



Kettering
TOWN COUNCIL

Community • Environment • Heritage

MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE OF KETTERING
TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, 10 HEADLANDS,
KETTERING AT 7.00PM ON 15TH FEBRUARY 2024

Councillors Present: Cllr Scott Edwards (Chair)
Cllrs Maggie Don and Eve Edwards
Harry Frankland and Kevin Marchand

Officers present:- Martin Hammond, Town Clerk

No members of the public/press attended.

Item Number	Description
NP23/01	Apologies None
NP23/02	Declarations of interest None declared
NP23/03	Minutes of the last meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 12 th January 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.
NP23/04	Neighbourhood Plan – Annual Monitoring Report A report was submitted which surveyed the planning applications received and determined during the 2023 calendar year which related to the South West Kettering neighbourhood plan area. The report detailed the 12 applications received and noted that in most cases, the Town Council's views had been supported by the planning authority. One decision by NNC to refuse an application was now the subject of an appeal. The monitoring report showed that the plan was being appropriately applied to applications. Members were happy with the format of the report and the report was consequently noted and accepted.

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NP23/05	<p>Scoping a Future neighbourhood plan</p> <p>A report was submitted which sought to initiate a discussion about the form and nature of a new neighbourhood plan, which, as a minimum, covered the area of Kettering town centre.</p> <p>The report set out the planning policy approach being taken by NNC, and the role that a neighbourhood plan could have in the suite of policy documents to be applied in future. A North Northamptonshire wide Local Plan was being prepared to cover the period up until 2041; its adoption was intended to be achieved in 2026. A neighbourhood plan could assume the role that the Area Action Plan has sought to deliver for the town centre and, in addition, cover other policy issues in more detail than the overall local plan would achieve.</p> <p>Members discussed the potential benefits that a plan could help deliver, the area such a plan might cover and how to widen out the conversation with Councillors and other stakeholders as these principles were developed.</p> <p>The attached memorandum reflects the conclusions of the meeting and is intended to help widen the debate about the nature of a plan. In the meantime, it was</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The Council be asked to meet in workshop format, and in private, to consider the attached memorandum, agree how a plan might be developed and for what purposes and agree which key stakeholders should be invited to take an active role in its development.b) The clerk be authorised to start procurement for a consultant who could deliver both planning advice and public engagement on behalf of the Council
NP23/06	<p>Composition of the committee from now</p> <p>It was noted that, in the event that a second neighbourhood plan is developed, the committee's membership would change to become five members, plus four co-opted members, in order for the new area to be represented on the committee alongside the SW Kettering representation.</p> <p>It was proposed that the change would come into effect at Annual Council, by which time agreement may have been reached on the geographic coverage of the second plan.</p>

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	RESOLVED accordingly
	Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....

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MEMORANDUM – SCOPE OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR CENTRAL KETTERING

Issues which are to be addressed by a Neighbourhood Plan

The purpose of a Neighbourhood Plan is to effect positive change through the adoption of planning policies to address these matters:-

1. The quality of new housing; in particular
 - a. The application of decent space standards within developments
 - b. The proper provision of amenities, both internally and externally, which contribute to the quality of life of those who will be residents
 - c. The sustainability of that housing, to minimise energy, water and fuel use, to improve bio diversity and to ensure housing is adaptable for the changing circumstances of residents.
 - d. The provision of adequate vehicle parking
2. The quality of the streetscape, in particular
 - a. The conservation of existing architectural features,
 - b. The conservation of existing character areas, such as that of West St
 - c. Active and well maintained street frontages
 - d. The appropriate care and maintenance of the public realm, and public services such as the library, museum and art gallery
 - e. The sympathetic conversion of buildings
3. The role and function of the town centre, so that it can attract visitors for retail, leisure, community and employment purposes and so that residential and non-residential uses are in harmony with each other, to prevent tensions arising between adjacent uses. This could involve
 - a. The development of good quality green spaces, and areas which will offer a sense of calm
 - b. The development of flexible and shared “drop in” office space
 - c. Facilities for commercial and community events
 - d. Creating a safe and inclusive night time economy
 - e. Establishing principles about how and where new residential units can be created by the conversion of existing buildings
4. Movement – how people can be enabled to safely and easily access the town centre on foot, by cycle and by public transport and how those who live in the town centre can have access to their own transport when they need it. This will involve
 - a. Delivering a walking and cycling plan for the town centre and the wider town
 - b. Ensuring parking for new residential units is properly considered and provided within the whole area of the plan.

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Stakeholders

The following stakeholders were identified as a core group which needs to be engaged in the development of the plan and possibly brigaded together as a reference group to whom the steering committee can turn for views and contributions. It is not necessarily comprehensive at this point.

Kettering Civic Society .

North Northamptonshire Business Network

Becci Hurrell Voice Academy/Gala Bingo Hall project

Kettering Cultural Consortium

Faith groups

Brightwayz (LCWIP)

Schools in the proposed area (St Mary's and St Andrew's)