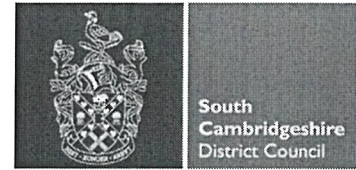


Neighbourhood Planning

Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area



Town and Country Planning Act 1990
 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and (Amendment)
 Regulations 2015

Before completing this form, please read our Frequently Asked Questions document and the guidance notes below

Within South Cambridgeshire District only Parish Councils can apply for Neighbourhood Area designation. These will be the 'qualifying body' in this District – a term used in the regulations for Neighbourhood Planning. As the Local Planning Authority, South Cambridgeshire District Council (the Council) will need to undertake various periods of statutory consultation on your proposals.

Data Protection and Freedom of Information

Information in this form will be used solely for statutory Neighbourhood Planning consultations. Information, including names and contact information, will be available to view on the Council's website.

By submitting this response form you are agreeing to these conditions.

If you need help to complete this form please call 01954 713182 or email Neighbourhood.Planning@scambs.gov.uk.

Please complete this form using information and contact details we can publish on our website

1	Name of parish (or lead parish where there is more than one). Where there is no parish council in place to make this application, please contact the Council for assistance in applying to designate a Neighbourhood Forum	Waterbeach
2	Address	Waterbeach Parish Council The Old Pavilion Recreation Ground Cambridge Road Waterbeach Cambridge CB25 9NJ
3	Contact name & position	Liz Jones, Parish Clerk and Barbara Bull, Vice Chair
4	Telephone number	01223 441338(Parish Office) and 07527 476701 (Cllr Bull)
5	E-mail	council@waterbeach.org.uk and Barbara.bull@waterbeach.org.uk
6	Additional parish contact details If applicable, please list all parishes involved in this application and provide contact details for the clerks of each.	

7 Name of Neighbourhood Area
In many cases this will reflect the name of the parish/es it covers

Waterbeach

8 Proposed Neighbourhood Area
The parish boundary might provide a good basis for a Neighbourhood Area but this is not obligatory. You must state why you consider the boundary you have proposed appropriate for designation. Without this information, your application cannot be processed.

Also, you must provide an Ordnance Survey Map showing clearly the boundary of the proposed Neighbourhood Area. Your application cannot be processed without a map. If you need help to prepare a map please contact Neighbourhood.Planning@scambs.gov.uk or call 01954 713182

Waterbeach Parish Council are proposing the designation of Waterbeach Parish as the Neighbourhood Area for their Neighbourhood Plan.
Parish Council Statement justifying designation of Waterbeach Parish as the Neighbourhood Area. (reference minute 14/139 Recommendation from 3 March 2015 Parish Council meeting and reference 15/21 from 16 June 2015 Planning Committee)

Waterbeach Parish, bounded primarily by the A10 to the West and the River Cam to the East has a unique combination of issues compared to neighbouring communities including:

Rural nature:

The parish is still set in a predominantly rural area with significant agricultural land and a mix of housing, industry and commerce.

Transport Infrastructure:

Unlike other villages north of Cambridge it has a railway station, a station car park and 4 level crossings, which impact the transport infrastructure of the village. The village is heavily used by many commuters to avoid the queues at the A14/A10 junction by diverting through Waterbeach and Horningsea (to A14 East bound access, and to the B1047). The junctions to the A10 at Car Dyke Road and Chittering still see many accidents and they are not currently scheduled for major improvement. The A10 itself is constantly subject to heavy traffic and delays in travelling both North and South.

Flooding and Drainage

The land is mostly drained into the river Cam through the area controlled by the Waterbeach Internal Drainage Board, but much of the land is low lying and prone to flooding and the pumping capacity is limited meaning that flooding risk and surface water drainage are significant issues.

The sewage treatment plant is already running at high capacity resulting, at times, in sewage flooding parts of the village.

Local Services and Community

The parish supports health services such as the village surgery and a pharmacy, social care facilities such as sheltered housing and residential homes. There is a range of shops and businesses in the parish offering services and employment and a number of sports clubs and recreation facilities. There is a well supported local community primary school and several playgroups.

Conservation and Heritage

The parish has a designated conservation area, 22 listed buildings, 4 scheduled ancient monuments (Car Dyke, Denny Abbey, Waterbeach Abbey and Romano-British settlement at Chittering) as well as two museums.

Environment

The parish provides a varied environment with the millennium wood, orchards, pastures, river meadows (washes), farmland, lakes and the old airfield with these diverse habitats supporting a wide range of wild life including some protected and rare species.

Former Barracks Area

The central swathe of the parish Area is formed by farmland and a Former Barracks area (SS5), part of which is brownfield and part agricultural which is still farmed to this day. There is also an extensive landscape of woodland, grassland and ponds/lakes which are rich in wildlife and flora & fauna.

This Former Barracks area and additional farmland (SS5) is included in the proposed local plan as a strategic site. The proposed local plan has currently been referred back to SCDC for review as the Inspector has serious misgivings in relation to the sustainability of new settlements contained in the proposed plan.

It is therefore essential that this SS5 area be included in the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Area because:

- It reflects the current boundary of the Parish Council.
- To exclude it would create an unacceptable geographic barrier between Waterbeach and Chittering.
- The Parish Council is taking a proactive approach in order to determine the development and use of land, as outlined at <https://www.scambbs.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning>. This is particularly pressing in regard to speculative planning applications, which have already seen the village lose the buffer zone between it and the proposed New Town. We expect further speculative applications in the absence of a Local Plan.
- In the longer term, the Neighbourhood Plan will support our community in maintaining its identity and the quality of life that is enjoyed here.
- In reality there is currently no local plan and therefore the former Barracks (SS5) should not be considered as a strategic site for the purpose of designating the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Area.

