Application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area

Author: Portbury Parish Council
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1. Background

During 2007 Portbury Parish Council began the process of developing a strategy to create a Parish Plan. In the following period up to May 2013 the Council engaged with parishioners and developed a set of strategic objectives on which to consult more widely. Through an open consultation process with parishioners, using a distributed questionnaire, the Parish Council has refined its strategic objectives so that the next stage of developing a formal Neighbourhood Plan can now begin.

At the Parish Council meeting of August 2015 it was decided that the Parish Council will lead on the development of a neighbourhood plan. Portbury Parish Council further decided on 3rd November 2015 that it would proceed to submit an application to designate the area within Portbury Parish boundary as its neighbourhood area.

2. Stage 1 – Neighbourhood development plan area designation

Portbury Parish Council wishes to apply to North Somerset Council to designate the area within Portbury Parish boundary as its neighbourhood area. In support of this application we present:

a) Diagram 1 – Current parish boundary for Portbury

b) The following statement

‘The Parish Council considers that this is an appropriate area to include in our plan as the area is wholly administered by Portbury Parish Council. Portbury continues to be faced with difficult challenges brought about by its physical proximity to a growing industrial complex, Royal Portbury Dock, and also its adjacency to the busy M5 motorway. Whilst Portbury currently sits totally within the Green Belt, and thus is not facing the immediate prospect of development it is important to formalise what residents want to achieve within our Parish. Consultation carried out so far shows wide commonality of views about what residents want for the Parish, some of which lead to challenging objectives which will take many years to accomplish. It is vitally
important therefore that a plan is formulated in order to record these objectives and set a longer term agenda with objectives for the Parish Council.'

Diagram 1 – Portbury Parish

Yours faithfully,

Mike Phipps
Chairman, Portbury Parish Council.