the Neighbourhood Area that is held by the District Council.
- 4.7. The District Council will not be able to
  - Commission, tender for or carry out Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessments, Environmental Impact Assessments, Flood Risk Assessments, Housing Need surveys or other such assessments as may be necessary
  - Commission, tender for or carry out research or forecasting for the Neighbourhood Area

# B

- Search for, extract or interpret third party data for the Neighbourhood Area
- Prepare plans, maps or map-based analyses for the Neighbourhood Area.

## Consultation and engagement

4.8. The Neighbourhood Plan process is intended to be local community led. It will be for the local Town or Parish Council to undertake their own Neighbourhood Plan public consultations and the District Council will generally not seek or expect to be involved other than as a consultee. Guidance [specifically designed to support qualifying bodies, which includes Parish or Town Council, on the consultation process relating to the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan is set out in Appendix 3 of this Statement.](#)

4.9. In addition to its statutory responsibilities the District Council will publicise the Neighbourhood Plan consultation on the District Council website with a link to the published draft Neighbourhood Plan.

## Policy and plan writing

4.10. On request with advance notification and given sufficient time to respond the District Council will

- Comment on proposed policy approaches (including possible alternatives)
- Provide initial advice on the application of sustainability appraisal to policy development
- Review draft policies before they are finalised for consultation or publication and provide informal advice on their clarity, robustness and compatibility with the National Planning Framework and with the adopted and emerging District Local Plan.

4.11. The District Council will not be able to

- Write or edit Neighbourhood Plan policies, supporting text or supporting documents
- Undertake desk top publishing, design, printing, copying or distribution of Neighbourhood Plans or supporting documents.

## Site allocation in Neighbourhood Plans

4.12. Where the Town / Parish Council has committed allocating sites for development as part of the Neighbourhood Plan, the District Council will on request and where resources are available to do so

- Share and explain the Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Site Assessment methodology
- Briefly review and comment on any local site selection or appraisal methodology
- Briefly review and comment on the draft results of a Town or Parish site assessment
- Provide initial advice on Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment including Habitats impact mitigation
- Advise what supporting technical assessments would be appropriate for any development site(s) proposed e.g. ecological surveys, flooding assessments
- Comment briefly on site technical studies.

4.13. Town and Parish Councils should encourage site promoters and land owners to seek pre-application advice from the District Council. Where appropriate some of the above matters may be provided in the form of pre-planning application advice.

4.14. The District Council will not be able to

- Undertake site selection assessments on behalf of a Town or Parish Council preparing a Neighbourhood Plan
- Carry out site technical assessments or background studies for the Neighbourhood Plan

- Undertake detailed site design or masterplanning work unless contracted to do so by the Town or Parish Council.

Attendance of further meetings

- 4.15. On invitation and subject to availability District Council officers may attend further meetings of the working group at critical decision points leading to consultation on or submission of the Neighbourhood Plan, or the identification of sites for development. An agenda and relevant papers will be required two weeks in advance.
- 4.16. District Council officers will not be able to attend routine steering or working group meetings or meetings at weekends or concluding after 8.30pm.

## Appendix 3

### Who should the Qualifying Neighbourhood Plan seek to engage with?

In preparing a Neighbourhood Plan the Qualifying Body will need to engage and consult with those living, working, with an interest in or affected by proposals and relevant consultees (such as infrastructure providers). The community engagement undertaken by the Qualifying Body will need to be explained in the Consultation Statement required under Section 15(2), Part 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012(as amended) and which is submitted with the Plan for consideration by the Independent Examiner. Failure to demonstrate that adequate engagement with the community and statutory consultees can lead to the Neighbourhood Plan being found to be unsound.

It is important to recognise the mix of people in your community to ensure that everyone has the chance to engage in the process. Grouping residents and businesses into ‘stakeholder’ groups will help you to identify what methods you need to use to ensure you obtain their views. Typical stakeholders groups include:

- Schoolchildren (aged 5-16)
- Young people (aged 16 – 30)
- Older people
- Commuters (people living in the community but working outside)
- Community groups and societies
- Single parent families
- Persons with disabilities
- Faith groups
- People employed in the community
- Local businesses and landowners
- Black and minority ethnic groups including gypsies and travellers
- Families
- Voluntary organisations acting in the area

<u>Guidance for Parish/town council/neighbourhood forum (qualifying body) in engaging with their Communities.</u>		
<u>Key Stage in the Neighbourhood Plan Process</u>	<u>Consultation for the Qualifying Body to consider undertaking</u>	<u>Methods of Consultation to consider</u>
<u>Stage 1: Designation of neighbourhood area (and if appropriate</u>	<u>Before submitting an application to designate the neighbourhood area the parish/town council or neighbourhood forum may decide to consult with the local</u>	<u>Not applicable</u>

