

## GROWTH, INFRASTRUCTURE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY PANEL

14 June 2018

### DRAFT BARROWDEN AND WAKERLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

#### Report of the Strategic Director for Places

Strategic Aim:	<b>Creating A Sustained Environment Building Our Infrastructure</b>	
Exempt Information	No	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Mr Nick Begy, Portfolio Holder for Planning Policy & Planning Operations, Highways & Transportation and Communications	
Contact Officer(s):	Colin Dunigan, Planning Officer (Neighbourhood Initiatives)	Telephone: 01572 758478 email: cdunigan@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	Gordon Brown, Gary Conde	

#### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Panel:

1. Considers the contents of the draft Barrowden and Wakerley Neighbourhood Plan attached at Appendix A.
2. Considers and approves the internal comments made by Rutland County Council service leads as shown at Appendix B.
3. Reports back to Barrowden Parish Council any comments, as appropriate.

#### 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the draft Barrowden and Wakerley Neighbourhood Plan (BWNP) consultation document and the issues identified following public consultation by the qualifying body which took place for 6 weeks from 11 April to 23 May 2018.

#### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following adoption of the provisions for neighbourhood planning outlined in the Localism Act 2011, Barrowden Parish Council (BPC) applied to Rutland County

Council (RCC) to designate and prepare a joint Barrowden and Wakerley Neighbourhood Plan (BWNP) with East Northants Council in April 2015 in order to provide more detailed guidance on the community views on what needs to be considered when determining planning applications across the plan area.

- 2.2 The local communities of Barrowden and Wakerley have been consulted at a number of community engagement events including an Open Event in October 2015, an extensive village survey in Spring 2016 and an Issues & Options consultation in Barrowden village in March 2017. In October 2017 an initial draft of the BWNP was circulated to service leads within RCC for comment.
- 2.3 Consultation on the first draft BWNP was undertaken from 11th April to 23rd May 2018 and was circulated to the local community and key stakeholders. A copy of the draft BWNP is attached at Appendix A. As part of the recent consultation ending on 23rd May 2018, service leads within RCC have also provided comments on the pre-submission draft BWNP (see Appendix B).

### **3 DRAFT CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

- 3.1 The draft BWNP contains 16 planning policies covering Protecting and Enhancing our Environment, Meeting our Housing Needs, Promote the Rural Economy, and Improve Access to Services and Facilities. A list of 10 Community Aspirations are also contained in the plan's appendices.
- 3.2 The draft BWNP appears to be generally supportive of the current planning policy framework in Rutland set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, National Planning Policy Guidance, Core Strategy Development Plan Development (DPD) (July 2011) and the Site Allocations and Policies DPD (October 2014). The draft BWNP has also been tested against relevant strategic policies of the emerging Rutland Local Plan to minimise any potential conflict with the policies in that document.
- 3.3 The Council has also undertaken a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) /Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening of the draft BWNP and the findings recommend that a full SEA or HRA on the plan is not required. Consultation responses received from Historic England and Natural England have also indicated that a full SEA/HRA report will not be necessary.
- 3.4 There will still be an opportunity for the Council to comment on the final BWNP as part of the six week submission consultation undertaken by RCC publicising the BWNP whereby all responses are then forwarded to the appointed Examiner for consideration.
- 3.5 The Group have been advised that the BWNP and all supporting evidence will need to be submitted to the Council by early August in order for it to go to Cabinet on 18th September. This will allow sufficient time to assess the documentation to ensure the Council is satisfied that the BWNP meets the Basic Conditions criteria.
- 3.6 To meet the Basic Conditions, the BWNP will need to be accompanied by robust evidence used to support and justify the planning policies within the document. In addition, it needs to be accompanied by a Consultation Statement which sets out who were consulted, how they were consulted, summarises the main issues and

concerns raised and how they were considered and where relevant addressed in the BWNP.

#### 4 ORGANISATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

<b>RISK</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>Medium</b>	The production of a neighbourhood plan for Barrowden and Wakerley requires the support of the County Council. As the local planning authority, the plan becomes a statutory document on adoption by the Council. It also demonstrates the process for other potential Parish Councils/neighbourhood forums to choose such a way of drawing up a community led planning policy document and will support the efficient provision of planning services in future.
<b>Viability</b>	<b>Medium</b>	An adopted neighbourhood plan establishes a statutory Development Plan Document that development requiring planning consent will have to comply with. It will assist in the delivery of the Council's sustainable development objectives, its Core Strategy, Site Allocations and Policies DPD and other supplementary planning documents.
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Low</b>	The cost of the County Council engagement in the delivery of an adopted neighbourhood plan can be contained within existing budgets supplemented by DCLG grants being drawn down during the plans preparation.
<b>Profile</b>	<b>Medium</b>	The draft BWNP is subject to public consultation. The submission draft plan will also be subject to further public consultation, if considered by the Council to have met the basic conditions as prescribed in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations. The plan is likely to be of particular interest to the local community in Barrowden.
<b>Equality and Diversity</b>	<b>Low</b>	DCLG guidance on the application of Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) indicates that RCC is not required to undertake such an assessment of the BWNP. An EIA is not required to satisfy that the 'basic conditions' have been met in drawing up the draft plan or submission draft plan.

#### 5 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Subject to any comments/observations received from the Growth, Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Panel and the BWNP Group submitting their Plan to the Council

by early August 2018, it is intended that the draft BWNP will be reported to Cabinet on 18th September 2018 for approval to go out to 6 week public consultation followed by submission to a neighbourhood plan examination and local referendum processes.

- 5.2 The Council still has an opportunity to consider the plan once it is formally submitted and make any further comments as considered appropriate as part of the 6 week consultation period. These comments together with all other responses received will then be submitted for consideration by an Independent Examiner as part of the neighbourhood plan examination process.

## **6 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The Growth, Infrastructure and Resources Scrutiny Panel has been asked to consider the draft Barrowden and Wakerley Neighbourhood Plan and the response from Rutland County Council service lead officers in order to make any further comment, as deemed appropriate, before submission of the Plan to Council in early August 2018.

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Localism Act 2011  
Neighbourhood Planning Regulations  
National Planning Policy Framework (2012)  
National Planning Policy Guidance (2014)  
Core Strategy DPD (July 2011)  
Site Allocations and Policies DPD (October 2014).  
Rutland Local Plan Consultation Draft (July 2017)  
BWNP SEA/HRA Screening Report (May 2018)

## **8 APPENDICES**

- 8.1 Appendix A - Draft Barrowden & Wakerley Neighbourhood Plan.  
8.2 Appendix B – RCC Response to Pre-Submission Draft BWNP (May 2018)

**A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.**