

Meeting:

**REDESIGNATION OF HIGH LANE VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**

Report of the Corporate Director (Corporate and Support Services) and Deputy Chief Executive

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**1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum was formally designated on 14th September 2017 in respect of the High Lane Village Neighbourhood Plan and Area. Designation expires after 5 years, so the Forum's designation will expire at the end of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- 1.2 The Forum has applied to be re-designated.
- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to request the council's approval of the application, such that High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum will be re-designated with effect from 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum ("HLVNF", "the Forum") was formally designated on 14th September 2017 as the 'relevant body' to act in relation to the neighbourhood area of High Lane Village. In that capacity, the Forum prepared and submitted the High Lane Village Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2.2 Following the referendum on 16th September 2021, the High Lane Village Neighbourhood Plan was adopted as part of the Development Plan for Stockport for applications within the High Lane designated area.
- 2.3 For as long as it is the designated body, the Forum continues to act in relation to the plan, for example for any review of the Plan, and as a consultee body for applications in the area.
- 2.4 In accordance with the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, a designation for the relevant body ceases to have effect after 5 years. This does not affect an adopted Neighbourhood Plan or the designated area to which the Neighbourhood Plan applies. A body may apply to be redesignated. The current designation of HLVNF therefore lasts until the end of 13th September 2022.
- 2.5 The designation or redesignation of a relevant body is governed by the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 ("the Act"), as amended by the Localism Act 2011, and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (the "Regulations").

**3. Consultation**

- 3.1 The consultation was held from 25th May to 10th July 2022 in parallel to Scrutiny and Cabinet reports; a final summary will be reported verbally to Full Council.
- 3.2 The consultation was advertised in the local press, on the council's web site, and by post and email to those on the council's development plan consultation database. Copies of information have been available during staffed hours in three local libraries (High Lane, Marple and Hazel Grove) and at Fred Perry House.
- 3.3 Subject to final verbal summary, no adverse comments have been received and no have been reasons identified that affect the suitability of the Forum.

#### **4. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no financial or risk considerations. The relationship between the council and the High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum are managed within existing resources. Re-designation is a continuation of existing arrangements.
- 4.2 The risk of not approving the re-designation includes reputational risk to the council and an absence of community involvement in an existing community-led Neighbourhood Plan.

#### **5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no adverse consequences of approving the re-designation. The council is required by legislation to give reasons to an organisation or body applying to be designated as a neighbourhood forum if the council refuses the application.

#### **6. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT**

- 6.1 Approval of the re-designation does not have any impact on council workforce or any partner organisation's workforce. It is a continuation of existing arrangements.

#### **7. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

- 7.1 There is no equalities impact from approving the re-designation of the Neighbourhood Forum.

#### **8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 8.1 There is no Environmental Impact arising from approving the re-designation of the Neighbourhood Forum, which represents a continuation of the existing arrangement.

#### **9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The application meets the legislative requirements of an application for designation, and officers are not aware of any concerns or reasons not to re-designate the Forum.
- 3.2 The Council is recommended to accept and approve the application from High Lane Village Neighbourhood Forum for re-designation as the relevant body to act in relation to the High Lane Village Neighbourhood Area, to take effect from 14th September 2022.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

There are none

Anyone requiring further information should contact Steve Johnson

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