

Review of Neighbourhood Plan

Discussion paper 2 – Neighbourhood Plan Boundary

1 Accompanying Plans

Accompanying this Discussion Paper No.2 you will find a series of plans. These are

Plan 1 – Plan showing the current Parish Boundary

Plan 2 – Plan showing the current Neighbourhood Plan boundary

Plan 3 – Plan showing the current Parish and Neighbourhood Plan boundary

Plan 4 – Plan showing the new Parish Boundary

Plan 5 – Plan showing the proposed Neighbourhood Plan boundary

Plan 6 – Plan showing the new Parish boundary and the proposed Neighbourhood Plan boundary

2 What is the current Neighbourhood Plan Boundary?

It is a good idea as a starting point to familiarise yourself with the boundaries of the current Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan which are shown on Plans 1 and 2 respectively. When work commenced on the current Neighbourhood Plan permission was required from Leeds City Council (LCC) to fix the boundary of the Plan area. At that time LCC were able to determine the boundary of the Plan. Notwithstanding the area of the Parish Council, LCC informed the Parish Council that the Plan should exclude 2 areas of land. These are identified on Plan 3 with the areas omitted delineated with a purple line, and which lie to the west and south of the parish. Legislation has now changed so that the Parish Council can include the whole of the Parish in the revised Neighbourhood Plan and LCC no longer have powers to object.

3 Has the Parish Council area changed since the Neighbourhood Plan was adopted?

Yes it has and this is one of the reasons why the Parish Council has decided to review the Plan. Plan 4 shows the new boundary of the Parish Council. In effect the Parish Boundary has moved to the west and extends to Coal Road in the north west and runs along Cock Beck to the A64. It has therefore moved significantly west of the East Leeds Orbital Road (ELOR). Given the change in legislation, the Parish Council can now extend the boundary of the revised Neighbourhood Plan to also include this additional area of land without seeking permission from LCC.

4 Is the Neighbourhood Plan confined to the boundaries of the Parish Council ?

No, but permission is required from LCC if the Parish Council were to seek to do so and good reasons would have to be given for such a request. Permission is unlikely to be given where any extension falls within the area of another Neighbourhood Plan or where the Parish Council for that area may be contemplating promoting such a Plan. Thus in our area we have adjacent Parish Councils in Aberford, Bramham and Thorney which would prevent any encroachment in our Plan area into those parishes.

However to the south west of Scholes and to the east of ELOR is an area of land which falls outside the parish and does not lie within any other Parish Council area. This area of land forms a narrow

wedge of open space between ELOR and the East Leeds Extension and the village of Scholes. In order to include policies in the revised Plan to maintain the character of this area and the reinforce ELOR as the eastern edge of urban Leeds there may be merit in extending the Neighbourhood Plan boundary to include much of this land. Plan 5 shows an area of land which could be included which follows the eastern edge of ELOR and then runs east along the railway line and joins the Parish Council boundary around where the railway line crosses the M1. Plan 6 shows what would be the new Neighbourhood Plan boundary if this additional land were included. It is for the Steering Group to look at the proposed boundaries of the proposed revised Neighbourhood Plan and to make recommendations to the Parish Council. The Steering Group should also consider the reasons to justify extending the boundary so these can be put to LCC in seeking their agreement to the extension.

There is a process which has to be undertaken if a decision is taken to seek an extended boundary. This includes consultation with all residents and users located within the area of land concerned. So this may include LCC as owners of Chippies Pond especially if the Steering Group wished to see new policies directed towards this local feature, the farmers at Scholes Park, Upper Barnbow Farm and Shippen House Farm and the sports ground run by Amaranth football club.

It would make sense to secure agreement on the boundary of the revised Neighbourhood Plan with LCC before making much progress with detailed policies.

P R Maude

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