



Sompting Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation

Report by the Executive Head of Planning, Regeneration and Wellbeing

1.0 Summary

1.1 Sompting Parish Council is intending to produce on behalf of its local community a Neighbourhood Plan in order to address issues facing the area (those which arise from a current consultation exercise being conducted by the Parish Council). In line with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the Parish Council submitted to Adur District Council as well as to the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) an application for the designation of the area to be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan. This application (which includes a map of the area) is appended. In line with the Regulations, this application was advertised in the local press and on the District and Parish Council's web sites for a 6 week period from the 10th October 2012 to 23rd November 2012. No representations were received by the District Council nor by the SDNPA during this period and it is therefore recommended that the designation of the area be approved.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The production of Neighbourhood Plans is a new power introduced by the Localism Act 2011 which enables Parish Councils to plan how their communities will change and develop in the future.
- 2.2 The procedures for producing a Neighbourhood Plan are set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, which came into force on 6th April 2012.
- 2.3 The first step for a Parish Council is to submit to the Local Planning Authority an application for the designation of the area to be covered by each Neighbourhood Plan. A Parish Council may choose to produce a Neighbourhood Plan that covers all or part of its parish. They must submit to the local planning authority the following:
- (a) A map which identifies the area to be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan;
 - (b) A statement explaining why the area concerned is appropriate; and
 - (c) A statement that the Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

- 2.4 For the majority of Adur district, the local planning authority is the District Council. However, for those parts of Adur which lie within the South Downs National Park, applications for the designation of Neighbourhood Plan Areas must be made to the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA). For a Parish which straddles both areas, an application must be made to both Authorities.
- 2.5 In line with the Regulations, an application was submitted by the Parish Council to the District Council as well as the SDNPA. The application (appended) consists of the letter of the 13th September 2012 to the Council's Planning Policy Manager and a map of the whole Parish Area. The letter states that the area to be designated for a neighbourhood plan is appropriate because it is a properly constituted Parish within the planning authorities of Adur District Council and the SDNPA. The application was publicised between the 10th October and the 23rd November 2012 in the following ways:
- An advertisement was placed in the local paper (in the Heralds and the West Sussex Gazette) and on the Council's website.
 - The details and documentation was placed on the District Council's and SDNPA's websites.
 - The application was advertised on the Sompting Parish Council notice board.

3.0 Response

- 3.1 No representations have been received on the application by either the District Council or by the SDNPA. Accordingly, it is recommended that approval is given to the designation of the Sompting Neighbourhood Plan Area.

4.0 Legal

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 amended the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to provide for neighbourhood development plans to be applied for.
- 4.2 The processes involved in designating the Sompting Neighbourhood Plan area are in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 There are costs in producing a Neighbourhood Plan to be borne by both the Parish Council and by the District Council. However, Communities and Local Government Dept (CLG) is providing some funding support and once the designation of the area for the Sompting Neighbourhood Plan is approved then a request for funding will be made by Adur District Council. CLG is currently providing £5,000 following an area designation and £25,000 on successful completion of the Neighbourhood Plan examination. The £5,000 is to recognise officer time supporting and advising the community in taking forward a neighbourhood plan. The £25,000 is to cover costs for the examination and any other further steps that may be needed for the neighbourhood plan to come into legal force, including the referendum. The request for payment, if approval is given to the designation of the area before the 31st December, has to be made by the 8th January 2013.

6.0 Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that the designation of the Sompting Neighbourhood Plan area be approved.

Local Government Act 1972

Background Papers:

Contact Officer:

Colette Blackett
Planning Policy Manager
Civic Centre – Shoreham-by-Sea
01273 263242
Colette.blackett@adur-worthing.gov.uk

Schedule of other matters

1.0 Council Priority

- 1.1 A whole range of priorities could be addressed through the neighbourhood plan including regeneration, public realm improvements, housing and health. The process also helps to:
- Extend the range of services delivered through partnership with other agencies including both the voluntary and third sector.
 - Listen and engage with our communities.

2.0 Specific Action Plans

- 2.1 Working with Sompting Parish Council on a Neighbourhood Plan to help address a number of spatial issues in line with the emerging draft Adur Local Plan.

3.0 Sustainability Issues

- 3.1 At this stage of the Plan, matter considered and no issues identified

4.0 Equality Issues

- 4.1 At this stage of the Plan, matter considered and no issues identified

5.0 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

- 5.1 At this stage of the Plan, matter considered and no issues identified

6.0 Human Rights Issues

- 6.1 At this stage of the Plan, matter considered and no issues identified

7.0 Reputation

- 7.1 The support and advice provided by this Council to the Parish Council in producing the neighbourhood plan will serve to enhance the former's reputation..

8.0 Consultations

- 8.1 The designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area has been advertised in line with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

9.0 Risk Assessment

- 9.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

10.0 Health & Safety Issues

- 10.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

11.0 Procurement Strategy

11.1 Matter considered and no issues identified

12.0 Partnership Working

12.1 The Council is providing support and advice to Sompting Parish Council in producing the Neighbourhood Plan and will play a key role at certain stages of the Plan.



SOMPTING
www.sompting.org.uk
PARISH COUNCIL

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Colette Blackett
Planning Policy Manager
Planning, Regeneration and Wellbeing
Adur District Council
Civic Centre
Shoreham-by-Sea

13th September 2012

Dear Colette

Ref: Neighbourhood Plan Notice

Please accept this letter as an application to designate the area of Sompting Parish within the Adur District Council's Planning Authority as a Neighbourhood Plan Area pursuant to the provisions of the Localism Act 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 for the purposes of the application.

I enclose

A copy of the Map identifying the area of the Parish,

This area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area because it is a properly constituted Parish within the planning authority areas of Adur District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority.

I confirm that Sompting Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act, being a Parish Council. I enclose a copy of the minute of the meeting where this application was agreed and the Plan approved.

I have the same to the Park Authority.

Yours sincerely

David Porter
Parish Clerk

MINUTE REFERENCE:

The Sompting Parish Council resolved on 12th September 2012 the following in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan.

Min Ref: Full Council 1283

Council received the Clerk's report and documents. On consideration

Resolved: The Council approves the Designation Notice and the Map of the designated area. The Clerk is to issue both documents to Adur District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority.

D Porter, Parish Clerk