# B

<p><u>neighbourhood forum)</u></p>	<p><u>community about preparing a neighbourhood plan/order.</u></p>	
<p><u>Stage 2: Preparing the Draft Neighbourhood Plan/Order</u></p>	<p><u>Ongoing consultation and engagement as the neighbourhood plan/order is being developed with the community (those living, working, with an interest in or affected by proposals, including landowners) and relevant consultees (such as infrastructure providers)</u></p> <p><u>Engagement with other bodies whose interests may be affected by your neighbourhood plan. These include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Hampshire County Council</u></li> <li>- <u>Infrastructure providers</u></li> <li>- <u>Natural England</u></li> <li>- <u>Environment Agency</u></li> <li>- <u>English Heritage</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Adverts/posters</u></li> <li>- <u>Letters/flyers to everyone in neighbourhood plan area</u></li> <li>- <u>Questionnaires/comments forms</u></li> <li>- <u>Use of websites, social media and e-mail</u></li> <li>- <u>Notice in parish newsletters/local magazines</u></li> <li>- <u>Visiting/contacting already established local groups.</u></li> <li>- <u>Public meetings</u></li> <li>- <u>Focus groups</u></li> <li>- <u>Stakeholder seminars</u></li> <li>- <u>Open Days and workshops</u></li> <li>- <u>Exhibitions</u></li> <li>- <u>Press Notices</u></li> </ul> <p><u>Whatever means of engagement with the community are used it is important to maintain a record of the activity and responses received to inform the Statement of Community Involvement required to be prepared by the Qualifying Body at Stage 3.</u></p>
<p><u>Stage 3: Pre-submission publicity and consultation:</u></p>	<p><u>At this stage Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 provides that the Qualifying Body bring the Pre-submission Plan to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood plan area and invite representations.</u></p> <p><u>Under Regulation 14 the Qualifying Body must also consult any “consultation body” whose interests may be affected by the proposals contained in the Pre-submission Plan.</u></p>	<p><u>Inform local residents, local business and affected landowners of the plan, where to view it and how to make representations</u></p> <p><u>This can use such approaches as:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Press Notices</u></li> <li>- <u>Notice in parish newsletters/local magazines</u></li> <li>- <u>Direct communications by letter</u></li> <li>- <u>Use of websites, social media and e-mail</u></li> <li>- <u>Exhibition</u></li> </ul>

		<p><u>The Pre-submission Plan can be made available to view online, at local libraries and other deposit locations such as Local Council offices and village/town halls.</u></p> <p><u>Formal letters must be sent to the relevant Consultation Body that may be affected by the Plan.</u></p>
<u>Stage 4: Submission of Neighbourhood Plan/Order to Borough Council:</u>	<u>None required</u>	<u>Not applicable</u>
<u>Stage 5: Independent examination</u>	<u>None required</u>	<u>Not applicable</u>
<u>Stage 7: Making the neighbourhood plan/order Provided more than 50% vote in favour at the referendum the Plan will proceed to adoption by the District Council.</u>	<u>None required</u>	<u>Subject to strict limitations the Qualifying Body may draw attention to the referendum. The Council's Electoral Services Section will give guidance on what the Qualifying Body can and cannot do in publicising the referendum.</u>

## Appendix 4 - Publicising Planning and related Applications

<u>Type of Development</u>	<u>Statutory Publicity Requirement</u>	<u>How the Council will publicise applications</u>
<u>Major Development: Residential developments involving 10 or more homes, or where the site area is 0.5 hectares or more. Other development: 1000m<sup>2</sup> floor space or 1.0 hectares</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (14 days) and either Site notice (21 days) or Neighbour notification (21 days)</u>	<p><u>The council will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>• Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> <li><u>• Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site properties</u></li> <li><u>• Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Applications subject to Environmental Impact Assessment which are accompanied by an environmental statement</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (14 days) and Site notice (21 days)</u>	<p><u>The council will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>• Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> <li><u>• Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li><u>• Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Application that is a departure from the Local Plan</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (14 days)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>• Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> </ul>

# B

	<u>days) and Site notice (21 days)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site properties</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Application which would affect a right of way to which Part 3 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (14 days) and Site notice (21 days)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<b><u>Minor Development</u></b> <u>Residential development involving less than 10 homes. Other development: floor space is less than 1000m<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Site Notice (21 days) Or Neighbour notification (21 days)</u>	<u>The council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Change of use applications</u>	<u>Site Notice or Neighbour Notification</u>	<u>The council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Householder developments</u>	<u>Site Notice or Neighbour Notification</u>	<u>The council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Development affecting the setting of a listed building</u>	<u>Press Advert Site Notice</u>	<u>The council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice at or near the site</u></li> </ul>
<u>Listed Building consent for works affecting the exterior of the building</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (21 days) and Site notice (7 days)</u>	<u>The council will</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site.</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice</u></li> </ul>
<u>Development affecting the character of a conservation area.</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (21 days) and Site notice (7 days)</u>	<u>The council will</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Publish Public Notice in newspaper</u></li> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice</u></li> </ul>
<u>Applications to vary or discharge conditions</u>	<u>Newspaper advertisement (21</u>	<u>None</u>

<u>attached to a listed building consent or conservation area consent, or involving exterior works to a listed building.</u>	<u>days) and Site notice (7 days)</u>	
<b><u>Prior approvals and prior notifications</u></b>		
<u>Prior Notification of Larger Homes Household Extensions</u>	<u>Neighbour notification (21 days)</u>	<u>The Council will notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u>
<u>Prior Notification of Demolition of a building</u>	<u>Site Notice must be posted by applicant (21 days from date of notification)</u>	<u>None</u>
<u>Prior Notification of Changes of Use</u>	<u>Site Notice or Neighbour Notification</u>	<u>The Council will display a site notice</u>
<u>Prior Approval of Agricultural or forestry development (Agricultural/Forestry)</u>	<u>None (If prior approval of details is required applicant must post site notice for 21 days)</u>	<u>None</u>
<u>Prior Approval for change of use (Class C, J, M, N, O, P, PA, Q, R, S, T)</u>	<u>Site Notice (21 days) or neighbour notification</u>	<u>The council will: Display a site notice</u>
<u>Prior Notification for Telecommunication Equipment</u>	<p><u>Where development is not in accordance with the development plan or would affect a public right of way to which Part 3 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies: Site notice (21 days) and Advertisement in local newspaper.</u></p> <p><u>On sites of 1 hectare or more: Advertisement in local newspaper and Site notice or neighbour notification.</u></p> <p><u>All other development not covered above: Site</u></p>	<p><u>The council will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site Display a site notice</u></li> </ul>

