

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

<b>Report Title:</b>	Newton and Biggin Neighbourhood Area designation
<b>Name of Committee:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	18 September 2023
<b>Report Director:</b>	Chief Officer – Growth and Investment
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Growth and Investment
<b>Ward Relevance:</b>	Clifton, Churchover and Newton
<b>Prior Consultation:</b>	N/A
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Hayley Smith, Principal Planning Officer, Development Strategy, <a href="mailto:Hayley.smith@rugby.gov.uk">Hayley.smith@rugby.gov.uk</a>
<b>Public or Private:</b>	Public
<b>Report Subject to Call-In:</b>	Yes
<b>Report En-Bloc:</b>	No
<b>Forward Plan:</b>	Yes
<b>Corporate Priorities:</b>	This report relates to the following priority(ies): <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby is an environmentally sustainable place, where we work together to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change. (C) <input type="checkbox"/> Rugby has a diverse and resilient economy that benefits and enables opportunities for all residents. (E) <input type="checkbox"/> Residents live healthy, independent lives, with the most vulnerable protected. (HC) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rugby Borough Council is a responsible, effective and efficient organisation. (O) <a href="#">Corporate Strategy 2021-2024</a> <input type="checkbox"/> This report does not specifically relate to any Council priorities but
<b>(C) Climate</b> <b>(E) Economy</b> <b>(HC) Health and Communities</b> <b>(O) Organisation</b>	
<b>Summary:</b>	This report seeks Cabinet’s recommendation to Council to approve the Parish of Newton and Biggin as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of Neighbourhood Planning.

<b>Financial Implications:</b>	There are no financial implications for the Council as a result of this decision.
<b>Risk Management/Health and Safety Implications:</b>	If the council does not make this decision there could be negative funding implications for the parish and their ability to obtain funding to develop their neighbourhood plan. The Council would not be fulfilling its duties required by regulations if it does not approve the area designation
<b>Environmental Implications:</b>	There are no environmental implications for the Council as a result of this decision.
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	Compliance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations. The Council would not be fulfilling its duties required by regulations if it does not approve the area designation.
<b>Equality and Diversity:</b>	There are no equality and diversity implications for the Council as a result of this decision.
<b>Options:</b>	In order to comply with Regulation 5A of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012 as amended), there are not considered to be alternative options. Where certain criteria are met (as this application does - see 'Reasons for decision' below) Regulation 5A (2) states: " <i>The local planning authority must exercise their powers under Section 61G of the 1990 Act to designate the specified area as a neighbourhood area.</i> "
<b>Recommendation:</b>	IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT the proposed Newton and Biggin Neighbourhood Area be designated.
<b>Reasons for Recommendation:</b>	It is legally necessary to confirm designation of Newton and Biggin Parish as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

**Cabinet - 18 September 2023**

**Newton and Biggin Neighbourhood Area Designation**

**Public Report of the Chief Officer - Growth and Investment**

**Recommendation:**

IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT the proposed Newton and Biggin Neighbourhood Area be designated.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for the Parish of Newton and Biggin to be designated as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1. The request to designate the parish of Newton and Biggin as a neighbourhood area was made in writing by the Parish Council (appendix 1) with a map of the parish included (appendix 2).

**3. IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1. Newton and Biggin Parish Council as the 'relevant body' submitted an application to designate the whole of Newton and Biggin Parish Council as a Neighbourhood Area by email on 05 July 2023. The email included a letter attachment and map showing the area of the parish. The letter outlines that the parish council considers that the extent of the parish "...is appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area as it is self-contained, has meaningful boundaries, and is generally meaningful and coherent for policy making purposes."
- 3.2. Changes were made to The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2016 amendment regulation 5A), which came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016. The amendments mean a local authority must designate a neighbourhood area where the following criteria are met:
- an application is received from a parish council;
  - the area specified in the application consists of the whole parish area; and
  - if any part of the specified area applied for is already part of a neighbourhood area, none of that extends outside the parish council's area.
- 3.3. The requirement for a consultation period on the area application does not apply in these circumstances.

3.4. The application received from Newton and Biggin Parish Council is considered to meet the criteria outlined above, as:

- It was received from Newton and Biggin Parish Council
- The area specified is the entire parish area, and
- No part of the specified area is part of another neighbourhood area already designated. The application meets the criteria set out above and therefore complies with the Regulations.

3.5. As such, no consultation period is required, and the local authority must “designate the whole area applied for” (Planning Practice Guidance Paragraph: 032 Reference ID: 41-032- 20170728).

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

4.1. It is legally necessary to confirm designation of Newton and Biggin Parish as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of the preparation of a neighbourhood plan.

**Name of Meeting:** Cabinet

**Date of Meeting:** 18 September 2023

**Subject Matter:** Newton and Biggin Neighbourhood Area designation

**Originating Department:** Development Strategy

**DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY**  YES  NO

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Doc No	Title of Document and Hyperlink

The background papers relating to reports on planning applications and which are open to public inspection under Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972, consist of the planning applications, referred to in the reports, and all written responses to consultations made by the Local Planning Authority, in connection with those applications.

Exempt information is contained in the following documents:

Doc No	Relevant Paragraph of Schedule 12A



**Newton and Biggin Parish Council**

c/o 9 High Street, Crick  
Northamptonshire  
NN6 7TS  
clerk@newtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Nicola Smith – Chief Officer for Growth and Investment,  
Rugby Borough Council,  
Town Hall,  
Evreux Way,  
Rugby, CV21 2RR.

5th July 2023

Dear Nicola,

**Re: Neighbourhood Plan for Newton and Biggin Parish – application for designation as Neighbourhood Area**

I am writing to inform you that Newton and Biggin Parish Council has taken the decision to develop a Neighbourhood Plan and we are therefore applying for the Parish to be designated as a 'Neighbourhood Area' in accordance with Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

We can confirm that Newton and Biggin Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act which specifically includes Parish Councils.

The area to be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan is the whole of the Parish of Newton and Biggin. A map confirming the area to be designated is attached. It is considered that the entire Parish is appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area as it is self-contained, has meaningful boundaries and is generally meaningful and coherent for policy making purposes.

We trust that this matter will be dealt with in a timely manner. As you are aware, planning Practice Guidance states 'In certain circumstances, the local planning authority must designate all of the area applied for. These circumstances are where a parish council applies for the whole of their parish to be designated' (Paragraph: 035 Reference ID: 41-035-20161116). Please can you advise me if this process is likely to take longer than a few days.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information and I look forward to working with the Borough Council and other partners in its development.

Yours sincerely

  
**Clerk - Newton and Biggin Parish Council.**

