

Mr John Scott
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Peak District National Park Authority
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25th February 2016

SADDLEWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING AREA

This application is made by Saddleworth Parish Council.

The application covers the whole parish as shown on the map that accompanies this letter. Given that the parish falls within two local planning authority areas this application is made to both Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council and the Peak District National Park Authority. Discussions have been held with both of these bodies on this application and we are seeking your support in co-ordinating the six week designation consultation and approval process.

The Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Act and seeks to prepare a neighbourhood plan for the whole of Saddleworth parish for the following reasons:

1. To give local people more say in the future planning of the area, and reflect the needs and priorities of local people;
2. To support the strategic needs set out in the Local Plans;
3. To plan positively to support local development, shaping and directing development in their area that is outside the strategic elements of the Local Plans; and
4. To set out a positive shared vision for the future of Saddleworth and to promote sustainable development.

The Plan will seek to look at some or all of the following:

- a) Housing type and mix;
- b) Infrastructure;
- c) Historic buildings – possibly by resurrecting the local list of buildings;
- d) Landscape;
- e) Protection of identified community facilities;
- f) Appearance of the villages – possibly with a separate section within the plan, or separate policies within the plan for each village. This could build on work already undertaken for the Conservation Area appraisal exercise;
- g) Development management policy for future renewable energy development;
- h) Policy setting out how monies from Community Infrastructure Levy would be spent;
- i) Design policy (including materials);
- j) Areas for more restrictive planning policy within the Green Belt e.g. conversions, stables;
- k) Policy to protect existing employment uses;
- l) Policy to encourage development of small businesses and homeworking;
- m) Greenspace protection, improvement and enhancement;
- n) Protection and improvement of sports facilities; and
- o) Policies to look at transport issues.

We would now ask you to formally start the designation in process alongside Peak District National Park Authority at the earliest available opportunity.

Should you have any further questions please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Pam Bailey
Clerk to the Council