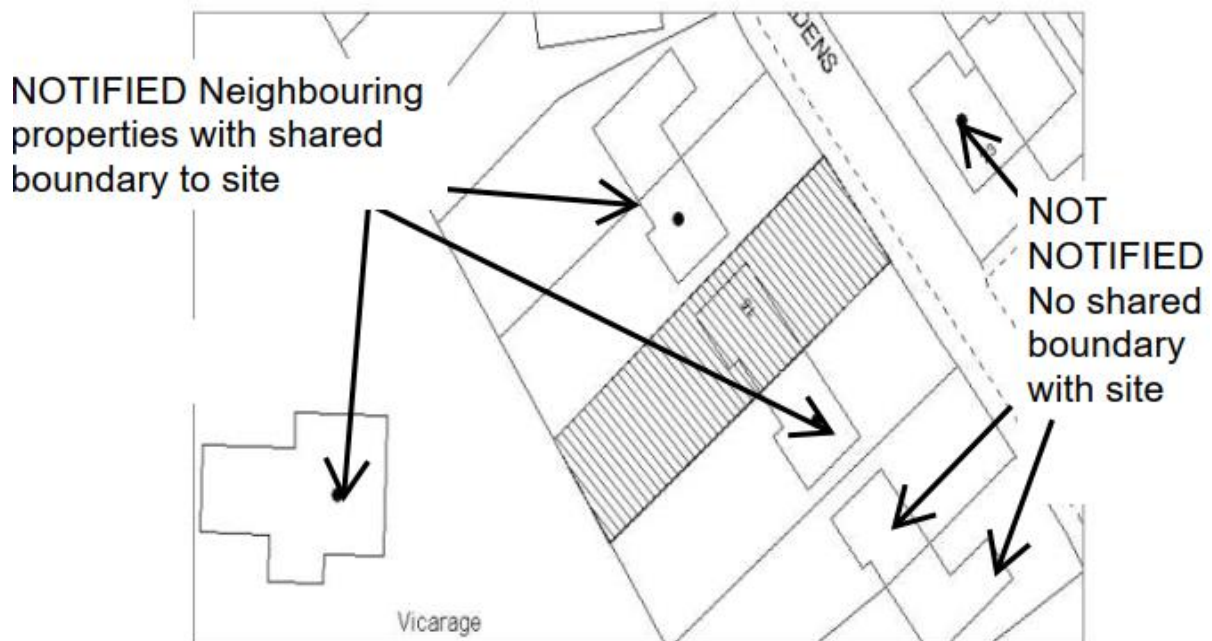
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	<u>notice or neighbour notification.</u>	
<u>Advertisement Applications</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>The Council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours in adjoining properties</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice</u></li> </ul>
<u>Applications for Works to Trees Protected by a Tree Preservation Order</u>	<u>Site Notice (21 days)</u> <u>- Where the Council considers that local people might be affected, or that there is likely to be a good deal of public interest</u> <u>- Obligatory in any case where the Council is the applicant</u>	<u>The council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours in adjoining and opposite properties.</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice</u></li> </ul>
<u>Notice of works to trees in conservation areas</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>The Council will:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Notify neighbours with adjoining and opposite boundaries to the application site</u></li> <li>• <u>Display a site notice</u></li> </ul>
<u>Certificates of Lawfulness for Existing Use and Development</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>The Council will notify neighbours with adjoining boundaries to the application site</u>
<u>Certificates of Lawfulness for Proposed Use and Development</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>



### **Appendix 5 How we will notify neighbours**

Once a planning application has been registered, we will notify by letter all properties with a common boundary to the site, including to the rear, as is shown in the example below.



### **Exceptions**

We do not notify neighbours where the applications are for Certificates of Lawfulness for a Proposed Use or Development, Non-Material Amendments following a grant of planning permission, and Prior Notifications for Demolition of a building, erection of agricultural buildings and Prior Approvals for changes of use (Class C, J, M, N, O, P, PA, Q, R, S, T). Additional properties may be notified as the planning case officers will check on their site visit that appropriate neighbour notification have been carried out.

In addition to notifying by letter properties with a common boundary we will display a site notice at or near the application site.

### **Wider neighbour notification/consultation**

Wider neighbour notification will be undertaken where the development proposed is considered to have the potential for wider impacts, such as a major development leading to significant traffic increases or the proposed development being widely visible and potentially visually obtrusive.

# B

## Appendix 6 - Glossary

This annex provides supplementary information on some of the techniques mentioned in the Statement of Community Involvement, and on some of the acronyms found in the new planning system.

**Appropriate Assessment** - Part of the HRA process, considers the impacts of a plan or policy on the integrity of the European sites. Where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of mitigation options is carried out to determine adverse effects on the integrity of the site.

**Council's website** - [www.nfdc.gov.uk](http://www.nfdc.gov.uk) or [www.newforest.gov.uk](http://www.newforest.gov.uk)

**DPD** - Development Plan Documents, are the main planning policy documents in the Local Plan. These include the Core Strategy which sets out the main planning strategy for the area.

**Duty to Co-operate** - The 'Duty to Co-operate' is set out in the Localism Act and ensures that local planning authorities work with neighbouring authorities and other public bodies to address strategic issues that affect local plans and cross administrative boundaries.

**European Sites** – A collective name for internationally important nature conservation sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar Sites. Areas of international nature conservation importance that are protected under the Habitats Directive and the Ramsar Convention for the benefit of the habitats and species they support.

**HRA (Habitat Regulations Assessment)** - An assessment of the impacts of implementing a plan or policy on international protected sites for nature conservation (European Sites and Ramsar sites - wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention). Helps determine likely significant effect of a plan or project on international protected sites and, where appropriate, assess adverse impacts on the integrity of a site, and examines alternative solutions.

**LDF contacts database** – A list of names and contact details of specific consultees and others to be kept informed about the preparation of Local Development Framework documents by NFDC

**Local Development Scheme (LDS)** - a sort of project plan for the preparation of the Local Development Framework. This sets out the timescales for preparing the Local Plan, including when each document will be consulted on.

