

Ripley Parish Council

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7th January 2015

To: Chris Mansfield, Executive Head of Development, GBC

Re: Neighbourhood Plan Ward Designation for Lovelace

The Parish Councils of Ripley and Ockham have both separately and jointly agreed to co-operate together and, with a Wisley community group, form three Neighbourhood Plan Sub-Groups who will formulate a Community Plan and then apply to designate Lovelace Ward as the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Both Ripley and Ockham Parish Councils are relevant bodies for the purposes of Section 81G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act. However, as we understand that only a single body must apply, as the largest parish, Ripley will apply in accordance with Part 2, Paragraph 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 in order that the Ward can produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

This application is accompanied by a map identifying the area to which the application refers, namely the entire Lovelace Ward.

It is considered that this area is appropriate to be designated a Neighbourhood Plan Area as there are significant geographical, social, economic, historical and infrastructure links between the villages of Ripley, Ockham and Wisley. Albeit that 79% of the population abide in Ripley and it also contains the only significant retail and restaurant/hostelry facilities in the Ward, it would provide an incomplete plan if it dealt with Ripley in isolation. Furthermore, without the opportunity to join together as a combined plan then neither Ockham nor Wisley are likely to have the local resources to "go it alone". It is agreed that, where necessary, the Ripley sub-group will mentor the two smaller groups when requested to do so.

The modus operandi for the overall plan will be firstly for each of the three Plan Groups to draw up their own plan for each village. There will also be a fourth group, made up of representatives of the three groups, which will examine ward-wide considerations such as infrastructure, planning, schooling, traffic, etc. These four reports will then be drawn together to provide a comprehensive Neighbourhood Plan for the Ward as a whole.

CLERK TO RIPLEM PARISH COUNCIL.

Yours sincerely,

Ripley Parish Council

(on behalf of Lovelace Neighbourhood Plan Group)

