

Committee: Cabinet

Date: Thursday, 18 April
2024

Title: Designation of Debden
Neighbourhood Plan Area

**Portfolio
Holder:** Cllr John Evans,
Portfolio Holder for Planning

**Report
Author:** Demetria Macdonald, Planning Policy Officer
dmacdonald@uttlesford.gov.uk
Tel: 01799 510518

Key decision: No

Summary

1. The Council received an application from Debden Parish Council for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area on 26 January 2024.
2. In accordance with The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (Amended 2015 and 2016) the application is for the whole Debden Parish area and the Council is required to designate the specified area as a neighbourhood area.

Recommendations

3. To designate the Parish of Debden as a Neighbourhood Development Plan Area.
4. The Plan Area as submitted by Debden Parish Council should be supported and adopted as the Debden Neighbourhood Development Plan Area.

Financial Implications

5. The Council Neighbourhood Fund is depleted and no longer offers funding for neighbourhood planning. Debden Parish Council has been advised to apply for Locality Funding.

Background Papers

6. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

Impact

7.

Communication/Consultation	Decision to Designate Debden Neighbourhood Plan Area will be published on the UDC website together with the application letter and a map of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	Debden
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

8. The Council received an application from Debden Parish Council for the designation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan Area on 26 January 2024. This request was made under Section 5-7 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as Amended 2015 and 2016).
9. No consultation is required as per regulation 5A of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment Regulations 2016) but the Designation Decision is required to be published on the Council website.
10. The application includes the requisite map relating to the parish, a statement explaining why the area is considered appropriate for designation as a neighbourhood area and a statement confirming that the application has been made by a relevant body i.e., Parish Council in this case (see Appendix 1).
11. The Parish Council has confirmed that the proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area is contiguous with the Parish Boundary of Debden Parish Council (see Appendix 2). The Parish Council consider that this is the appropriate area to be designated as it is the area administered by Debden Parish Council.
12. As the application is for the entirety of the parish council area, with no part falling outside the parish boundary, the Council is obliged to approve the proposed "neighbourhood area" for the purposes of a neighbourhood plan. (Regulation 5A (1), Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012).

13. At this stage no ideas have been developed about the type of policies which the Plan would include. However, this would be led by the Parish Council and their public consultation. To be accepted the Neighbourhood Development Plan will need to be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the District Local Plan, have regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU obligations.

Risk Analysis

14.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Concerns and complaints may be raised about the area designated	1 – Low likelihood as the boundary is contiguous with that of the Parish Council which is a logical boundary.	1 – Little or no impact would occur.	Publicising the Designation Decision in accordance with the Regulations together with the application for Designation.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.