

Benenden Parish Council

Parish Office, Benenden Village Hall, The Street, Benenden, Kent, TN17 4DE
Clerk: Caroline Levett, Tel: 01580 240371, email clerk@benendenparishcouncil.org

Dear Mr. Hinton,

Application for designation of Benenden as a Neighbourhood Area for a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, 2012, Part 2, paragraph 5, Benenden Parish Council submits this application for designation as a Neighbourhood Area in respect of the Civil Parish of Benenden. A resolution to formalise this application was passed at the Benenden Parish Council meeting on the 10th of April 2017.

Please accept this application to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, as our local Statutory Planning Authority, for Benenden Parish Council to be recognised as the relevant body to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011, Schedule 38, paragraph (2)(a).

The area to be covered by the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) shall comprise the entire Parish of Benenden and not include any element of adjacent parishes, as shown on the attached map under the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, Schedule 9, Part 1, Sections 61G(2)(a) and (7).

You will appreciate that future development in Benenden is a sensitive matter. The entire Parish, with the exception of a developed area surrounding Benenden Hospital, falls within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Parish is extensive in area and includes many farms, country houses and small group settlements as well as the main settlements of Benenden village, Iden Green and East End. The centres of Benenden and Iden Green are designated as Conservation Areas (see the TWBC Conservation Areas Appraisal, April 2005). In addition the Parish has some 155 listed structures within its boundaries.

The intention is to build on the 2015 Benenden Parish Plan (lodged with you but I enclose a further copy). We will be forming a steering group and have engaged a professional advisor. We hope to work closely with TWBC and the planning officers as the new Local Plan for the Borough is developed.

We very much hope that we can work together for the benefit of all.

Yours sincerely, Peter Davies

Peter L E Davies, (Chairman, Benenden Parish Council)

18th April, 2017

Kelvin Hinton
Planning Policy Manager
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall
Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS

cc: William Benson, Chief Executive, TWBC
Karen Fossett, Head of Planning Services
Cllr Alan McDermott, Planning Portfolio Holder

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