

## Decision under Delegated Powers

### Officer Requesting Decision (if necessary)

Jamie Foot, Principal Planning Officer, Plans Policy and Place Making

### Officer Making the Decision

Geoff Parker, Chief Executive.

### Recommendation

That the Council approves the application from Rothley Parish Council for designation of the whole of the parish, identified on the Neighbourhood Area application map, as a Neighbourhood Area. The decision is to take immediate effect.

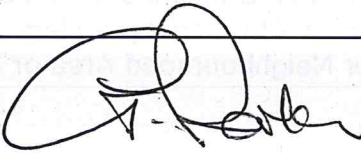
### Reason

So that Rothley Parish Council may continue the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for the area covered by its Parish boundary in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

### Authority for Decision

Section 8.3 of the Council's constitution includes a delegation to the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Lead Member for Planning and Sustainability, to agree and formally designate the Neighbourhood Area that would be covered by a Neighbourhood Plan or Neighbourhood Order. Councillor Vardy as the Lead Member has agreed to the formal designation of the Neighbourhood area as advertised.

### Decision and Date

APPROVED  21/12/15

### Background

The Localism Act (2011) provides the legal basis for neighbourhood planning and establishes neighbourhood plans as part of the statutory development plan alongside the Council's local plan.

The first stage of preparing a neighbourhood plan; as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012; is to decide on the boundary of the neighbourhood plan area which must be submitted to the Borough Council for agreement. The Borough Council will publicise the application and issue a decision on whether to designate a neighbourhood area after a six week consultation period.

Rothley Parish Council submitted an application, for the whole of the parish of Rothley, to be designated as a neighbourhood area on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015. The application letter and boundary map are attached to this document for information. The proposed aims and objectives of the neighbourhood plan include the following:

- A review of requirements and provision of community facilities
- Provisions to maintain a sustainable Parish with a distinct village identity and essentially rural character
- Provisions for the protection of landscape, heritage and wildlife
- An assessment of transport infrastructure to improve safety and access to other locations
- An appraisal of employment and business opportunities within the Parish
- A strategy to support the protection of important buildings and historic assets

The six week consultation period on the application for designation as a neighbourhood area ended on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The Council received one representation which was in support of the application.

The consultation was carried out in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The application was advertised on the Charnwood Borough Council Local Plans website. In addition to this the Parish Council confirmed that it was advertised on the village noticeboard, on the Parish Council website and through an article in the Rothley Post.

The Borough Council now needs to issue a decision on whether to designate the boundary of Rothley Parish Council as a neighbourhood area so that the Parish Council can continue the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The area is not covered by any other Neighbourhood Area or Neighbourhood Plan.

### **HR implications**

There are no HR implications as a consequence of this decision.

### **Financial Implications**

The cost of preparing Neighbourhood plans falls largely to the parish or town council preparing it. However, Charnwood Borough Council must arrange and pay for the Examination and Referendum required as part of the proposal (as

set out in Cabinet resolution Minute 121 03/13). An amount £30,000 per Neighbourhood Plan is currently available from DCLG – this funding is available to claim in stages and will be used to cover the costs of the Examination and Referendum.

### Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
A lack of adequate staff resources to ensure appropriate support is available to help town and parish councils prepare their neighbourhood plans.	Possible	Medium	Resources will be managed effectively and will be prioritised to match the demand from competing neighbourhood plans and existing workloads.
Loss of funding	Unlikely	High	DCLG have confirmed committed the funding support program till 2018. At this stage. Funding will be applied for where possible at the relevant stages of the Neighbourhood plan preparation. If funding was to be removed the Borough Council would have to fund the Referendum.

Key Decision:

No

Background Papers:

Rothley Parish Council application for designation as a neighbourhood area and boundary map.



# Rothley Parish Council

## Rothley Parish Council

The Rothley Centre, 12 Mountsorrel Lane, Rothley, Leicester, LE7 7PR

Phone 0116 2374544

email: [clerk@rothleyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@rothleyparishcouncil.org.uk)

5<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Mr Jamie Foot  
Charnwood Borough Council  
Southfields  
Loughborough  
Leicestershire  
LE11 2TU

Dear Jamie,

### Application for designation as a 'neighbourhood area'

Under Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Rothley Parish Council as the 'relevant body', hereby formally submits an application to Charnwood Borough Council as the local planning authority, for the designation of a neighbourhood area pursuant to the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council has established a working group which includes both Councillors and local residents. The working group will seek to develop a neighbourhood plan in consultation with Rothley residents and with the planning authority in accordance with recommended practice and procedures.

The key characteristics of Rothley Parish:

**Rothley** is a village and civil parish within the Borough of Charnwood in Leicestershire, situated around 0.5 miles (0.8 km) west of the River Soar and 5 miles (8.0 km) north of the city of Leicester. According to the 2001 census it has a population of 3,612. A large part of the village lies within the Rothley Conservation Area, which was first designated in December 1972 and extended in March 1997; it now covers an area of about 31.5 Ha. Rothley has been inhabited since Saxon times, as evidenced by the ancient Saxon cross in the church graveyard in the village. It is mentioned in the Domesday Book as 'Rodolei'. Rothley centres on two greens, Cross Green and Town Green, both of which are reached by a road that leads from the crossroads. The crossroads lies on the old route of the A6 road, which now bypasses the village. Most children of primary school age attend Rothley (Church of England) Primary School. The main shopping street in the village is Woodgate. Rothley has four churches, Rothley Baptist Church, the Methodist Church, Sacred Heart RC, and the main parish church St Mary & St John's Church of England.

It is the intention of the Parish Council to support the development of a Neighbourhood Plan, with the involvement of key local interest groups and residents. Consultation with the community will generate evidence which will ensure that through planning guidance Rothley

can develop in such a manner as to protect the heritage of the area, maintain its character, provide for future infrastructure, housing and employment needs, and ensure a viable and sustainable outlook. The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan will be to maintain and enhance quality of life and sense of place in the Parish by preserving the balance between housing, green open space and agricultural land. The plan will align to Charnwood Borough Council's Core Strategy.

Designated area status will allow the development of a Neighbourhood Plan that will include:

- An assessment of sites and styles of sustainable residential development to meet local needs
- A review of requirements and provision of community facilities
- Provisions to maintain a sustainable Parish with a distinct village identity and essentially rural character
- Provisions for the protection of landscape, heritage and wildlife
- An assessment of transport infrastructure to improve safety and access to other locations
- An appraisal of employment and business opportunities within the Parish
- A strategy to support the protection of important buildings and historic assets

A map showing the area covered by the proposed plan (ie the area within the Rothley parish boundary) will be sent separately.

Yours sincerely,

Gail Newcombe  
Clerk to the Council.



# Rothley Parish Neighbourhood Plan Boundary



Rothley Parish Council,  
12 Mountsorrel Lane,  
Rothley,  
Loughborough,  
Leicestershire,  
LE7 7PR.

Scale: 1:15000  
Date: 16-10-2015 Time: 10:28:49



This material has been reproduced from  
Ordnance Survey digital map data with  
the permission of the Controller of  
Her Majesty's Stationary Office.  
Unauthorised reproduction infringes  
Crown copyright and may lead to  
prosecution or civil proceedings.  
© Crown copyright.

Licence No. 0100057072