

# Cinque Port Town of Rye

## Rye Town Council

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Dear Tim

**Application for the designation of a neighbourhood planning area as required by Part 5 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 – based on the Rye Civil Parish boundary. All under the Localism Act 2011**

Rye Town Council, as a relevant body under part 61G(2) of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, applies for the designation of the Rye Civil Parish as a neighbourhood planning area.

Following local consultation, meetings with Rother District Council planning officers and adjacent Parish Councils coordinated by Rother District Councillors, there is consensus for a neighbourhood area based on the Rye Civil Parish area, but in accordance with recommendations by Rother District Council, there will be protocols to cover linkage with adjacent Parish Councils.

Rye Town Council is a relevant body as defined in the Act, but has established a Steering Group of councillors (6) and citizens (5) to lead the work on its behalf. This group has met on four occasions to consider applicable national policy, good practice elsewhere and to assess the scope of the work. The Group has locally agreed Terms of Reference, which set out the Steering Group's responsibilities, particularly with respect to reporting back to Council and ensuring public consultation.

An outline programme has been considered and it is hoped to deliver a draft plan within two years - ie by mid 2015. There will be costs, particularly for publicity,



## **Appendix 2**

### **Statement setting out why the Civil Parish of Rye, as shown on Appendix 1, is appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area.**

- 2.1 The Rye Civil Parish is the administrative area of Rye Town Council.
- 2.2 In considering the possible neighbourhood area for a Rye Neighbourhood Plan, the Town Council and the Rye Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group were acutely aware of the close geographic, commercial and social relationships with the adjoining parishes, in particular with Rye Foreign, Playden and the Rye Harbour ward of Icklesham.

Under the chairmanship of Rother Councillor Paul Osborne, Spokesman on Strategic Planning, a meeting was held with the adjoining parishes to discuss the potential for an enlarged neighbourhood plan area. For purely logistical reasons it has not proved possible to proceed with an enlarged area but it has been agreed to draw up protocols covering liaison with the adjoining parishes. *See Appendix 3.*

- 2.3 It is therefore considered that the Rye Civil Parish is the practical neighbourhood area for the development of a Rye Neighbourhood Plan.

## Appendix 3

### **Protocols covering the liaison with adjoining parishes during the development of the Rye Neighbourhood Plan.**

- 4.1 In order to recognise the linkages between Rye and its adjoining parishes it has been agreed that, as part of the application for the designated area to be submitted to Rother, a set of protocols should be established to ensure that coordination between the parishes is maintained and the input from adjoining areas considered. The protocols are set out in 4.2 – 4.7 below.
- 4.2 The RNPSC will appoint one of its councillor members as a designated contact with the parish councils of the following parishes.
  - Playden
  - Rye Foreign
  - Icklesham, in particular the Rye Harbour Ward
  - Other adjoining parishes
- 4.3 Representatives of the adjoining parishes will be invited to attend all public events, which form part of the public consultation for the RNP, and will be included in the distribution of the minutes of the RNPSC.
- 4.4 The adjoining parishes, through the councillor interface, will be issued with the draft objectives, the drafts of the RNP and the final submitted RNP and their comments requested.
- 4.5 Subject to the substance of the comments arising from Protocol 3, RNPSC will, if necessary, hold individual meetings with parishes to address their comments and any concerns.
- 4.6 The RNPSC will take all necessary steps to ensure that the views of the neighbouring parishes are taken into account, always bearing in mind that it is charged with developing the best Neighbourhood Plan for Rye and its citizens.
- 4.7 Adjoining parishes are requested to inform the RNPSC of any major developments in their parish.

## Appendix 4

### Statement setting out why Rye Town Council is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990

- 4.1 Rye Town Council was formed in 1974 following the abolition of Rye Borough Council, formerly Rye Corporation, as part of the local government reorganisation that created East Sussex County Council and Rother District Council.
- 4.2 Rye Town Council is a Quality Council which holds the Power of General Competence. It has 16 elected Members and a 'Qualified Clerk'. It holds over 50 Council or Committee meetings a year, all of which are open to the public. It nominates representatives to serve on over 20 local voluntary, public and community organisations and publishes, within *Rye Fixtures*, a quarterly newsletter.

A Planning Committee considers all planning applications within Rye although overall decision-making rests with the Local Planning Authority. Major planning applications are considered by the full council.

- 4.3 Rye Town Council initiated the preparation and publication of the *Rye Local Action Plan* (see 4.4 below) and initiated the Rye Local Action Team (now Police Priority Setting Panel) and the Rye Emergency Action Community Team.
- 4.4 The *Rye Local Action Plan* was developed during 2008-2009 under the supervision of a small Steering Group. The main consultation was undertaken by way of a questionnaire delivered with *Rye Fixtures* and in addition data was also obtained from additional surveys undertaken at medical centres, the Library, Age Concern and at both the Rye Primary School and Rye College.

Independent analysis of the results was obtained from Action in Rural Sussex and the *Rye Action Plan 2009-2014* – essentially a statement of the community's needs and who would be addressing them - was published in September 2009.

It is intended that the development of the Rye Neighbourhood Plan will draw on the methodology and results of the *Rye Local Action Plan 2009-2014*.

- 4.5 Rye Town Council believes that it has the experience, resources and commitment to be considered the relevant body for the development of a Rye Neighbourhood Plan for the purpose of Section 61G of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.