**NFDC** – New Forest District Council

**NPPF** - National Planning Policy Framework, sets out the Government's key economic, social and environmental objectives and the planning policies needed to deliver them. Came into force in March 2012 and streamlined the existing suite of national planning policy documents into a single document (removing previous Planning Policy Statements and Circulars).

**NPPG** - National Planning Practice Guidance, brings together many areas of English planning guidance into a new online format to accompany the NPPF. It contains 41 categories; from 'Advertisements' to 'Water supply'. Each category contains sub-topics which when clicked on reveal a series of questions and answers.

**Neighbour notification letters** - Generally used for the advertising of planning applications, these inform property owners of planning applications submitted on adjoining property or land. The letters contain information about the proposed development, and explain how and when to comment.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - Communities can now set a vision for the future and establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in their neighbourhood in a document known as a Neighbourhood Plan. Can be detailed or general, depending on what local people want. Only become adopted policy if agreed by a majority in a local community referendum.

**Plan Area** – New Forest District Council area outside of the New Forest National Park (or part of that area) for which the District Council is the Local Planning Authority.

**SA / SEA** - Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment. In simple terms, a process of assessing the environmental, social and economic effects of policies and proposals in the Local Plan.

**SCI** - Statement of Community Involvement, a document which sets out how the Council will involve and consult the public and other organisations when preparing the Local Plan, and when determining planning applications.

**SPD** - Supplementary Planning Documents, another part of the Local Plan, these documents contain detailed guidance which supplements policies contained in Development Plan Documents.

**Site notices** - Planning applications are normally advertised using a notice posted in a convenient location near to the property or land to which the application relates. This notice both describes the proposed development, and gives details of how and when to comment.

**Targeted consultation** - This can take many forms, including sending early drafts of documents to specific organisations, or holding meetings with individuals or groups to discuss relevant issues. 'Targeted' means that the consultation will not be universal and will concentrate on those that the Council needs information or advice from at a particular stage in plan preparation.

**Town & Parish Councils** - The District is made up of 37 Town and Parish Councils. These local councils are able to prepare Neighbourhood Plans for their parish if they chose to do

## Ringwood Environmental Action Leadership (REAL) Working Party

### Notes of meeting held on Friday 12 June at 4pm on Zoom

Present: Cllr Gareth DeBoos (GD)  
Cllr Rae Frederick (RF)  
Cllr Glenys Turner (GT)  
Cllr Tony Ring (TR)  
Chantelle Monck (CM)  
Lindsay Andrews (LA)  
Leon Thompson (LT)  
Mary DeBoos (MD)  
Milinda Harding (MH)

Absent: Ruth Port (RP)  
Colin Andrews (CA)  
Cllr Gloria O'Reilly (GO)

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been tendered by Gloria O'Reilly and were accepted.

#### 2. Declarations of interest

No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

#### 3. To agree notes of last meeting and proposed protocol for virtual meeting

Previous minutes were agreed and the protocol for virtual meeting was accepted.

#### 4. Feedback from Ringwood Town Council Committees

GD reported that Policy & Finance Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> June resolved to act as collaborating 3<sup>rd</sup> Party to RACE's Veolia Environmental Fund Grant application and the resolution was passed at the Full Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Planning, Town & Environment Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July received the notes from the REAL WP held on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Of interest, it was reported in this meeting that St Leonards and St Ives Beaver Group had planted some trees on RTC land at Poulner Lakes.

#### 5. Workstream updates and proposals

To receive verbal reports from members on recent developments in the various workstreams and to consider what directions (if any) to give in respect of these and what recommendations (if any) to make to any Council officer or committee:

##### a. Trees for the Future

MD expressed her disappointment at the rejection of the Veolia Environmental Fund grant application presented by RACE due to it not fulfilling a grant requirement (of the project being on a single site) that was not advertised in the prospectus criteria and a smaller project involving one of the sites would be too small to qualify. The Veolia project had three strands that RACE hoped to progress as smaller, separate projects.

For the saplings part, RACE will fund using a combination of donations and grants and asked if the WP would support a request that the £1050 approved for the Veolia project be diverted to buy saplings for this project. She said that £1855 of funding had been secured elsewhere for the project, including a £500 Councillors Grant contribution from Cllr Kidd (NFDC).

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RESOLVED: A request be made to P&F to approve reallocation of the previously approved £1,050 to support the Veolia Grant application to the purchase of saplings

Another part of the Veolia application involved larger trees and wildflowers to be planted at Poulner Lakes and the Mount. RACE are applying for the support from Tesco Bags of Help fund and needed RTC to fill in the first part of the form confirming the land to be planted belongs to RTC.

ACTION: CW to complete the appropriate part of the Tesco Bags of Help application form

TR mentioned the 'green disk' scheme run by Waitrose and offered to help. MD thanked TR for this but said that the scheme was on hold due to Covid right now. As soon as that changes, RACE will be applying.

As noted in the previous WP minutes, RTC has agreed that 5,000 trees can be planted on their land and locations have been agreed for 4,200. MD said she had enquired of Council officers about the possibility of planting in areas like Carvers and the Bickerley, but it was clear that these sites would not currently receive Council support. So RACE propose that the further 800 be planted on either side of the Southampton Road flyover as previously stated. She thanked CW and Kelvin Wentworth for their wisdom and advice. It was also noted that a number of saplings at Poulner Lakes had died due to the unseasonably dry spell during Covid lockdown and the presence of travellers. Some of the saplings could be diverted to replace these. There was confidence from councillors in the WP that the scheme would be favourably received at RLOS and so work on finding funding by RACE would not be in vain.

