



Timeline and History of the Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan

Last updated: 19^h July 2017

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Neighbourhood Planning in B&NES

Neighbourhood planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act 2011. Communities can shape development in their areas through the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.

Neighbourhood Development Plans become part of the Local Plan and the policies contained within them are then used in the determination of planning applications. Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders allow communities to grant planning permission either in full or in outline for the types of development they want to see in their areas.

The local parish or town council will lead on neighbourhood planning in their areas. Where one does not exist then a community group known as a neighbourhood forum needs to be established to lead. The Localism Act recognises that not all communities are residential in nature and as such in areas that are predominantly commercial then a business led neighbourhood forum can be established.

The Local Planning Authority is involved and will make decisions at key stages of the process, such as approving the neighbourhood area within which the Neighbourhood Development Plan will have effect. It will also organise the independent examination of the plan and the community referendum that is held at the end of the process.

The referendum is an important part of the process allowing those that live in the neighbourhood area to decide whether or not the Neighbourhood Development Plan, Neighbourhood Development Order or Community Right to Build Order comes into effect or not. This is direct democracy and outlines the importance of working with the wider community and securing their support at an early stage in the process.

Progress of the Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan

The Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been ‘made’ by B&NES and is now a part of the Council’s development plan which is in accordance with section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Reasons for making this decision:

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- 96.5% of those voting in the Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan referendum on Thursday 16th of November 2017 have voted in favour of the Plan

The Plan was made and brought into force on Monday 18th of December 2017

[Whitchurch Village NDP Decision Statement](#)

Key dates of each neighbourhood plan stage:

Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation	3 rd November 2014
Regulation 14 Consultation	24 th January – 7 th March 2017
Regulation 16 Consultation	19 th May – 30 th June 2017
Further Regulation 16 Consultation	7 th July – 18 th August 2017
Examination	27 th September 2017
Referendum	16 th November 2017
Date Plan made	18 th December 2017

Whitchurch Village NDP Made Plan and Appendices

Supporting documents submitted:

- [Appendix 1: Character Appraisal](#)
- [Background Document 1: Community Assets Aspirations](#)
- [Background Document 2: History of Maes Knoll, Wansdyke and Lyons Court Farm](#)
- [Background Document 3: Assets of Community Value](#)
- [Background Document 4: Employment Space](#)
- [Background Document 5: Transport Policies](#)
- [Background Document 6: Traffic Issues Photographs](#)
- [Background Document 7: Village Survey Questionnaire \(2016\)](#)
- [Background Document 8: Village Survey Questionnaire \(2015\)](#)
- [Background Document 9: Retail Shop Feasibility Study](#)
- [Background Document 10: Woodland Park Feasibility Study](#)
- [Background Document 11: Listed Buildings](#)
- [Background Document 12: Air Pollution Report](#)

Associated documents:

- [Referendum Version of the Neighbourhood Plan](#)
- [Whitchurch Village NDP SEA Screening](#)
- [Whitchurch Village NDP HRA Screening](#)
- [Whitchurch Village NDP Consultation Report Statement \(including the Regulation 14 Consultation Responses\)](#)
- [Whitchurch Village NDP Regulation 16 Consultation Responses](#)
- [Whitchurch Village NDP Evidence Base List](#)
- [Basic Conditions Statement](#)
- [Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation](#)

Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation

In 2014 Whitchurch Village Parish Council decided to develop a Neighbourhood Plan under the terms of the Localism Act 2011, to provide a legal basis for residents to determine the future for their community.

Whitchurch Village Parish applied to become a neighbourhood planning area.

The Whitchurch Village neighbourhood planning area was designated on 3rd November 2014

Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation

Regulation 14 Consultation

Before submitting a Neighbourhood Plan to B&NES, a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group must publicise in an appropriate manner in the neighbourhood area:

- details of the proposals in a neighbourhood development plan
- details of where and when proposals for the neighbourhood development plan can be seen
- details of how to make representations
- the deadline for receipt of representations (minimum 6 week period)

This is a formal requirement under Regulation 14 of the neighbourhood planning regulations.

The Regulation 14 consultation is contained within the Whitchurch Village NDP consultation statement. The Regulation 14 consultation took place between 24th January – 7th March 2017.

Regulation 16 Consultation

The Regulation 16 document is a summary, written by Officers at Bath and North East Somerset Council, of the comments made during the Regulation 16 consultation on the Whitchurch Neighbourhood Plan, which took place 19th May – 30th June 2017.

Due to an administrative error the draft Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan (and supporting documents, including the correct version of the consultation statement) was republished for consultation under Regulation 16 for 6 weeks between 7th July - 18th August 2017

The summary was written to provide assistance to the Examiner and to allow anyone who wished to see some of the issues raised. It does not contain every point a consultee has made. The Examiner read the comments of each consultee in full. This is a formal requirement under regulation 16 of the neighbourhood planning regulations:

[Whitchurch Village NDP Regulation 16 Consultation Responses](#)

Examination

Mrs Janet Cheesley was appointed to examine the Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan. On the 27th September 2017 the examination was completed.

[Report on the examination of the Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan](#)

Referendum

Following receipt of the examiner's report Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan was updated as requested by the Planning Examiner and a referendum on the making of the Neighbourhood Plan was held on Thursday 16th of November 2017

The question which was asked in the Referendum was:

"Do you want Bath & North East Somerset Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Whitchurch Village to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

The result was as follows:

- Yes = 413 votes
- No = 14 votes
- Turnout = 38.52% per cent

[Referendum result notice](#)

The Made Plan

The Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Development Plan has been 'made' by B&NES on 18th December 2017 and is now a part of the Council's development plan which is in accordance with section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Decision Statement