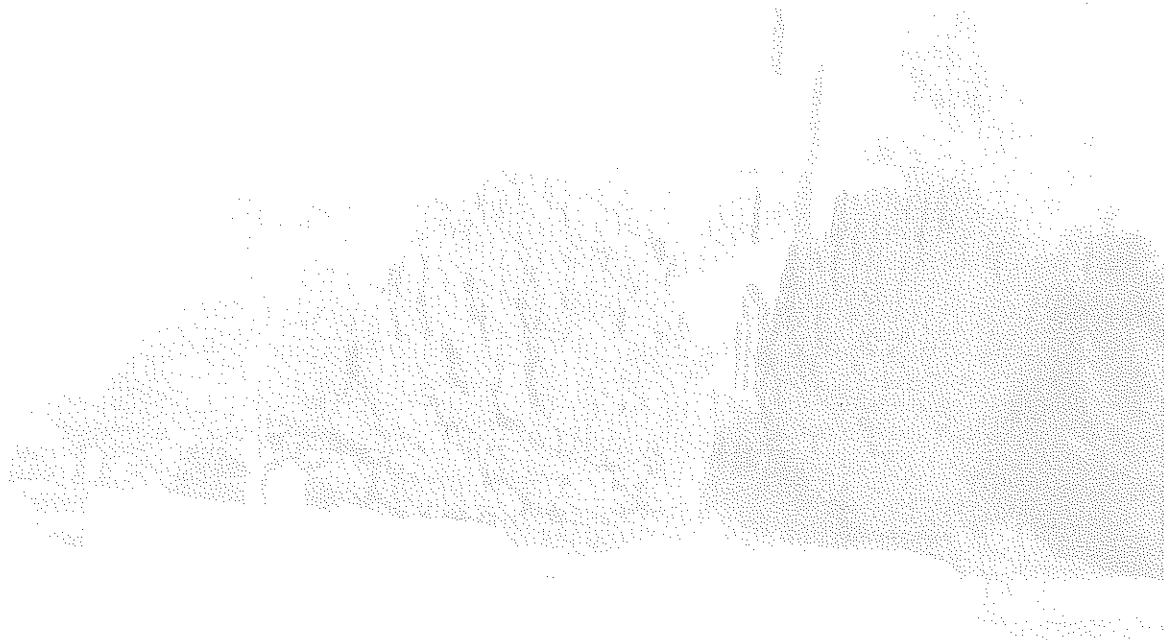


**PROPOSAL FOR A
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT
PLAN FOR LEIGH AND
BRANSFORD**



**APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION
OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA**

Pursuant to The Neighbourhood Planning (General)
Regulations 2012

INTRODUCTION

At a meeting on 22nd May 2012 Leigh and Bransford Parish Council decided to pursue the development of a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Subsequently members of the local community were asked to form a Steering Group. This document is a formal application to Malvern Hills District Council to agree the designation of an appropriate Neighbourhood Area for Leigh and Bransford as the first step in that process. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting are included as Appendix A,

STEERING GROUP

After several informal meetings a formal Steering Group was formed on 12th November 2012. At that meeting Peter King was elected as Chairman and David Deeley as Vice Chairman. The following table indicates members of the Steering Group (SG).

Name	Parish of Residency	
Marilyn Cook	Bransford	Parish Councillor
David Deeley	Bransford	SG Vice Chairman
Jon Gamble	Bransford	
Michael George	Bransford	
Graham Jones	Leigh Sinton	Parish Councillor
Peter King	Leigh Sinton	SG Chairman
Jon Lamb	Bransford	
John Locke	Leigh Sinton	
Margaret Morris	Bransford	
Stephen Seymour	Leigh	Parish Councillor
Julia Sly	Bransford	
Bruce Tasker	Bransford	Parish Councillor
Janne Tooby	Bransford	

It is anticipated that additional members will join the group, either permanently or co-opted on an ad-hoc basis.

Currently the Group meets approximately monthly but meetings of all or some of the Group members will be held as necessary.

BOUNDARY

It was decided at the Steering Group meeting of 12th November 2012 that the "Neighbourhood" Boundary would follow the existing Parish Boundary. A map

indicating the area to which this application relates (the Neighbourhood Area) is included as Appendix B.

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATED AREA

Having carefully considered the matter the Steering Group recommend to Malvern Hills District Council that the existing Parish Boundary is an appropriate Neighbourhood Area.

- The area is already seen by the local community as having an identified and recognised boundary
- There is an existing community spirit based around the existing and historic boundary
- The community within the boundary is already represented by elected representatives within the boundary
- The area is clearly identified within the existing Local Plan
- There is no good or rational reason to exclude any of the areas currently within the Parish Boundary
- There is no good or rational reason to include any of the areas currently without the Parish Boundary and within other existing boundaries

STATEMENT OF ORGANISATION

The Steering Group consider that they form a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Act.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Steering Group is to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan that reflects the wishes and aspirations of the community for change in the future. The Steering Group will inform and consult the community to understand their view of the current character of the area and how they would wish to see it develop. The Group recognises the affect the Plan could have on the health and well-being of parishioners and will discuss and promote issues of social and economic development. The community will have the opportunity to identify and promote development policy, especially in relation to the South Worcestershire Development Plan.

The Neighbourhood development Plan will

- Establish how the community views the current character of the area

- Establish any changes the community wishes to promote
- Identify specific policy areas where local views are not in accord with the South Worcestershire Development Plan and formulate acceptable and appropriate alternatives where necessary.
- Whilst accepting it may have neither responsibility nor authority in all cases the Neighbourhood Development Plan will discuss and promote issues such as:
 - Housing
 - Transport
 - Employment
 - Education
 - Facilities for all members of the community.
 - Leisure
 - Sustainability
 - Environmental

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY

The Steering Group has already made preliminary contact with:

- WI
- British Legion
- Leigh and Bransford Primary School
- Youth organisations
- Playgroups
- Memorial Hall Committee
- Neighbouring Parishes
- Individual members of local farming community and other businesses
- Individuals with whom they come in contact on a daily basis

Bulletins of progress will be published in the parish magazine, The Sphere.

The scope and type of future consultation has yet to be fully decided and to some extent will depend on the outcome of preliminary consultations.

APPENDIX A

Minute of Leigh and Bransford Parish Council Meeting 20th May 2012

Extract

LEIGH AND BRANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Leigh and Bransford Parish Council held at Leigh and Bransford Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 22nd May 2012.

f. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Mrs Cooke reported that the group had met to discuss and formulate a procedure for the creation of a Leigh & Bransford Neighbourhood Development Plan, which would enable the local community to exercise greater influence and control over future development and service provision.

The next steps would be to:

1. Obtain the support of the parish council to proceed with the plan.
2. Formally approach MHDC regarding the parish's intention to develop a plan and to request further information regarding the criteria that should be applied and the funding available.
3. Form a steering group representing all sectors in the parish.

Mr Seymour proposed that the parish council proceed with developing a Neighbourhood Plan. Mr Tasker seconded and all were in favour.

The clerk was requested to write to MHDC to inform them and to obtain further information, including details of grants available, for discussion at the next meeting.

The Chairman noted that the CALC annual meeting on 14th June would include discussion on neighbourhood planning and also of the soon to be introduced revised Code of Conduct.