ACTION: MD to produce a proposal to be taken to the September RLOS for approval

## **b. Transition Ringwood**

The document on wildflower planting from CM had been circulated with the agenda and was noted. There was unanimous support for seeing wildflowers planted in areas that do not obscure 'line of sight' for traffic or impede other recreation activities and would likely reduce maintenance activity by grounds staff. GD said that of the sites described in the document, 3, 8 and 9 were on RTC land. CM asked for clarity on what areas are owned by RTC and GD said he would assist with this.

ACTION: GD to share Parish Maps information on RTC land with CM

CM described the planting for 3 (Kingfisher Way) would be on the raised areas on the west side of the green. GD said that there were some proposals to re-landscape the green as part of a review on how RTC can protect its open spaces.

The proposed poppy planting using a 'commemorative poppy pack' at the Memorial (site 8) was viewed as a lovely idea, although RLOS would almost certainly want more detail of the scheme.

On the planting for 9 in the parish church yard adjacent to the A31, members noted that there were already thought to be some plans to wildflower this area linked to the A31 widening scheme, including an acoustic screen, hedging and wilding. CW noted that the responsibility of RTC was for maintenance of the churchyard up to the church wall and not beyond it. TR said that nothing would be feasible on this land until the A31 work was completed, which could take some considerable time. It was suggested that Transition could work with the parties currently planning work.

GT mentioned a site near Dr Little Gardens that had been unsuccessfully planted with poppy seeds, possibly due to insufficient preparation of the ground. This could be a good place to try again as it is adjacent an arterial road into Ringwood. GT will discuss with CM and MH outside the WP.

On non-RTC sites, MD stated that she had been talking with Cllr Thierry about HCC sites for wildflowers on key routes into Ringwood and would talk with CM outside the WP. MD has a meeting scheduled in the Autumn with Cllr Thierry.

#### **c. RTC Tree Policy**

GT reported that there is now a new tree strategy from NFDC. She has talked to Mark Burse (NFDC Corporate Tree Officer) about the detail such as any '2 for 1' replacement policy, which seems to include a lot of leeway in interpretation. She said she would share the document with the WP. Changing the RTC policy to align with the new strategy would require a formal proposal to Council in some way and, as RTC is already supporting a lot of tree planting, perhaps there is no need to stipulate the '2 for 1' policy formally. CW said it would be difficult to reflect any NFDC policy change in any RTC documentation until the details have been published by NFDC. He was also concerned about what a '2 for 1' replacement policy would actually mean in terms of implementation and enforcement. GT wondered if there would be some way that the policy could be changed to urge, eg, private landowners to support tree planting by 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisations in response to them cutting a tree down on their land. TR stated his concern too that any formalisation in a '2 for 1' could be difficult to achieve practically and noted that the planning procedures do take into account any tree felling as part of the approval procedures. He suggested that we continue through our current endeavours to discourage tree being felled and support trees being planted in appropriate places. A more detailed NFDC position will hopefully be available for discussion at the next WP meeting.

#### **d. Make, Do and Mend**

MD said that Make, Do & Mend are delighted to have secured £1,710 of funding from DPD Ecofund scheme partnered with ASOS to 're-love your clothes'. The cash will be used to support workshops on sewing skills. As part of this, RACE has given ToolAid £250 for four refurbished sewing machines (including maintenance) and virtual learning equipment will be procured.

#### **e. Doing Our Bit**

LT asked if the audit of Greenways could now proceed given the precautions now being taken by incumbents and visitors to business premises. CW said that the fire alarm systems had been checked by an outside contractor, so he would ask whether the tenants would be comfortable with LT/GD looking at their energy facilities.

ACTION: CW to ask Greenways tenants if they are happy to have an energy audit

GD asked whether the WP thinks it would be a good idea to look at a community photovoltaic scheme to which there was general agreement that it would be of interest. GD agreed to provide a report at the next WP meeting.

ACTION: GD to provide a report on community photovoltaic schemes

#### **f. Putting Plastic in its Place**

LA referred to the report she distributed prior to the meeting. She said that she now has the 'Bin your Butts' posters and thanked TR in particular for enabling them to be made. She asked about restrictions as to where they could be displayed. CW mentioned several outside places that would be unsuitable and suggested that shop windows would be a good place. TR agreed and said shopkeepers are usually willing to display such things.

On the proposed Tetrapak recycling facility, LA said she was struggling to get information from NFDC about, for example, how often the Fordingbridge facility is emptied. She said that apart from the cost of £400 to install the bin, the £60 to empty it could lead to a serious amount of money being required if it were to prove popular. TR said the issue is that NFDC is in the midst of a review of these facilities as part of its waste strategy review, but would continue to press for progress.

Following the "A Plastic Ocean" screening at the Meeting House in March, LA said that the film of hope, '2040', would be shown virtually on 23<sup>rd</sup> July as a free event and she has sent an invite to all RTC Councillors. MD added that there will be a Q&A session afterward involving a very high calibre guest panel of experts. RF asked if the film could be shown in the Meeting House and LA said this could be an option in the future.

LA also mentioned the virtual meeting that was organised by LA and CA with Sir Desmond Swaine, where she said there proved to be a lot of common ground on many issues.

#### **g. ECO Fair**

MD reported that RACE were now working with Tim Moxey of Rotary on the 2021 Ecofair, to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021. TR said this was excellent news.

#### **h. Flood Emergency Plan**

GD said that there was some progress on the plan now and that he hoped to provide an in-depth report at the next WP meeting.

### **6. Any other business**

'Transport' has become an area of increased interest to WP members and actually replaced the Ecofair on the issued agenda, a detail missed by the Chair, but all members were content with this change. As the Ecofair is not happening until next May, it was agreed that it would be missed off the standard agenda item list until 2021.

