

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION REGARDING THE APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA UNDER SECTION 61G OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 AS AMENDED

APPLICANT:

Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council.

APPLICATION:

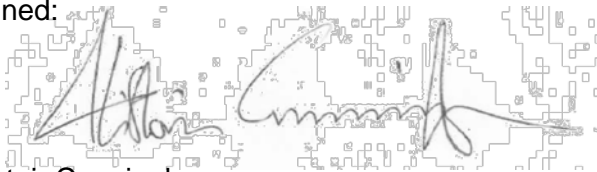
Application for the Designation of Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area

Pursuant to the Wiltshire Council constitution and in particular Paragraph 4(a) of Part 3B the Service Director for Economy and Regeneration within whose remit Spatial Planning falls is authorised to consider the area designation applications for Neighbourhood Plans and if appropriate approve applications.

DECISION:

The Designation of Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area is granted in accordance with section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended for the purposes of Neighbourhood Planning. The reasons for this decision are set out in the accompanying 'Neighbourhood Area Designation Application Report'.

Signed:



Alistair Cunningham
Service Director
Economy and Regeneration

Dated: 20.03.13

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA DESIGNATION APPLICATION REPORT – OFFICERS DECISION ACTING UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Date of application	06.12.12
Date of decision	20.03.12
Name of proposed designation	Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area
Community Area	Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Pursuant to the Wiltshire Council constitution and in particular Paragraph 4(a) of Part 3B the Service Director for Economy and Regeneration within whose remit Spatial Planning falls is authorised to consider the area designation applications for Neighbourhood Plans and if appropriate approve applications.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The power to designate a Neighbourhood Area is exercisable under section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Under Regulation 5(1) of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (which came into force on 6 April 2012) an area application has to include a map which identifies the area to which the application relates, a statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area and a statement that the body making the application is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G(2) of the 1990 Act.

2.2 Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council forms the 'relevant body' (for the purposes of section 61G (2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and submitted an application for the designation of Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area. The application is for the whole parish area of Royal Wootton Bassett to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of Neighbourhood Planning and so satisfies section 61G(3) of the Act. The submission of the application complied with the regulations.

2.3 The Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has been set up to prepare the plan and is led by the Town Council. The Group includes a cross section of community representatives that meet regularly to develop the draft plan.

3. CONSIDERATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO DESIGNATE

3.1 In determining the application for the designation as a Neighbourhood Area regard must be had to the desirability of designating the whole area.

3.2 The issue is whether or not the specified area is an 'appropriate area to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area'.

3.3 The fact that the designation of the Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area would allow a Neighbourhood Plan to be prepared does not form part of the determination of this application.

4. REASONING FOR DESIGNATION

- 4.1 The proposed area for designation which covers the parish of Royal Wootton Bassett is considered to be the appropriate area, as the Neighbourhood Plan will not only address issues that are specific to the town itself but also relate to the wider parish area. Working within the familiar Parish boundary will help to compliment other Town Council projects, strategies and initiatives. The Royal Wootton Bassett town boundary forms a clearly defined Neighbourhood within which the Town Council (the relevant body) work and operate. Although it does not overlap with other Neighbourhood Planning Projects, it is recognised that the border of the area for designation includes a section where the built area of Royal Wootton Bassett finishes at the border with the parish of Lydiard Tregoz. The area immediately adjacent to this border will form part of the proposed New-V (North East Wiltshire Villages) Neighbourhood Planning area. It is accepted that the New-V Neighbourhood Plan will need to consider the appropriate use of land along this border in conjunction with the Royal Wootton Bassett plan recognising the needs and ambitions of both communities.
- 4.2 The specified area falls completely within Wiltshire Council's area.
- 4.3 The application for designation as a Neighbourhood Area was publicised for a period of 6 weeks and 2 days from 9am Monday 14th January 2013 until 5pm Wednesday 27th February 2013. The proposed area was publicised on the Wiltshire Council Neighbourhood Planning webpages and the Area Board Manager, Swindon Borough Council and neighbouring Parish and Town Councils were directly notified of the consultation. The proposed Neighbourhood Area was also publicised via the Town Council website and the RWBNeighbourhood.co.uk website which had a link to the Consultation Portal. Publicity material was also used, directing people to the neighbourhood plan website.
- 4.4 No responses were submitted in support of or against the area designation during the consultation period.
- 4.5 The proposed Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area is coherent, consistent and appropriate in planning terms.

5. PROCEDURE

- 5.1 Under section 61H of the 1990 Act whenever a local planning authority exercises powers under section 61G to designate an area as a Neighbourhood Area, consideration must be given to whether the authority should designate the area concerned as a business area. The designation of the specified area can only occur if the authority considers that the area is wholly or predominately business in nature [Section 61H (3)].
- 5.2 If the application for the Designation of this Neighbourhood Area is approved, then Regulation 7(1) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 requires the designation to be publicised. If the application is refused, reasons must be given under 61G(9) of the 1990 Act and Regulation 7(2) of the Regulations requires the decision to be publicised.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is considered that the specified area is an 'appropriate area to be designated as a neighbourhood area'.
- 6.2 The lack of response to the consultation has been considered. However, as the area application has been put forward by the locally elected Town Council and retains the existing parish area, it is deemed an appropriate area for designation.
- 6.3 The specified area is not wholly or predominantly business in nature and so it is inappropriate to designate it as a business area.
- 6.4 It is also considered that it is not desirable that only part of a parish area be designated as this could lead to fragmented approach within those areas.
- 6.5 The specified area without modification should be designated as a Neighbourhood Area for the reasons set out in the application. The area represents the built area for which they are planning with the objective of identifying and allocating development sites within the identified neighbourhood area and is appropriate in planning terms.
- 6.6 A copy of this report will be sent to the qualifying body, Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 **The Designation of Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area is granted** in accordance with section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended for the purposes of Neighbourhood Planning.

