

**Oulton Neighbourhood Plan – amended neighbourhood plan boundary**

Report by Planning Policy Officer

<b>Summary:</b>	Following parish boundary amendments in the Lowestoft, Oulton and Oulton Broad area, a change to the already agreed Oulton Neighbourhood Plan area was the subject of consultation, proposing that the amended Neighbourhood Plan boundary would be the same as the amended Parish Council boundary. Three comments were received: one of support and two from Statutory Organisations providing advice and guidance for the production of Neighbourhood Plans.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	It is recommended that Planning Committee endorse the amended boundary of the Oulton Neighbourhood Plan.

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The previous Oulton Neighbourhood Area boundary included areas outside of Oulton parish. Since that application was approved in 2015<sup>1</sup>. Following recent boundary changes and the creation of Lowestoft Town Council, part of the previously approved Oulton Neighbourhood Plan area is now within Lowestoft parish and Lowestoft Town Council intends to create a Neighbourhood Plan for its entire parish. Therefore, Oulton Parish Council has resubmitted its Neighbourhood Area application to cover the recently amended Oulton parish only.
- 1.2 The new proposed area can be found here: [http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/1396087/Oulton-Neighbourhood-Area-Poster.pdf](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/1396087/Oulton-Neighbourhood-Area-Poster.pdf)
- 1.3 Oulton Neighbourhood Plan webpage on the Broads Authority website is here: <http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies/neighbourhood-planning/oulton>

## **2 Consultation**

- 2.1 The consultation on the proposed amendment to the Neighbourhood Area ended on 23 November 2018. The following comments were received:

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<sup>1</sup> Here is the original Planning Committee report: [http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/518430/Oulton-Neighbourhood-Plan.pdf](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/518430/Oulton-Neighbourhood-Plan.pdf)

- a) **Natural England:** did not wish to make comment on the suitability of the proposed plan area or the proposed neighbourhood planning body. A generic response was provided containing advice relating to various considerations when producing a Neighbourhood Plan.
- b) **Lowestoft Town Council:** support the amended boundary saying 'Lowestoft Town Council would like to thank Oulton Parish Council for their co-operation with the resubmission of their Neighbourhood Area. The Town Council wishes them success with their Neighbourhood Plan'.
- c) **Historic England:** commented 'We would strongly recommend that, where the boundary of Oulton and Lowestoft's neighbourhood areas runs together, a consistent approach to the management of these areas is considered'. The rest of the response was similar to Natural England's in that it was a generic response with advice and guidance when producing a Neighbourhood Plan

### **3. Assessment and the Recommendation**

- 3.1 One comment of support and two generic issue based comments were received. The proposed change in the boundary reflects amendments to parish boundaries in that area and the creation of the Town Council. It is recommended that Planning Committee endorse the amended boundary of the Oulton Neighbourhood Plan.

### **4 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 To date the Planning Policy Officer has attended some meetings of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group. Waveney District Council has led on the consultation. Going forward, there could be some more involvement of the Broads Authority as well as the requirements set out in regulations.

Background papers: None  
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Date of report: 26 November 2018  
Appendices: None