MD gave a transport update from work carried out by a RACE sub-group. Two key results from a Facebook survey were stated as: 93% of the 196 responders would walk or cycle more if there were safer routes; use of the Castleman Trail is being deterred due to the route not being clear, particularly the bit under the Crow Arch bridge and beyond. GT mentioned that segregation should include pedestrians as well as cyclists and that improvement work on part of the trail was in hand as part of the work being carried out by Linden Homes, although the bit at the bridge itself was more complex. TR said that any part of the trail in this area not improved by Linden Homes or others might be a focus for volunteer bramble clearers. CW warned about difficulties, including insurance cover, for volunteers working on behalf of RTC. However, if the initiative was 'owned' a suitable external organisation with appropriate insurance, etc, RTC would be happy to assist with, for example, establishing land ownership. MD said that a plan could be prepared for the next WP meeting.

LA referred to a Guardian article about there being more disposable face masks in the ocean now than jelly fish and that RACE Sewing Bees are intending to ramp up production of washable masks in anticipation that Government guidance would change to requiring face masks to be worn in shops. MD said that RACE were intending to hand these out to those wanting them at some venue in the town that is still to be decided.

#### **7. Upcoming meetings – to note the following dates**

It was agreed that there would be a meeting in August, albeit without CW, as he will be on holiday, because key Committee meetings would take place in September prior to the WP meeting.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 4pm (Zoom)  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 4pm (Zoom)  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 4pm (Zoom)  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 4pm (Zoom)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.55pm.



## 1. Introduction and reason for the report

- 1.1 Our first site at the Bickerley for wildflower planting was approved last year. We were able to scarify roughly a 500m<sup>2</sup> area and sow wildflower seeds to begin the process of creating a wildflower meadow. This year we have also introduced plug plants to create a visual impact for the community to see what the final outcome will be.
- 1.2 Additional sites were then approved, or are in the process of being looked at alongside the tree planting workstream of the RACE group. These are located at Poulner lakes, the Mount, the sloped banks of Southampton Road and the green just off of Christchurch Road.
- 1.3 This proposal to the REAL Working Party outlines the proposed sites for additional wildflower areas in Ringwood.
- 1.4 Similar projects conducted by other councils has shown that the reduction in grass cutting due to the creation of wildflower areas will save the council money as well as give the maintenance teams more time to focus on other aspects of their work.
- 1.5 The re-introduction of wildflower areas will also lead to the increase of biodiversity within our local environment and provide the necessary food and shelter for our local wildlife.
- 1.6 Evidence shows that the creation of wildflower areas will encourage the community to spend more time in nature and enjoy the environment around them, thus improving mental and physical wellbeing. Another outcome of this project due to the community coming together, especially during the current circumstances is the request for communal garden areas as more residents want to become involved and learn how to look after the areas and grown their own wildflower spaces.
- 1.7 Our aim is to get local schools and residents' involvement with projects closer to them, slowly building a network within the community to help plant and maintain the areas, as well as working closely with the RACE trees group to create a more complete plating a maintenance plan including the trees and flowers.

## 2. Proposed sites / options

- 2.1 It is proposed that a further 9 sites are identified and approved. Please see table below for the list of proposed sites. These areas have been chosen as they are not used by dog walkers or as footpaths and are unlikely to have local residents cutting them back or impacting any line of sight.
- 2.2 On average the sites will cost roughly £400 for all materials required to prepare the area and cost of the seeds.
  - 2.2.1 Once the current situation has lessened and we are able to hold events again we will be fundraising and looking into any further grants that will help us secure the required funding.
  - 2.2.2 If we are not able to generate the full amount for each site, we can start by initially scarifying the ground and sowing the yellow rattle to help suppress the grass and see what flowers are already within the natural seed bank

## C 3. Preparation and Management

- 3.1 Most of the work is in the preparation as wildflowers thrive better in poor soil where they are not overrun with grasses, after that they need minimal attention. Ideally to prepare the ground the grass should be removed and the soil raked, however if this is not feasible the ground will be scarified to ensure seed contact with the soil and a grass suppressant will be spread (we will use Yellow Rattle a semi parasite on grass). The seed will be sowed at roughly 1.5gm per square metre.
- 3.2 We will seed in October so there should be very little need for watering. There are many different types of seed mix available commercially so the seeding can be tailored to the soil type, aspect etc of the specific area. The areas should be high mowed in early spring and then again in late summer after the seed has set. Ideally the cuttings should be left for roughly a week to allow and seed to drop out of the cuttings back into the soil, then removed to stop nutrients feeding back into the ground and increasing soil fertility. Germination will be slow initially with annuals such as cornflower and poppy appearing in the first year followed by perennials later. Other than this twice-yearly mowing there should be little to no need for further maintenance. We will create small groups to see to the 'weeding' and keeping the area tidy until the meadows have established.

Site number	Location of site	Any other comments	Work to be undertaken by
1	The piece of land next to the A31 after you exit the underpass and cross the road toward Linden gardens. To be planted to attract wildlife and to tidy up the area to create a more welcoming site as you enter Ringwood	Roughly 150 m <sup>2</sup>	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
2	The triangle of land in between the A31 and Narrow Lane.		Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
3	The two mounds located on the field in the centre of Kingfisher Way.	A lot of the residents are very keen for this to happen and are happy to help support the project	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
4	The picnic area next to the long stay furlong car park	Will work alongside the rotary club	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
5	The strip of land and two triangle areas opposite Cornerways medical centre just off of Gorley road in Poulner	Ask if Cornerways and the Tavern might sponsor the project	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
6	The triangle and strips of land opposite the Elm tree	Low growing plants ensuring line of sight for traffic Ask if the Elm Tree might sponsor the project	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
7	The two pieces of land opposite Hightown Road as you drive toward the Railway Pub	Ask if the Railway might be able to sponsor the project	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
8	The memorial park	commemorative poppies Ask the salvation Army if they might be able to help	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes

