

District Council

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000

RECORD OF DECISION OF CABINET MEMBER OR KEY DECISION OF OFFICER						
1	Name of Decision maker	Councillor Michael Murray				
2	Type of Decision (Please □ as appropriate)	Key Yes	Other			
3	Date of Decision (This should be the same as the date form signed)					
4	The Decision	To designate the parish of Charney Bassett (Appendix 1) as a neighbourhood area under Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act				
5	Reasons for Decision	The decision addresses a corporate priority: 'Support for Communities'. Neighbourhood planning is part of the Government's localism agenda aiming to empower communities. Neighbourhood Development Plans will form the main policy document for designated areas and may allocate sites and set local policies for development. Plans have to be in compliance with national policy, in general conformity with local strategic policy in the Local Plan 2011 and the draft Local Plan 2029 Part 1 and be compatible with EU obligations.				
		On 1 October 2013 Charney Bassett Parish Council submitted an application for the designation of a neighbourhood area in accordance with Regulation 5 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. A plan of the area is attached. The specified area is the whole of the parish. Charney Bassett Parish Council made the application and indicated that they wish to				

		make policies and proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan to cover the area indicated.	
		We publicised the application from 23 October 2013 to 4 December 2013, in accordance with regulation 6 of The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012. A summary of the consultation responses is in Appendix 2.	
		The area is not primarily or wholly business in nature and should not be designated as a business area under section 61(H)(1) of the Act.	
		The designated area is suitable to be designated as a neighbourhood area: it encompasses the whole parish and is an appropriate and discrete area suitable for the preparation of local policies and proposals.	
6	Alternative Options Rejected	There are no alternative options for consideration in this case.	
7	Resource Implications	A Senior Planning Officer (Neighbourhood Planning) has been appointed to support communities in producing neighbourhood plans. There are therefore no additional resource implications arising from this decision.	
8	Legal implications	There are no legal implications of significance	
9	Financial implications	Funding is available from central government to enable local planning authorities to meet their new legislative duties on neighbourhood planning duties in the Localism Act, which are to provide assistance and advice, to hold an examination and to make arrangements for a referendum.	
4		This central government funding is available in three stages: £5000 at area designation, £5000 when local authority publicises the neighbourhood plan prior to examination and £20,000 on successful completion of a neighbourhood planning examination.	
		In accordance with individual cabinet member decision, taken in April 2013, we will offer Charney Bassett Parish Council a neighbourhood planning grant of £5000, towards their costs in producing their neighbourhood plan, if cabinet are minded to designate the Neighbourhood Area.	
10	List of Consultees (See guidance below)	Legal – Agreed 10 Dec 2013 Finance – Agreed 11 Dec 2013 Communications – Agreed 10 Dec 2013	
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11	Reports and Background Papers Considered	Appendix 1: Statement of Area Designation and Map of Charney Bassett Appendix 2: Summary of consultation responses		
12	Date of receipt of Reports	N/A		
13	Declarations of Interests	None		
14	Dispensations	None		
15	Is this decision confidential and if so, under which Exempt category?	No		
16	"Call in" Waived?	No		
17	Signature and Date	Decision maker Dated		
18	This form must be physically handed to a member of the Democratic Services Team	Note: The date and time at which this form is received will be recorded by the Head of Democratic Services. The decision will then be published and is subject to "call in". Date 13-12-13. Time 11:00. Head of Democratic Services Date and Time Form Received		
19	Details of Publication on the Web and date of expiry of "Call In" Note: This part of the Form will be completed by Democratic Services	Date of Expiry of "Call In" 20-12-13 Date Published 13-12-13 Date hand delivered to Chair of Scrutiny 13-12-13		

Appendix 1 – Statement of Area Designation and Map of Charney Bassett Parish

Charney Bassett Parish Council submission

A Background to Charney Bassett

Charney Bassett is located on low land bordering the River Ock, known as the River Charn in Celtic times, in South Oxfordshire. The village lies 12 miles SW of Oxford, 7 miles WSW of Abingdon and 6 miles NNW of Wantage. The village comprises 112 houses and a population of 230. The current population is socially mixed, with 40% of the village retired. Local employment is extremely limited, inhabitants travelling out of the village to work, or being self employed. The origins of Charney Bassett are ancient. To the north is the Middle Iron Age Cherbury Camp and for many centuries has been known as one of the three small 'ey' villages or Island villages, it's name deriving from the result of flood levels rising in the past, when these farming villages were surrounded by flood water levels rising in the past.

The village has one 13thC church, one Public House, a small Village Hall and a recreation playing field. There is no Village school, Post Office or shopping facilities, the nearest all being 3 miles away in neighbouring Southmoor or East/West Hanney. There is no public bus service.

There is a 13thC Manor and a renovated, but non working Mill close to the River Ock. There are a number of old farm houses within the Parish boundary and 19thC houses within the village. The village remains compact, with limited recent housing development being undertaken within 'infill' plots in the village. Two small estates were built during the 1980's'.

If further housing development is to be undertaken, however small, it will be necessary to consider the sustainability of further development in the view of both, the existing limited village amenities and inadequate access to the village via narrow roads. The village also enjoys no street lighting.

The village is served by all mains services, except gas, although part of the sewer services combine surface water with foul water which can pose a concern during storm conditions. The south of the village was subjected to flooding from the River Ock during torrential rain in 2007. There has also been regular extensive flooding along the River Ock and to the north of the village in both, 2012 and this year, principally due to village's low land location and immediate proximity to the River Ock.

Charney Bassett is a small, thriving community which it needs to be maintained, developed and sustained for future generations.

The Parish Boundary map highlights the area for which the Parish Council has responsibility for policies and proposals.

Appendix 2: Summary of consultation responses

Organisation	Summary of response	Officer response
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	No comments	N/A
Coal Authority	No comments	N/A
Highways Agency	No comments	N/A
Health and Safety Executive	No comments	N/A
Jim and Ruth Harper	Support	N/A
Natural England	General information about Natural England and their role in Neighbourhood Planning.	Response to be passed on the Charney Bassett Parish Council for information.
Network Rail	No comment	N/A