

# AYLESBURY VALE DISTRICT COUNCIL



## **PITSTONE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING REFERENDUM Information FOR VOTERS Referendum: Thursday 17 March 2016**

### **About this leaflet**

On Thursday 17 March 2016, there will be a referendum on a neighbourhood development plan for your area. This leaflet explains more about the referendum that is going to take place and how you can take part in it.

### **Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan**

A referendum asks you to vote 'yes' or 'no' to a question. For this referendum you will receive a ballot paper with this question:

*'Do you want Aylesbury Vale District Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Pitstone to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?'*

### **How do I vote in the referendum?**

You vote by putting a cross (X) in the 'Yes' or 'No' box on your ballot paper. Put a cross in only **one** box or your vote will not be counted.

If more people vote 'yes' than 'no' in this referendum, then Aylesbury Vale District Council will use the Neighbourhood Development Plan to help it decide planning applications in Pitstone.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan once adopted will then become part of the Development Plan. In the Aylesbury Vale District Council Local Planning Authority area the development plan currently consists of the adopted Aylesbury Vale District Local Plan, 2004 saved policies and the Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy 2012.

If more people vote 'no' than 'yes', then planning applications will be decided without using the Neighbourhood Development Plan as part of the Development Plan for the local area.

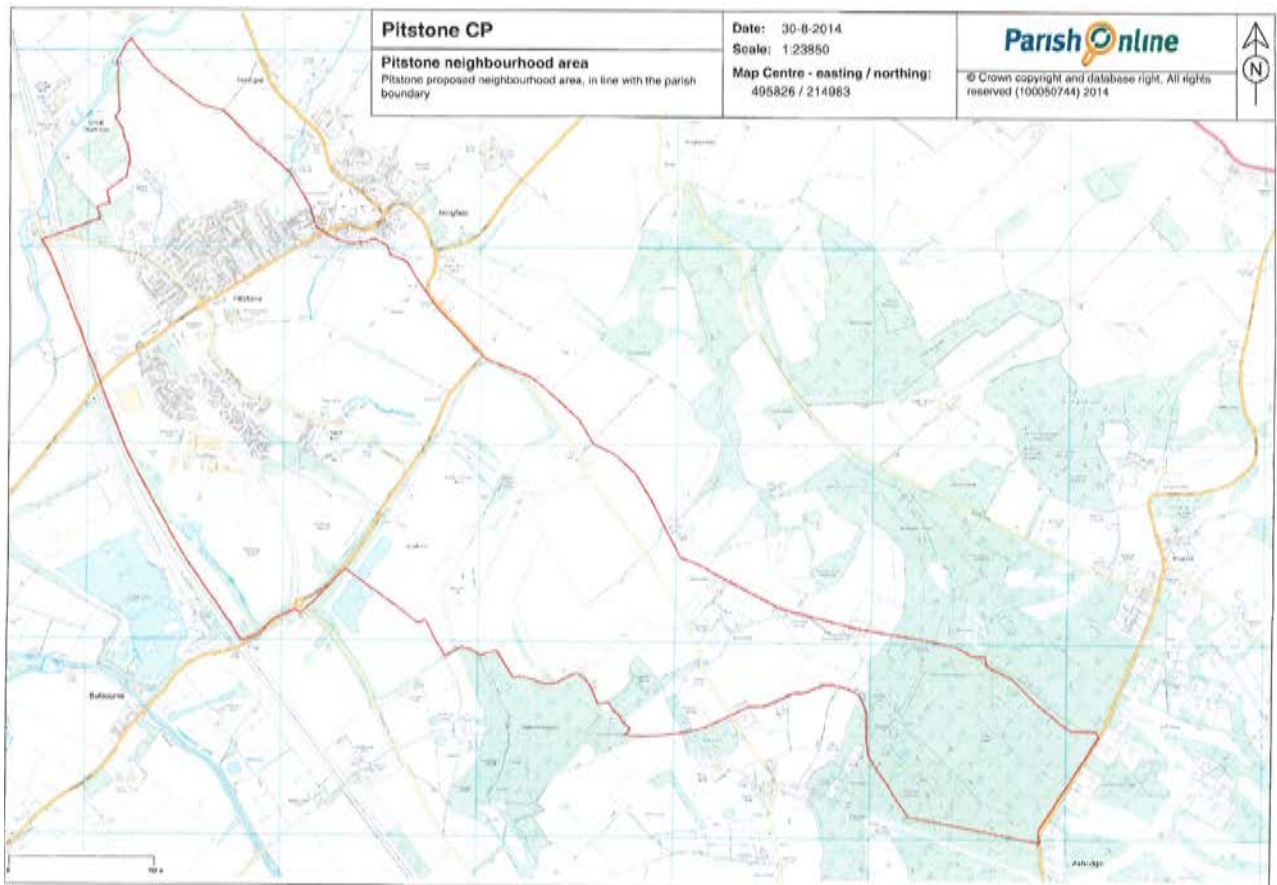
### **What is Neighbourhood Planning?**

Neighbourhood planning aims to help local communities play a direct role in planning the areas in which they live and work.

A community can prepare a neighbourhood plan. This plan can show how the community wants land to be used and developed in its area.

### **What is a neighbourhood area?**

A neighbourhood area can cover single streets or large urban or rural areas. The boundaries of a neighbourhood area are put forward by a parish or town council or a neighbourhood forum (a group of at least 21 people in areas without parish councils). In Pitstone, the boundary of the neighbourhood area was determined by Aylesbury Vale District Council and is identical to the parish area of Pitstone.



**Who can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan?**

Neighbourhood plans are prepared by town or parish councils, or neighbourhood forums. In this case, the Pitstone Neighbourhood Plan was prepared by Pitstone Parish Council.

**What is a Development Plan?**

In England, planning applications are determined by local planning authorities in accordance with the Development Plan. A Development Plan is a set of documents that set out the policies for the development and use of land across the entire local authority area.

**Who is the Planning Authority?**

Within Aylesbury Vale, the local planning authority is Aylesbury Vale District Council. Aylesbury Vale District Council is the lead authority for Neighbourhood Planning matters in parish, including Neighbourhood Planning Referendums.