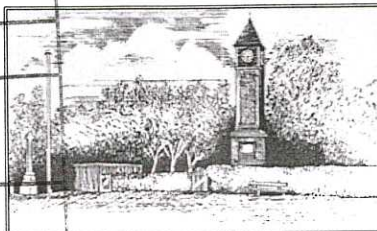


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SANDHURST PARISH COUNCIL OF SANDHURST, KENT

Please reply to The Clerk, Old School, Back Road, Sandhurst, Kent TN11 8JN 01580-850295

William Benson,
Chief Executive,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,
Town Hall,
Royal Tunbridge Wells,
Kent, TN1 1RS.

24th April, 2014

Dear Mr Benson,

Sandhurst Parish Neighbourhood Plan Neighbourhood Area Designation Application.

LOCALISM ACT (SCHEDULE 9) AND TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (SECTIONS 61F & 61G)
AND
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GENERAL REGULATIONS IN FORCE 6TH APRIL 2012

Sandhurst Parish Council as the "relevant body", hereby formally submits an application to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority, for the designation of a neighbourhood area pursuant to the preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and designation of a Neighbourhood Area.

Background.

At its full Council meeting in June 2012, Sandhurst Parish Council resolved to set up a Steering Committee to begin the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan incorporating a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Parish of Sandhurst. An application is hereby submitted under Regulation 5 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Since August 2012 a team of dedicated volunteers representing many different groups and areas of the parish have been working together in preparation of the NDP. A summary of our progress to date is included in the attached documentation.

The designation of a Neighbourhood Area is seen as the first formal step in the process of producing the NDP. The Application Regulation 5 requires the submission of the following:

- A map which identifies the area to which the application relates;
- A statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area and
- A statement that the organisation or body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

(a) Neighbourhood Area Map

A map identifying the area to which this application relates is attached.

(b) Justification for Designation

The proposed Neighbourhood Area covers the administrative boundaries of Sandhurst Parish Council. Schedule 9, Section 61G(7) of the Localism Act 2011 states that neighbourhood areas may not overlap. There are no known overlaps with other relevant bodies promoting other neighbourhood areas. In determining the application for area designation, the local planning authority must have regard to the desirability of designating the whole of the area of a parish council as a neighbourhood and the desirability of maintaining the boundaries of already designated neighbourhood areas. It is believed there are compelling reasons given the size and location why the neighbourhood area indicated on the attached map should be given favourable consideration.

(c) Statement in relation to the Relevant Body

Under Section 61G of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, a relevant body is defined as a parish council or an organisation or body which is, or is capable of being designated a neighbourhood forum.

The application for designation of a neighbourhood area is submitted by Sandhurst Parish Council, which is considered to be a relevant body for the purpose of this exercise and is therefore authorised under Section 61G (2a).

Conclusion.

For the reasons outlined above, the proposed neighbourhood area as shown on the attached plan is considered to be appropriate and justified. Under section 61G of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990, Sandhurst Parish Council is considered to be a "relevant body" for the purposes of this application. The Parish Council therefore respectfully request Tunbridge Wells Borough Council process this application in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

Yours Sincerely,

Cllr Terry Hannocks,
Chairman, Sandhurst Parish Council.
Att.