APPROVAL of Wendover Parish Council Neighbourhood Area application

Background

1. A Neighbourhood Development Plan is being prepared by Wendover Parish Council, which commenced in summer 2015.

2. The Plan is in its early stages, work has started on gathering information and getting a group of people together to produce the plan. It is not yet confirmed whether there will be allocated sites for development.

Content

3. The Plan is being led by Wendover Parish Council to be supported by a consultant and AVDC planning officers. To progress the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the parish must apply to AVDC to designate the parish as a Neighbourhood Area. The proposed Neighbourhood Area follows the existing parish boundary.

4. The decision on whether to accept and designate a Neighbourhood Area has been delegated by Cabinet to the Forward Plans Manager, after consultation with the relevant local Member (s) and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning. This report seeks agreement for confirming the Neighbourhood Area.

Representation and Response

5. The Neighbourhood Area Application which has been consulted upon is attached to this report. One representation has been made, by Gladman Developments Ltd.

6. Gladman Developments Ltd make no specific comments on the application for Neighbourhood Area designation but highlight what in their view are key requirements in national guidance and legislation that a neighbourhood plan should have regard to. These reiterate the Basic Conditions tests that will be part of the neighbourhood plan examination and potential Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) that may be required from the Pre Submission stage depending on the neighbourhood plan that comes forward. No objection is made to the neighbourhood area itself. AVDC will work with the Parish Council as the plan is prepared to advise on the neighbourhood plan meeting the Basic Conditions. AVDC will confirm through a Screening Assessment in due course whether an SEA is required following further engagement with the parish council on the neighbourhood plan.

7. The representation has been forwarded to the Parish Council for their records.

Process of Consultation

8. Following the introduction of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and the Localism Act 2011, in a parished area like Wendover, it can only be the Parish Council that can be the ‘relevant body’ for a Neighbourhood Development Plan. Because of this, Wendover Parish Council have submitted to Aylesbury Vale District Council an application to designate a Neighbourhood Area under Regulation 5 of the 2012 Regulations.

8. A four week consultation commenced 10 August 2015 to 21 September 2015. The following consultation processes were undertaken to publicise the Neighbourhood Area application:

(a) Neighbourhood Area application published on AVDC and Wendover Parish Council website
(b) Neighbourhood Area application posted on the Parish notice board and Parish Council website
(c) Details of Neighbourhood Area application issued in a press release stating where the Neighbourhood Area can be inspected.

Approval

9. In accordance with the above, I approve the Neighbourhood Area application

Andy Kirkham, Forward Plans Manager

Date: 24 September 2015

In consultation with

Cllr Mrs Carole Paternoster, Cabinet Member for Growth

Date: 24 September 2015