



Planning Policy Committee – 16th September 2013

Raunds: New Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area

Purpose of report

An application for a new Neighbourhood Area designation has been received from Raunds Town Council. This report is presented for Members' information and to seek support for consultation to commence.

Attachment(s)

Appendix 1 Application for neighbourhood area designation

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 gave Town and Parish Councils the powers to produce Neighbourhood Plans. Neighbourhood planning is central to the Government's decentralisation, localism and Big Society agenda. The Plans are community-led, but the local planning authority provides advice, makes decisions at key stages and carries out certain technical procedures, as part of the preparation process.
- 1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan (General) Regulations came into force in April 2012 and set out the steps that Town and Parish Councils must complete if they wish to prepare Neighbourhood Plans.
- 1.3 Members are reminded that in East Northamptonshire, the towns of Oundle and Raunds are "Neighbourhood Plan Frontrunners". The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) set aside £20,000 for the investigation and potential development of Neighbourhood Plans for each of these towns.

2.0 Raunds: Application and Next Steps

- 2.1 On 10 December 2012, East Northamptonshire Council's Planning Policy Committee approved consultation on a proposed Neighbourhood Area boundary for Raunds. That boundary was drawn tightly around the town centre area. Consultation then took place, which ended on 11 February 2013. However, since the consultation, the Government has made changes to Neighbourhood Plans in relation to the use of any future Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds. Those changes will enable areas covered by a Neighbourhood Plan to receive 25% of funds from CIL if CIL chargeable developments take place within that Plan area (once the Council has decided its position on CIL).
- 2.2 Raunds Town Council has therefore re-considered its initial proposed boundary and has now re-drawn it to cover the whole parish. In addition, it has included two areas outside of the parish adjoining the A45, which fall within the parish of Ringstead.
- 2.3 For Members' information, should the application be successful, following the consultation, this will then require Raunds and Ringstead Parish Councils to work closely together on any aspects of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan that fall within Ringstead parish. However it should also be highlighted that both parishes are currently also subject to a separate review of parish arrangements being undertaken by East Northamptonshire Council (implementation is expected May 2015).

More details can be found at

<http://www.east->

Which local residents are included in the referendum will depend upon the decisions agreed in the Boundary Review and the timing relative to the Neighbourhood Plan progress.

- 2.4 In addition, it should be noted that the Localism Act requires the independent examiner to consider whether the area for any referendum should extend beyond the designated neighbourhood area. If the independent examiner recommends that the area should be extended they also have to recommend what the extended area should be. The local planning authority has to make a decision on the referendum area, informed by the examiner's conclusions, for example it might be that the Examiner recommends a referendum of both Raunds and Ringstead Parishes.
- 2.5 The application for the new Neighbourhood Area by Raunds Town Council is attached at Appendix 1, along with a supporting letter from Ringstead Parish Council.

Appendix 1 consists of :

- a) a draft map which identifies the area to which the application relates (note: this map will be prepared in formal print format before consultation commences);
 - b) a statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area;
 - c) a statement that the organisation or body making the application is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and
 - d) a supporting letter from Ringstead Parish Council
- 2.6 The Regulations require Neighbourhood Area applications to be consulted on for a minimum of 6 weeks. These will be publicised on the District Council's website and 'in such other manner as they consider is likely to bring the area application to the attention of people who live, work or carry on business on the area to which the application relates'.

The Raunds application is therefore proposed to be advertised for consultation as follows:

- On East Northamptonshire Council and Raunds Town and Ringstead Parish Council websites;
 - Notice at Raunds Library and any relevant Parish Noticeboards;
 - Advert in Nene Valley News;
 - Letter to Ward Councillors, County Councillors and neighbouring Town/Parish Councils, Northamptonshire County Council Highways and Planning Teams, and statutory bodies, for example English Heritage, Highways Agency, and Environment Agency.
- 2.7 Following the consultation, any responses will be considered by the Planning Policy Committee and amendments may be suggested to the proposed boundary. The Council must ensure that any final Neighbourhood Area is coherent, consistent and appropriate in planning terms.

Note: Unless there are valid reasons, the Council will designate a final proposed Neighbourhood Area. If the Council considers the area not to be appropriate it must issue a refusal notice, explaining why, and designate a revised plan area to include some or all of the originally proposed area.

