

**MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL
CASTLETHORPE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Decision Statement – 18 October 2017

1 Summary

- 1.1 Following a referendum of all residents eligible to vote within the Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan area, Milton Keynes Council made the Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan part of the Milton Keynes Council Development Plan on 18th October 2017.

2 Background

- 2.1 Castlethorpe Parish Council, as the qualifying body, successfully applied for its area to be designated a Neighbourhood Area, under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012), which came into force on 6 April 2012.
- 2.2 Following the submission of a draft of the Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan to the Council, the plan was publicised and comments were invited from the public and stakeholders. The consultation period closed on 13th April, 2016. All comments received were then passed to the Examiner, Mr Peter Biggers, who submitted his report on the Plan in July 2016 which stated that the plan met relevant basic conditions and requirements, subject to modifications, and should proceed to referendum.
- 2.3 One of the modifications was the deletion of Gobbey's Field as a Local Green Space. The parish council did not agree with this and provided additional evidence of the value of the field to the village. A further round of consultation took place from 19 October to 30 November 2016, proposing to retain Gobbey's Field as a Local Green Space. A further examination was then held on the Local Green Space matter and the Examiner, Mrs Rosemary Kidd, submitted her report in June 2017 recommending that Gobbey's Field should not be designated a Local Green Space.
- 2.4 The Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan was modified in line with the Examiners' recommendations and a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum was held on 21 September 2017. The turnout in the referendum was 43.24% and 362 of the votes cast were in favour and 26 against the plan.

3 Decision

- 3.1 The Council makes the Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan part of the Milton Keynes Council Development Plan. In doing so, the Council is of the opinion that the Plan is compatible with all relevant European Union obligations, as incorporated into UK law, and is legally compliant.

- 3.2 The Council agrees to this decision statement and the Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan being published on the Milton Keynes Council website and in other ways to bring them to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area. The decision statement and details of how to view the plan will be sent to the qualifying body and any person who asked to be notified of the decision.