

PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE

Date: 4 June 2018

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: David Brackenbury (Chairman)
 Tony Boto (Vice-Chairman)
 Steven North (Leader of the Council)

Val Carter Sarah Peacock
 Sylvia Hobbs Jake Vowles
 Gill Mercer Pam Whiting

19. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillors Wendy Brackenbury and Marian Hollomon, who had ceased to be members of the Committee following the Annual Council meeting, for their contribution to the work of the Committee during the previous Municipal Year.

The Chairman also welcomed Councillor Roger Powell, who had been appointed to the Committee for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David Jenney and Marika Hillson.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made.

Councillor	Agenda item	Nature of Interest	DPI	Other Interest
Gill Mercer	"Making" (Adoption) of the Rushden Neighbourhood Plan	Member of Rushden Town Council		Yes (remained in the meeting)
Sarah Peacock	"Making" (Adoption) of the Rushden Neighbourhood Plan	Member of Rushden Town Council		Yes (remained in the meeting)

22. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

23. QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions submitted under Procedure Rule 10.3.

24. “MAKING” (ADOPTION) OF THE RUSHDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager reported that on 25 June 2013 Rushden Town Council had applied for the Parish area of Rushden to be designated a Neighbourhood Area. This application, approved under Regulation 7 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 (as amended), enabled the Town Council to lead preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Rushden and over the past four years the Town Council had worked with the community to prepare a Plan

The plan making process had concluded with a Neighbourhood Plan referendum, which had taken place on 24 May 2018 and the Plan had been approved by a substantial majority. As a consequence, the relevant legislation required the Council to “make” (adopt) the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the statutory Development Plan covering the parish of Rushden.

The main features of the Rushden Neighbourhood Plan were outlined to the Committee and an assessment of current Local Plan policies had identified changes that needed to be made to the adopted development plan for the Parish of Rushden that would need to accompany the “making” of the Plan.

On behalf of Rushden Town Council, Councillor Sarah Peacock thanked ENC officers for the support and assistance they had given during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED: That

- i) the Rushden Neighbourhood Plan be adopted (“made”) as part of the statutory development plan for East Northamptonshire, in accordance with the relevant provisions in the 2011 Localism Act and 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.
- ii) for the Parish of Rushden, the replacement of 1996 District Local Plan Policy S5 by Rushden Neighbourhood Plan Policy R2 be agreed.
- iii) for the Parish of Rushden, the replacement of 1996 District Local Plan policies RL3 and RL4 by Rushden Neighbourhood Plan Policy CL2 be agreed.
- iv) the replacement of 1996 District Local Plan Policy RU2 by Rushden Neighbourhood Plan Policy H1 be agreed.
- v) the replacement of 1996 District Local Plan Policy RU4 by Rushden Neighbourhood Plan policies CL1, CL2, CL3, CL4 and CL5 be agreed.

(Reason: To update the adopted development plan for the Parish of Rushden if the Neighbourhood Plan is passed at referendum)

25. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING UPDATE

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager presented a report informing the Committee of feedback received from the recent consultation regarding the Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan which had been submitted for Examination on 5 March 2018 and information regarding other Neighbourhood Plans that were anticipated to be published for consultation or submitted during the coming months.

Brigstock Parish Council had formally submitted the Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan to East Northamptonshire Council for Examination, together with a number of other documents, in accordance with Regulation 15. Submission of the draft Neighbourhood Plan required the Local Planning Authority to carry out consultations under Regulation 16 over a six week period on behalf of Brigstock Parish Council; and then appoint an independent Examiner to assess the draft Neighbourhood Plan against the five “basic conditions”.

The Regulation 16 consultation had taken place from 6 April – 21 May 2018 and responses from five parties had been received containing a total of nine separate representations. A summary of the responses received was submitted.

The independent examination for the Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan would commence later in June 2018 and the Examiner would assess the Plan, its supporting documents and the Regulation 16 representations and it was anticipated that the Examiner would finalise and publish his report by the autumn, with the referendum anticipated to take place late in the year.

RESOLVED that:

- i) the current stage in preparation of the Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan Development Plan 2011-2031 and the summary of Regulation 16 consultation representations at section 2.0 of the report be noted.
- ii) the progress of other Neighbourhood Plans that have, and are anticipated to, come forward during 2018 be noted.

(Reason: To support the forthcoming Brigstock Neighbourhood Plan through examination and support other Neighbourhood Plans as these progress)

26. EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTRICT WIDE LOCAL PLAN PART 2 – TIMESCALE OPTION

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager presented a report outlining timescale options for the preparation of the outstanding element of the statutory Development Plan for East Northamptonshire (the district-wide Local Plan Part 2) in the light of the changing local and national context.

It was a statutory requirement for local planning authorities to maintain an up-to-date Development Plan and for East Northamptonshire, the statutory Development Plan comprised the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy adopted in July 2016; the East Northamptonshire Local Plan which had been commenced following a decision at Full

Council in April 2016 and was currently in preparation and Neighbourhood Development Plans prepared by local communities across the district.

A revised Local Development Scheme (the project plan for the preparation of the district-wide Local Plan Part 2) had been agreed at the 23rd April 2018 meeting of the Committee. This forecast that the district-wide Local Plan Part 2 could be adopted in July 2020, which would be after the anticipated creation of the proposed Unitary Authority on 1 April 2020.

It was envisaged that to bring forward the adoption of the district-wide Local Plan Part 2 to December 2019, a pre-submission Local Plan would need to be submitted under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 by no later than March 2019.

RESOLVED: That

- i) delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning Services in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Policy Committee to agree a detailed work programme with the aim of delivering the adoption of the East Northamptonshire district-wide Local Plan Part 2 by December 2019.
- ii) the Local Development Scheme be revised to reflect the new timescale and brought back to the Planning Policy Committee for approval.

Reason: To ensure that the council identifies the most effective timescale and use of resources with regard to making progress with the completion of the statutory Development Plan for East Northamptonshire in the period leading up to the transition to a new North Northamptonshire unitary authority.

Chairman