Hambleton District Council

Report To: Cabinet

Date: 10 January 2023

Subject: Husthwaite Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation

Portfolio Holder: Planning

Councillor D A Webster

Wards Affected: Raskelf & White Horse

1.0 Purpose and Background

- 1.1 On 9 October 2022 an application was submitted to this Council by Husthwaite Parish Council for designation of their parish as a neighbourhood area to enable them to proceed with formal neighbourhood plan preparation. The letter is attached as Annex A. A map of the parish is attached as Annex B.
- 1.2 As the application is for the whole parish to be designated as a neighbourhood area this means there is no requirement in relevant regulations for consultation to be held. The decision as to whether to designate the area is to be taken straight away. Furthermore, there is an expectation that applications for the whole parish to be designated as a neighbourhood area will be treated favourably, unless there are good reasons why this would not be appropriate.
- 1.3 The Council should support the application as it is validly made and the area provides for a logical plan making boundary. If the Council decides not to support the application it must give reasons.

2.0 Link to Council Priorities

2.1 This directly links to the Council's priorities on caring for the environment and providing a special place to live.

3.0 Risk Assessment

3.1 There are no significant risk associated with report's recommendation.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There is no cost associated with neighbourhood area designation, only the amount of officer time involved, which is minimal at this stage. However, the Council will incur further costs with the subsequent preparation of the neighbourhood plan. This will mainly be through officer time supporting preparation of the neighbourhood plan. However, it will also be financial due to the cost of examination and referendum. These implications are expected to be covered by financial support from government. In the current financial year, grants of £20,000 have been available when a neighbourhood plan reaches the referendum stage.

4.2 When a neighbourhood plan is 'made' (adopted) there will also be an impact on community infrastructure levy (CIL) as 25% (rather than 15%) of payments for eligible developments within the neighbourhood plan area must be transferred to the parish to spend on their infrastructure projects. However, the CIL income expected to be lost in the Husthwaite Parish is currently considered to be limited. It is possible that any reduction may be made up by CIL receipts from additional development as a result of the neighbourhood plan.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 The legal requirements under Part 2 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 have been complied with. The next step requires the Council to publish details (area name, map and applicant) of the Neighbourhood Area designation decision on our website and in such other manner we consider likely to bring it to the attention of local residents, workers and businesses.

6.0 Equality/Diversity Issues

6.1 Equality and Diversity Issues have been considered however there are no issues associated with this report.

7.0 Recommendation

8.1 That Cabinet approves the designation of a Neighbourhood Area for Husthwaite and the necessary information is published.

Mick Jewitt Deputy Chief Executive

Background papers: None

Author ref: JC

Contact: James Campbell

Planning Policy Manager

01609 767150