

**Caton with Littledale Neighbourhood
Plan
Area Designation**

Consultation Report

May 2015

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 Caton with Littledale Parish Council submitted an application on 23 March 2015 to designate their neighbourhood plan area, this proposal covered the whole parish area.
- 2.2 Lancaster City Council consulted on the application for 6 weeks, from 30 April 2015 to 11 May 2015, before making a decision.
- 2.3 A press release was issued and an article appeared in the Morecambe Visitor on 7 April 2015. An information email was also sent out to the planning policy consultation list (1,427 contacts).
- 2.4 The application letter, completed form and a map of proposed area could be viewed on the council's website and in the Victoria Institute and on the two Parish Council notice boards (Victoria Institute and Wavecrest).
- 2.5 Comments could be sent to the Planning and Housing Policy Team by email or post.

3. Summary of Consultation Responses

- 3.1 Six organisations and an individual responded to the Caton with Littledale neighbourhood plan designation area consultation.
 - Highways Agency (30.3.15)
 - Health and Safety Executive (30.3.15)
 - Cllr Woodruff (31.3.15)
 - Sport England (20.4.15)
 - Natural England (29.4.15)
 - LCC Property (11.5.15)
 - United Utilities (11.5.15)
- 3.2 There have been no objections to the proposed Caton with Littledale neighbourhood plan designation area, however a range of advice and guidance has been provided by a number of respondents.
- 3.3 The Highways Agency (now Highways England) has no objection to the application or the proposed boundary of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan area. However, they highlighted that they would be interested in any development or proposals that may have a traffic impact upon the M6 motorway and access to it at the nearest junction, which is Junction 34.

The Highways Agency has requested to continue to be consulted as the Caton with Littledale Neighbourhood Plan progresses.

- 3.4 The Health and Safety Executive highlighted that two National Grid Pipeline Consultation Zones were within the proposed neighbourhood plan boundary (21' Feeder Carnforth/Teales and 11' Feeder Grayrigg/Samlesbury). 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 Caton with Littledale 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.
- 3.5 Cllr Woodruff fully supported the application in relation to Halton with Aughton's application. He also raised the urgency to progress and adopt the Lancaster District Local Plan.
- 3.6 Sport England highlighted the importance of reflecting national policy for sport and their role in protecting playing fields. A number of information web links were provided in relation to this including guidance on providing new sports facilities.
- 3.7 Natural England had no specific comments to make, however they emphasised that they are a statutory consultee and must be consulted at various stages throughout the neighbourhood plan process. They also provided a link to some neighbourhood planning guidance which has been developed with the Environment Agency, English Heritage and Forestry Commission. Some general advice was also provided including accessing local records, Areas of Outstanding National Beauty (AONBs), National Character Areas (NCAs), protected species, local wildlife sites, agricultural land and opportunities for enhancing the natural environment.
- 3.8 Lancashire County Council Property Services highlighted that they own a number of properties and parcels of land within the proposed Neighbourhood Plan boundary. They asked to continue to be engaged in the development of the Caton with Littledale Neighbourhood Plan.
- 3.9 United Utilities Water Limited had no comments to make. However, they would like to be included in further consultations and highlight their support for growth and sustainable development. They requested that this response should be considered in conjunction with historical responses. Supporting consultation comments were also made on major utility assets and private facilities. Please read letter in full to avoid confusion or misunderstanding of message.
- 3.10 The full consultation responses are available upon request from the Planning and Housing Policy Team on 01524 582329 or planningpolicy@lancaster.gov.uk.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 Following the statutory 6 week consultation, there have been no objections to the proposed Caton with Littledale neighbourhood plan designation area. Accordingly the Council will seek to formally designate Caton with Littledale Parish as a Neighbourhood Planning Area.