C	The area surrounding the church in Ringwood on the A31 side where all the daffodils are	Check with church and see what their plans are	Chantelle, Milinda, Bob and ay volunteers we are able to get through Facebook events or companies volunteering schemes
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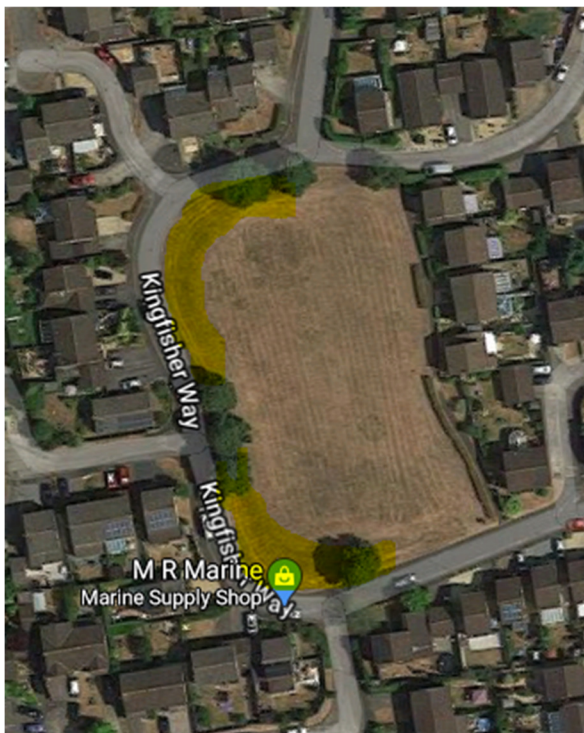
1 – Underpass leading to Linden Gardens



2 – Triangle opposite Narrow Lane



3 – Kingfisher Way

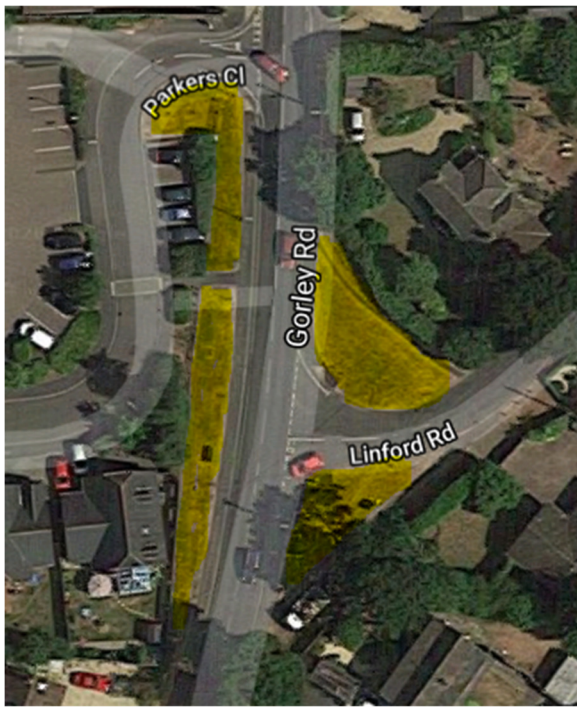


4 – Picnic Area

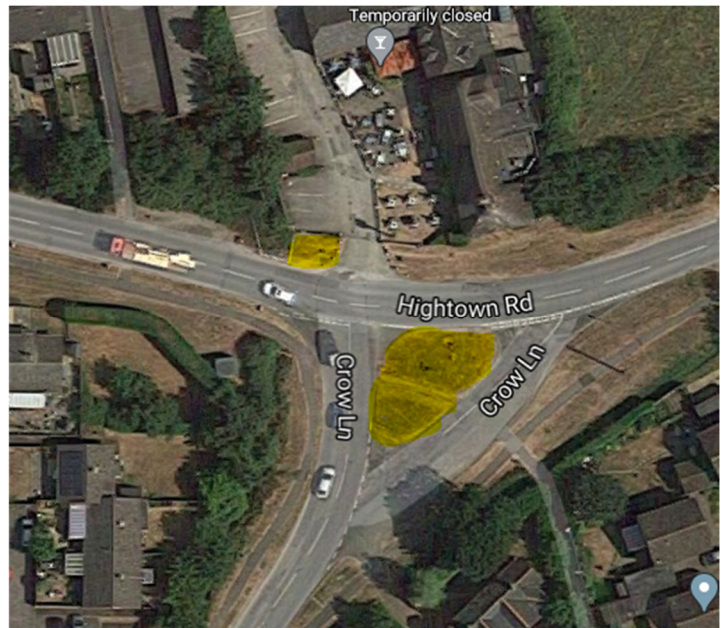




5 – Opposite Cornerways



6 – Elm Tree



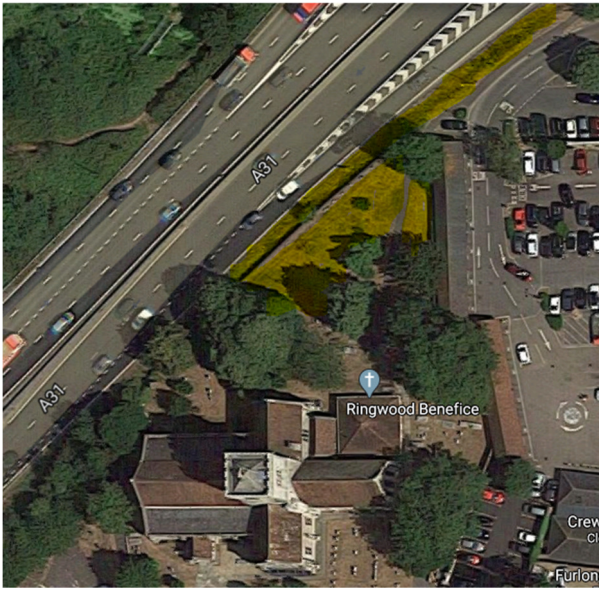
7 – Railway Pub



8 – Memorial Park



9 – Near the Church



Mr C Wilkins  
Ringwood Town Council  
Ringwood Gateway  
The Furlong  
Ringwood  
Hampshire  
BH24 1AT

Our Ref: LICPR/05/00505

Your Ref:

23 July 2020

Dear Mr Wilkins

**Licensing Act 2003 - Variation Premises Licence (S34)**

**Premises: INDIA COTTAGE INDIA COTTAGE, 35 CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, RINGWOOD, BH24 1DG**

**Ref: LICPR/05/00505**

This letter is sent to you for information as an organisation representing the local area to advise that the above application has been received by the Licensing Authority.