Signed:

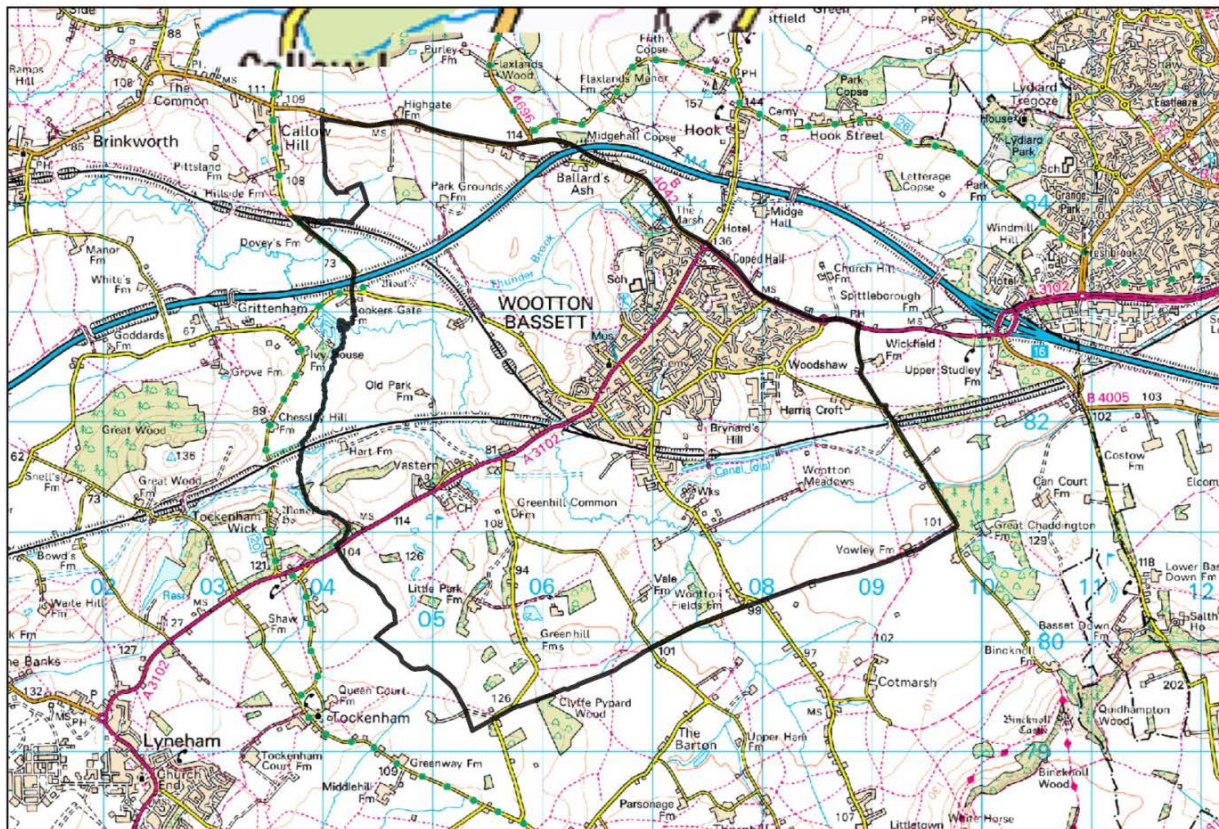


Alistair Cunningham
Service Director
Economy & Regeneration

Dated: 20.03.13

DECISION REGARDING THE APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA UNDER SECTION 61(G) OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (AS AMENDED)

1. I have no private interests to declare in respect of this matter which would prevent me from determining this application.
2. I hereby exercise power under section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) ("the Act") and all other powers delegated to me to designate the area identified on the map below as the Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of section 61G (1) of the Act as I am satisfied that the area is an appropriate area to be designated as a neighbourhood area. I do not designate it as a business area for the purposes of section 61H (1) of the Act as it is not wholly or predominately business in nature.
 - a) Name of neighbourhood area: Royal Wootton Bassett
 - b) Map of neighbourhood area:

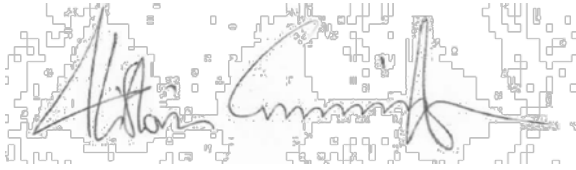


© Crown copyright and database rights 2012 Ordnance Survey 100049050

c) Relevant body: Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council form the 'relevant body' (for the purposes of 61G(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990)

3. I have made this decision in line with the information set out in the 'Neighbourhood Area Designation Application Report'.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alistair Cunningham', is written over a faint, light-colored background that looks like a technical drawing or a map with various lines and shapes.

Alistair Cunningham
Service Director
Economy and Regeneration

Decision published: 20.03.13