- 2.8 Once a Neighbourhood Area has been agreed and designated, the next stage will be for the Town Council to engage with its communities and prepare the Plan. That process will include a requirement for it to undertake a formal 6 week consultation period on its Draft Plan.
- 2.9 Any changes will be made and a revised Neighbourhood Plan prepared, which will then be submitted to the District Council, which will provide a check to ensure that it has been prepared correctly and then initiate a further 6 week formal consultation period. Once the Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared, the District Council will facilitate and fund the independent examination into the Plan. Providing that the Examiner recommends that the Neighbourhood Plan is taken forward, a referendum will be called for which the District Council again will be responsible for facilitating and funding. The Plan requires the support of a

majority of those who vote in the referendum. If the referendum indicates community support, the Neighbourhood Plan will normally then be adopted by the District Council. Once the Plan has been adopted by the District Council it becomes a part of the statutory development plan against which relevant planning applications will be determined.

3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

3.1 There are no equality and diversity implications at this stage.

4.0 Legal Implications

4.1 There are no legal implications.

5.0 Risk Management

5.1 There are no risks at this stage.

6.0 Financial Implications

6.1 None at this stage.

7.0 Corporate Outcomes

7.1 The relevant corporate outcomes are:

- Regeneration and Economic Development
- Sustainable Development
- Strong communities
- High quality built environment
- Strong strategic partnerships
- A proactive and listening Council

9.0 Recommendations

9.1 That support be given for consultation to commence on the proposed new Raunds Neighbourhood Area
(Reason – to enable work to commence on their Neighbourhood Plan)

Legal	Power: Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 Section 61G of The Town And Country Planning Act 1990	
	Other considerations: None	
Background Papers: 10 December 2012 Planning Policy Committee/ minutes		
Person Originating Report:	Karen Britton (Planning Policy and Conservation Manager) Tel: 01832 742142	
Date: 29/08/13		
CFO	MO	CX



RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL

Council Offices, The Hall, Raunds, Wellingborough, Northampton. NN9 6LT

Telephone: (01933) 622087, Fax: (01933) 622622

E-mail:- raundstowncouncil@fsmail.net, Website: www.raunds-tc.gov.uk

Town Mayor: Cllr Mrs P Williams

Town Clerk: Julian Derham

East Northamptonshire Council
Cedar Drive
Thrapston
Northants

28 August 2013

Dear Sirs,

Revised application for designation of a Neighbourhood Area

Following resolution of the Council (191.12) on the 13 August 2013, the Council wishes to withdraw its previous application for a designated neighbourhood area based around the town centre of Raunds and submit a new application encompassing all of the parish of Raunds and including a small area of Ringstead Parish, which has Ringstead Parish Council's approval.

I enclose the relevant documents formalising the application.

Yours faithfully,



Julian Derham
Town Clerk



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Town Mayor: Cllr Mrs P Williams

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Town and Country Planning Act 1990 As amended by the Localism Act 2011, Sch 9, Part 1

The Neighbourhood Planning (general) Regulations 2012 – Part 2 (5) - Application for designation of a Neighbourhood Area

APPLICATION BY RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL

Raunds Town Council hereby applies for the designation of the following area to be the subject of a Neighbourhood Plan under the above Regulations:

Section 5(1) (a) Application Area

The area outlined in red on the enclosed plan encompassing: the whole of the Parish of Raunds and a small area in Ringstead Parish (cross hatched in red).

Ringstead Parish Council is in agreement with the boundary extension and their letter of support is attached.

Section 5(1) (b) Appropriate Area Statement

A Neighbourhood Plan is an essential tool in the Town Council's strategic vision for the future growth of the town and the revitalisation and regeneration of the town centre.

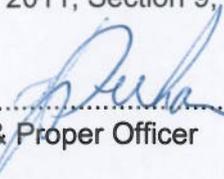
The area is considered appropriate for designation as a neighbourhood area for the follow reasons:

- to define the right balance of service provision, office accommodation, retail offering and housing provision;
- provide design statements which will retain and enhance the town identity in keeping with the character of a 'market town';
- identify the need for civic improvements and community facilities;
- identify highway improvements;
- ensure the provision of appropriate open space, leisure and sporting facilities.

It is intended that the more strategic planning issues will be addressed through the emerging Four Towns Plan and other hierarchical documents.

Section 5(1) (c) Relevant body statement

Raunds Town Council meets the criteria of a relevant body by virtue of satisfying the requirements of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, Section 9, Part 1, section 61G(2) (a).

