## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING OFFICER DECISION**

## **DECISION REQUIRED** (please tick one box)

Designate a Neighbourhood Forum		Agree comments on a pre-submission plan	
Designate a Neighbourhood Area	Х	Agree comments on a submitted plan	
Whether to accept and publicise a Submitted Plan		Agree the appointment of an Examiner	
Whether to decline or accept a repeat proposal		Agree actions to take following an Examiner's report	
Whether to modify a Plan or Order			

LOCATION/ PARISH	Astwood and Hardmead
DATE RECEIVED	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2018
<b>DEADLINE FOR DECISION</b> (where Regs require this)	As soon as possible
LEAD OFFICER	Diane Webber

**ISSUES/COMMENTS** (including details of any consultations undertaken and any comments received)

Astwood and Hardmead Parish Council has decided to proceed with the preparation of a neighbourhood plan and wishes to designate its whole parish area as the neighbourhood area for that purpose.

Under the amendments made to the T&CP Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations,2012 effected by the Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2016, there is no longer a requirement to publicise area designation applications if the area specified in the application encompasses the entire Parish area. In such cases, the Regulations state that designations must be made as soon as possible, once the Authority is satisfied that the application is valid and complete. This is the case with the Astwood and Hardmead Parish Council application.

When determining an area application, the Council is required to consider how desirable it is to designate the whole of the Parish Area as a Neighbourhood Area; to maintain the existing boundaries of areas already designated as Neighbourhood Areas; and to consider whether it is appropriate to designate the area as a business area in accordance with Section 61G and H of the Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) 1990.

Officers are satisfied that the Astwood and Hardmead Parish area represents a coherent, consistent and appropriate area for the purpose of neighbourhood planning. Whilst there may be a few very small local business operations, the overriding character of the area is rural and residential and, consequently, it is not considered appropriate to designate the area as a business area under Section 61G of the Act.

It is therefore recommended that the neighbourhood area for Astwood and Hardmead is designated.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** (insert hyperlink to files on L drive)

L:\Development Plans\Localism Act\Neighbourhood Plans from non frontrunners\Astwood & Hardmead\Neighbourhood Area designation

<b>DECISION TAKEN: Astwood and Hardmead Neighbourhood Area</b>	designation
approved.	

SIGNED:

T. Darle

Tracy Darke - Service Director Growth, Economy and Culture

DATE: 6 December 2018