This combination of issues is unique to Waterbeach Parish and justifies its designation as a Neighbourhood Area for which a Neighbourhood Plan will be developed.

- 9 Local publicity about your proposal to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan
Please tell us what you have done so far to let your local community (e.g. residents, landowners, businesses) know you are considering preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for the proposed neighbourhood area. For example have you run public events, placed articles in the local press, made efforts to reach isolated residents?

Idea floated at the Annual Parish Meeting in July 2014.
Residents were asked to come forward if they wished to participate in the preparation of a plan.
Item published on the front page of Waterbeach Parish Council newsletter Autumn 2014. This is delivered to every household in the parish.
Dedicated area on Parish Council website for relevant documents to be uploaded and viewed.
Standing item on the agenda since January 2015 for the monthly Planning Committee meetings which are open to the public.
Open meeting of working party held on 24 February 2015. Announced both on news section of council website and council Facebook page.
Public consultation meeting planned for Wednesday 29 April 2015

- 10 Local Contact details
South Cambridgeshire District Council must publicise your application for designating a Neighbourhood Area. Please could you provide with your application details of local contacts for use in the Council's statutory consultation (see guidance notes below)

Local Contact information is enclosed

Yes
Can be provided electronically?
Yes

11 Declaration

I/we hereby declare that this parish council is a constituted parish council and is the qualifying body to act in this context. Local contact information is enclosed and/or being sent electronically

Where relevant, please ensure all other parishes involved have signed this application form.
Continue on another sheet if necessary

Name: Liz Jones

Signature:

Parish (lead parish where there is more than one):
Waterbeach

Date (08/05/2015): original submission date
(17/06/2015): revised version submitted

Name:

Signature:

Parish:

Date (dd/mm/yy):

Guidance Note – please read the ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ before completing this form

Application for Neighbourhood Area designation

This is the first formal step in the development of a Neighbourhood Plan – a Neighbourhood Area must be designated before a Neighbourhood Plan can be developed. We recommend discussing your objectives with Council officers prior to completing this form, to ascertain whether this is the most appropriate vehicle for you and what support is available to develop your Plan. Working with neighbouring parishes with similar issues could reduce the workload and increase the pool of expertise and knowledge needed for the production of a Neighbourhood Plan.

Community engagement and consultation may need to take place before making an application to designate a Neighbourhood Area. Does the local community support the production of a Neighbourhood Plan? What are the issues as they see them? What Neighbourhood Area boundary options have they been given? Have they expressed a preference? Details of this community engagement should be detailed in Question 9.

Qualifying Body (sometimes referred to as the ‘relevant body’)

Applications must include a statement confirming that the parish council is the qualifying body.

Your application is not complete without this information.

Areas with no parish council

Parish meetings can either get involved with the Neighbourhood Planning in an adjoining parish or apply to the Council to be designated as a Neighbourhood Forum, which can prepare its own Plan. If you think this applies to you, please contact the Council for assistance.

Filling out the form

South Cambridgeshire District Council has prepared this form to make it simple to apply for Area Designation. The contact address used on this form should be the main contact for future communication on the Neighbourhood Plan. Please be aware when completing the form that the information given may need to be published online.

Local Contacts

The Council must publicise the application for designating a Neighbourhood Area. You know your local community and are asked to submit with your application form, details of local contacts that that Council will use in carrying out its statutory consultation. Please ensure that you have enclosed (and send electronically wherever possible to Neighbourhood.Planning@scambbs.gov.uk) a list of addresses with postcodes and email addresses to named individuals for as many local stakeholders as possible, including businesses, community groups, landowners and education providers. This information will not be posted on our website but needs as far as possible to be professional contact information and not the personal

details of individuals who may not wish to be contacted or consulted on this matter. Information shared with us will be used for the sole purpose of statutory Neighbourhood Planning consultations.

Your application is not complete without this information.

Map of the Area

If you need help to prepare a map showing the Neighbourhood Area please contact Neighbourhood.Planning@scambs.gov.uk or call 01954 713182.

Your application is not complete without this information.

What happens next?

The Council must publicise the Area application on its website and in such other manner as they consider is likely to bring it to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in the area to which the application relates. There will be a period of not less than 4 weeks of statutory public consultation when the Council will invite comments on the application.

Decision to designate

The Council will decide whether to designate the Neighbourhood Area.

Decisions will be made:

- Within 8 weeks where the parish council is the qualifying body and the entire parish area is nominated
- Within 20 weeks where the proposed area falls across two or more Local Authorities
- 13 weeks in all other cases

In all cases the time period runs from the date immediately following that on which the application is first publicised by the Local Planning Authority, i.e. the start of the statutory consultation by the Council and not from receipt of the application. The Council will notify the parish and publish decisions on its website. Reasons will be given if the application is not successful within the decision document.

The Council may modify the application with the parish's consent if it is considered the Neighbourhood Area is not appropriate.

Checklist - have you...?

- Signed the declaration
- Included local contact information
- Included a map of the nominated Neighbourhood Area

Completed forms should be returned to:

Neighbourhood Planning
Planning Policy Team
Planning and New Communities
South Cambridgeshire District Council
South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridgeshire
CB23 6EA