Signed.....
Town Clerk & Proper Officer

27 August 2013



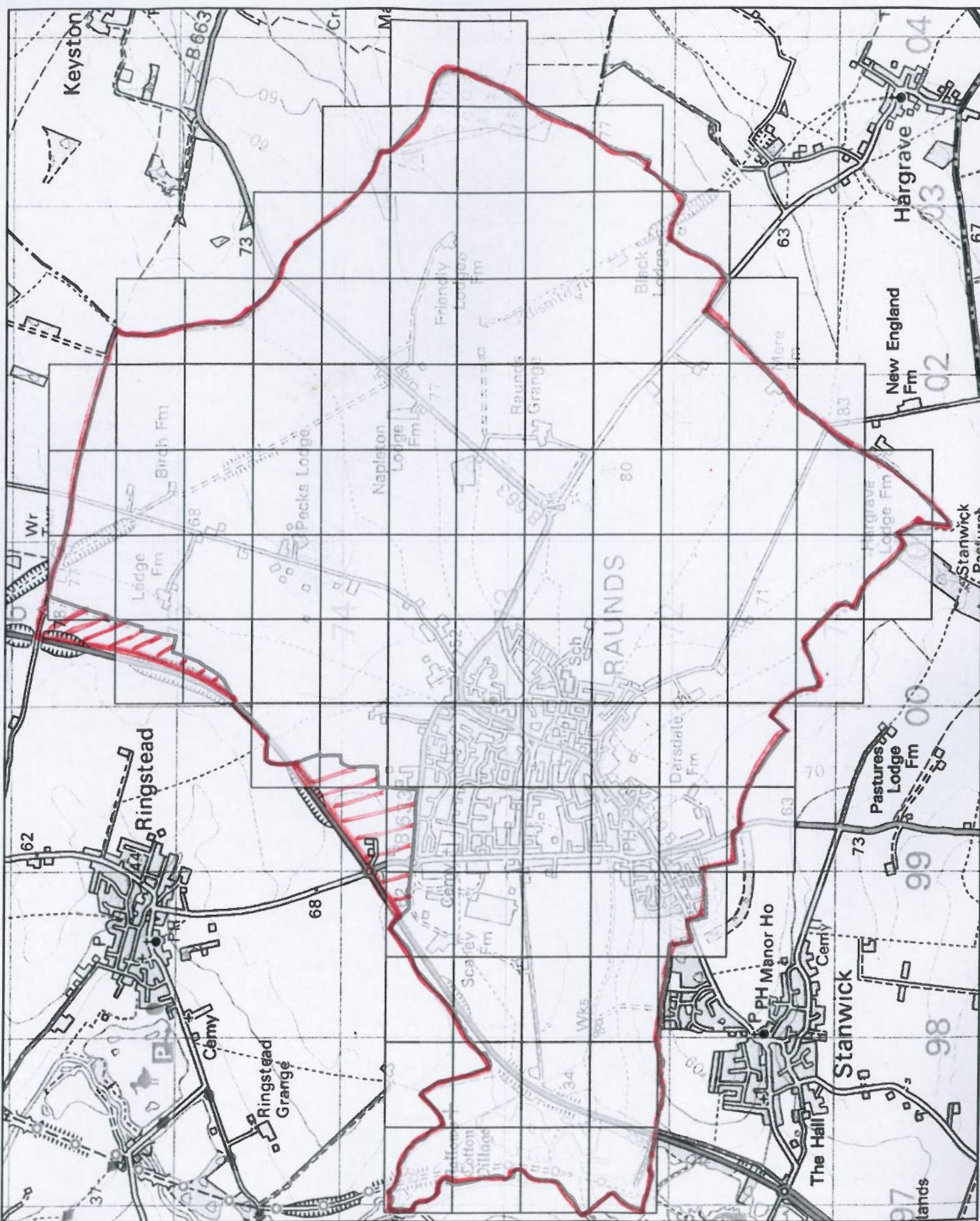
Scale:
1:30,000

ICT Services

- Raunds Parish
- A0 1:500 Grid

This map is accurate to the scale specified above when reproduced at:
A4

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Ordnance Survey 100019072



RINGSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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Raunds
Northants NN9 6LB

Email: clerk@ringsteadpc.org.uk
Tel: 01933 355575

Mr Julian Derham
Town Clerk
Raunds Town Council
The Hall
Thorpe Street
Raunds
Northants NN9 6LT

25th July 2013

Dear Julian

Proposed Boundary Change

Further to our meeting to discuss the above, I can confirm that following our Parish Council Meeting on the 10th July, Ringstead Parish Council has no objections to Raunds Town Council using a boundary line up to the A45 for its Neighbourhood Plan.

I hope this letter is sufficient for your purposes, but if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to advise.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

L Marshall

Linda Marshall
Clerk to the Council