Details of the application are shown below and these details should also be displayed on the premises. Full details of the application can be viewed at the Council Offices, Appletree Court, Beaulieu Road, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7PA

The details of the application for a premises licence are as follows:

Variation of premises licence to permit the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises and to customers who are waiting to take delivery of take away meals.

Remove conditions that duplicate other legislation or regulations or are otherwise inappropriate and to amend further conditions to promote the licensing objectives.

Live Music (same as original hours 18:00hrs to 00:00hrs Thursday to Saturday) but indoors and outdoors. Outdoors being until 23:00hrs.

Recorded Music (same hours as original) Monday to Sunday both indoors and outdoors.

Outdoors being 12:00hrs to 14:30hrs and 18:00hrs to 23:00hrs

Late Night Refreshment indoors and outdoors 23:00hrs to 00:00hrs indoors..

Sale of alcohol hours the same. On and off sales required.

Opening hours the same.

No changes to the permitted hours for any licensable activities other than New Year's Eve into New Year's Day when activities will be permitted until 02:00hrs indoors and outdoors.

I would remind you that when considering making a representation, or advising constituents who might wish to make a representation, the Licensing Authority may only consider representations which infringe or violate one or more of the four licensing objectives, which are:

- Prevention of crime and disorder,
- Public safety,
- Prevention of public nuisance,
- Protection of children from harm.

The timescale for representations is laid down in regulations attached to the Act and may only be

# D

changed by Parliament. Therefore the final date for representations is **20 August 2020**.

Yours sincerely

*Christa Ferguson*

Licensing Manager  
Licensing Services

Tel: 023 8028 5505  
Email: [licensing@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@nfdc.gov.uk)



Item No.	Name	Recent developments	Resource use				Finish in 2020-21?	Notes
			Finance			Staff time		
			Cost & Source	Spent to date	Predicted out-turn			
<b>Projects with budgetary implications (included in 2020-21 budget)</b>								
A1	Neighbourhood Plan	See separate item on agenda.	£12,000 Provision (£3,000) and grant funding	£0	£0	Could be significant	No	It is expected that £9,000 would be funded by grants available. Due to the impacts of coronavirus, the Basic Grant allowance has increased from £9,000 to £10,000
A2	Crow Stream Maintenance	Stream banks sprayed in March to control water dropwort. Annual flail and clearance by volunteers will be carried out in September/October.	£1,000 Transfer from Dev Conts	£0	£1,000	Moderate	Probable	Linden Homes/HCC looking at options to reinstate access chamber to allow maintenance of twin pipes beneath access road. HCC looking into collapse of ditch at bottom of Crow Hill.
A3	Human Sundial	HCC seeking comparative quotes.	£10,657 CIL & contribution from Carnival (£5249.15)	£5295.15	£10,657	Moderate	Probable	Project overseen by Town Centre Working Party To be funded by CIL receipts (Agreed by P&F 13/12/18 (F/5518) & 19/6/19 (F/5700))
A4	Cycle Stands	Carried forward from 2018-19. Cycle stands installed in the town centre as part of HCC improvements funded by HE.  Stands sourced for installation at Poulner local shops.	£500 Provision Funded by HCC (with designated funds from Highways England)	£0	£0	Minimal	Probable	Included in plans for Market Place improvements. Additional cycle storage also included in HCC scheme to improve access for cyclists and pedestrians.
<b>Projects with budgetary implications (not included in 2020-21 budget but added since)</b>								
B								

Projects with no budgetary implications in 2020-21



Item No.	Name	Recent developments	Resource use				Finish in 2020-21?	Notes
			Finance			Staff time		
			Cost & Source	Spent to date	Predicted out-turn			
C1	Pedestrian Crossings Christchurch Road	Scheme now approved and contract awarded to Rocon. Works due to start on 24/08/2020 and complete 02/11/2020.				Minimal	Probable	Scheme includes changes to Castleman Way/Bickerley Road roundabout to improve crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.
C2	A31 improvement scheme	HCC implementing Phase 1 of town centre improvements funded by HE designated funds.				Moderate	No	Start date for main scheme expected to be end March 2021.
C3	Moortown drainage improvements	HCC still considering a controlled opening of the system at some point in the future.				Moderate	Probable	To be funded from Linden Homes developer contribution (£50,000 allocated for flood alleviation works).
C4	Pedestrian Crossing Castleman Way	Developers' contributions allocated but site does not meet HCC criteria for toucan crossing. Agreed to revisit following promotion of cycle path through Forest Gate Business Park.				Minimal	No	Dependent on C5.
C5	Improved signage for cycle path through Forest Gate Business Park	New signage and some minor improvements will be included in the town centre improvements scheme (C2 above).				Minimal	Probable	
C6	Shared Use Path across Carvers	Work due to commence 03/08/2020.				Minimal	Probable	Path for cyclists and pedestrians, to link Mansfield Road and Southampton Road.
C7	New footpath to link Linden Homes site with Hightown Road (alongside west of Crow Lane)	Developers' contributions allocated. HCC has now appointed a designer to bring this scheme forward in 202/21.				Minimal	Probable	To be funded from Linden Homes developer contribution.