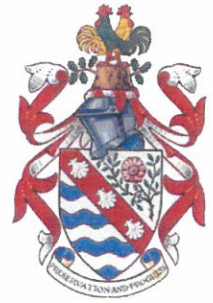




WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Shire Hall Market Hill WOODBRIDGE Suffolk IP12 4LP

Mrs C B Walker DMS MInstLM
Clerk to the Council



15 December 2014

Mrs Hilary Hanslip BSc (Hons) MRTPI
Principal Planner - Policy and Delivery (Neighbourhood Plans)
Planning Policy and Delivery Team

Dear Mrs Hanslip,

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF WOODBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

Woodbridge Town Council hereby formally applies for designation of the neighbourhood area in respect of the Woodbridge Neighbourhood Plan. This is required by Part 2, paragraph 5, of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. We enclose a map showing the area to which this application relates. This largely follows the parish boundary with one exception, this being a small area of land in the south west of the neighbourhood area which is within Martlesham parish. This land has been included in the Neighbourhood Area application for the following reasons:

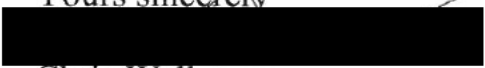
1. Woodbridge is a large market town and therefore fulfils a role in serving a wider hinterland than just that within its administrative parish boundary. The area in question represents a continuation of the urban area of Woodbridge and its residents look to Woodbridge for their higher order services.
2. At the launch of the Woodbridge Neighbourhood Plan on 25th September 2014, the community was provided with several options for a possible neighbourhood area and were invited to volunteer which they would prefer. In total there were 19 responses and ALL stated that the neighbourhood area to which this application applies was their preference. Several of the responders' lived within the area in question and stated that they look to Woodbridge as their service centre, not to Martlesham.
3. In order to be positive about growth, Woodbridge is required to contribute towards the delivery of the overall housing requirement for the five market towns in Suffolk Coastal district, as required by the Local Plan. Woodbridge has significant constraints to growth

and we are aware that Melton Neighbourhood Plan - with a neighbourhood area forming a continuation of the urban area of 'Greater Woodbridge' - has restrictions on its potential to bring forward development sites. The area in question provides one possible location for additional growth and therefore it is imperative that it is considered within the context of contributing towards Woodbridge's role as a market town and its associated growth requirements.

Clearly it will be important to engage with the surrounding parishes and their residents and we intend to involve them as much as possible in the preparation of the plan. However the Woodbridge Development Envelope already extends not contiguous with the Parish Boundary, and extends across the Parish into Martlesham. If the Parish Boundaries were simply adopted as a boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan, a significant part of Woodbridge's existing suburbs would be excluded, which the residents state they don't want, and Woodbridge Town Council feels would be illogical.

Woodbridge Town Council is the relevant body authorised to act in relation to this proposed neighbourhood area, as defined by Schedule 9, Part 1 (paragraph 61G, sub-section 2(a)) of the Localism Act 2011.

Yours sincerely


Chris Walker
Town Clerk