

KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- 21/084

Committee:-	COUNCIL
Date:-	17th November 2021
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	South West Kettering (Headlands) Neighbourhood Plan Submission Documents
Wards Affected:-	St Michaels and Wicksteed

1. Purpose of Report

To submit and seek approval for the suite of documents necessary to proceed with the intended adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan for the Headlands area.

2. Recommendations

The Council is recommended to approve the submission package in respect of the South West Kettering (Headlands) Neighbourhood Plan for the purposes of taking the plan forward to public examination and eventual adoption, after a referendum.

3. Information

3.1. There will be a presentation about the attached documents at the start of the item.

3.2. Attached as appendices to this covering report are:-

- A screening report (appendix One) – this is required of NNC, to confirm the plan and the policies within it are compliant with national legislation – the screening report is positive (appendix A)
- A basic conditions statement – this is also required by statute and, similarly, confirms that the plan meets the standards required of it if it is to be adopted (Appendix B)
- The submission document itself – this is the main document setting out the proposed policies within the plan and is for the Council to agree (Appendix C)

- A draft consultation strategy, describing how the plan and the process of adoption is to be explained to the residents it affects between now and the local referendum which will conclude the process of adoption. (Appendix D) this is still under development and will be revised in the coming days and weeks.
- The minutes of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee meeting held on 9th November (Appendix E)

3.3. The Neighbourhood Plan applies a further layer of planning policy to the area of town it covers, aiming in the main to protect and enhance the existing environment, foster the mix of uses within it and encourage sympathetic new development. The plan has statutory force for when the planning authority determines planning applications and when it devises relevant planning policies. It has been developed by residents of the area, but since April 2021, it has been this Council's responsibility to progress the plan through to its eventual adoption, which contains several stages

- Confirmation by NNC that the plan is compliant with legislation and the standards laid out for a plan (done)
- Adoption by this Council
- Submission by an inspector whose role is to confirm the compliance of the plan and to make any technical changes to the document (not to the policies within it)
- Approval, through a referendum of local residents

3.4. The minutes of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee show that the suite of documents above were approved by it and recommended to the Council for adoption. The minutes also show the Committee considered its future role and this will require an alteration to its terms of reference in due course.

4. Consultation and Engagement

4.1. The plan in its current form has already been through an extensive consultation and engagement process with local people and largely been developed by them

4.2. The consultation strategy at Appendix 4 sets out how local people will continue to be engaged up until the referendum

5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications

5.1. The costs of a referendum are borne, through a government grant, by NNC.

5.2. The Council has committed £1000 in its budget to support the engagement process between now and the referendum.

6. Policy Implications

This document will have statutory status as an adopted policy and will guide the determination of planning applications submitted to NNC.

Background Papers

Attached
