

# **Application by Desford Parish Council**

**Town & Country Planning Act 1990**

**As amended by the Localism Act 2011, Sch 9, Part 1**

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 - part 2(5)**

**Application for designation of a neighbourhood area**

## ***Application area***

The application area shown on the accompanying map is the Desford Parish boundary and is the area to which this application relates

## ***Appropriate area statement***

Desford Parish Council operates within the confines of the Desford Parish boundaries shown on the accompanying map.

The area is considered as being appropriate to be designated as 'The Desford Neighbourhood Area' as this is a long established area. administered by Desford Parish Council, a long-established, democratically elected body, representing the entire local community. There is one major settlement, the village of Desford, set in a rural surround with several small, scattered settlements, for example, Botcheston, Kirby Grange and Newtown Unthank, and a number of individual and small groups of dwellings.

It is appropriate to consider the area as a whole, as Desford village is a focal point for the other settlements etc. Planned expansion of the village is the likeliest way to meet housing requirements for the parish, and the impact of growth needs to be planned in relation to the need to preserve the surrounding countryside and to ensure that any amenities/benefits arising from development are accessible to all the residents of the proposed plan area.

The aim of Desford Parish Council is to create a neighbourhood development plan, with the involvement of key local interest groups and residents. Consultation with the community will generate evidence which will ensure that through planning guidance Desford can develop in such a manner as to protect the area's heritage, maintain its character and provide for future infrastructure, housing and employment needs for a viable and sustainable outlook.

In applying for designated area status the key essential aims of the resultant Neighbourhood Development Plan will be to:

Preserve the character of Desford, especially the conservation area

Protect attractive countryside

Retain a distinct community, protect and cherish existing natural and physical heritage

Meet defined housing needs in line with national policy and local strategic planning policy

Meet defined employment needs to ensure availability of sites for adequate local employment opportunities

Ensure that growth is fused with required infrastructure improvements and that these are accessible to residents and workers in the rural areas surrounding the village

Facilitate the needs of residents in the areas of education, health, leisure and transport

Retain, protect and increase green spaces, public rights of way and recreation facilities

### ***Qualifying body statement***

Desford Parish Council, the organisation applying for designated area status for the purpose of developing a Neighbourhood Plan for the area of Desford Parish, is adjudged to be a 'relevant/qualifying body' (specified in Section 61G of the 1990 Act) in making an application for the area delineated by the parish boundaries of Desford.

12 February 2015