

# **Wennington Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation**

## **Consultation Report**

**November 2016**

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Neighbourhood planning gives communities the chance to decide where new development should be and what it should look like. For example, new homes, shops and offices. A plan must be in line with the District's Local Plan and is subject to an independent examination and community referendum. If approved, a neighbourhood plan forms part of the district's Local Plan and it is used in helping to make decisions on planning applications.
- 1.2 One of the first stages of developing a neighbourhood plan is to agree the area that this will cover.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 Wennington Parish Council submitted an application on 13 September 2016 to designate their neighbourhood plan area, this proposal covered the whole parish area.
- 2.2 Lancaster City Council consulted on the application for 4 weeks, from 26 September 2016 to 24 October 2016, before making a decision.
- 2.3 A press release was issued and an information email was also sent out to the planning policy consultation list (1,749 contacts).
- 2.4 The application letter, completed form and a map of the proposed area could be viewed on both the Parish Council website and on the Parish noticeboard.
- 2.5 Comments could be sent to the Planning and Housing Policy Team by email or post.

## 3. Summary of Consultation Responses

- 3.1 8 organisations responded to the Wennington neighbourhood plan designation area consultation.
  - Canal and River Trust (20.10.16)
  - Natural England (10.10.16)
  - Lancashire County Council (5.10.16)
  - Highways England (27.09.16)
  - Health and Safety Executive (28.9.16)
  - Environment Agency (03.10.16)
  - Historic England (03.10.16)
  - Lancashire Wildlife Trust (6.10.16)
- 3.2 There have been no objections to the proposed Wennington neighbourhood plan designation area, however a range of advice and guidance has been provided by a number of respondents.
- 3.3 The Health and Safety Executive highlighted that a number of consultation zones were within the proposed neighbourhood plan boundary. Various issues were raised including housing allocations, workplace allocations and mixed use allocations. They recommended that consultation zones should be marked on future maps to identify future development proposals that could encroach on consultation zones and the extent of any encroachment

that could occur. They suggested that proposal maps in site allocation development planning documents may be suitable for presenting this information. They particularly recommended marking the zones associated with MAHPs and the HSE advises that Wennington Parish should contact the pipeline operator for up to date information on pipeline location, as pipeline can be diverted by operators from notified routes. HSE have sent a copy of their response letter to the relevant pipeline operator.

- 3.4 Canal and River Trust, Historic England and the Environment Agency had no comments to make on the area designation.
- 3.5 Highways England has no objection to the application. In developing the plan they would be interested in any development or proposals that may have a sever traffic impact upon the M6 motorway and access to it at the nearest junction 34.
- 3.6 Responses have been received from both Natural England and the Lancashire Wildlife Trust who have provided useful background information and context for future plan preparation.
- 3.7 Lancashire County Council had no comment to make or concerns at this stage with the application proceeding. They provided useful background information and would like continued and open dialogue offering guidance and advise concerning issues and needs of education affecting the district as a whole a specific parish area.
- 3.8 Should interested parties wish to read the full submissions made in relation to the area designation these are available upon request from the Planning and Housing Policy Team on 01524 582383 or [planningpolicy@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@lancaster.gov.uk).

## 4. Conclusion

- 4.1 Following the statutory 4 week consultation, there have been no objections to the proposed Wennington neighbourhood plan designation area. Accordingly the Council will seek to formally designate the Wennington Parish Council area as a Neighbourhood Planning Area.