

**APPLICATION FOR  
THE REGISTRATION OF THE HOE VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM  
AND  
THE DESIGNATION OF THE HOE VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA**

**SUBMITTED BY THE  
PROPOSED HOE VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM**

**December 2018**

**APPLICATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF THE HOE VALLEY  
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AND THE DESIGNATION OF THE HOE  
VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA**

**SUBMITTED BY THE PROPOSED HOE VALLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM  
("HVNF")**

**Town and Country Planning Act, England The Neighbourhood Planning  
(General Regulations) 2012**

Application is hereby made to the Woking Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority for the designation of

- (1) a Neighbourhood Area and
- (2) a Neighbourhood Forum

in accordance with the above Regulations.

This application is submitted on behalf of the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum by the elected Chair of the proposed HVNF as a relevant body (Section 61G(2b)):

**(1) Application for designation of a Neighbourhood Area (Regulation 5)**

Regulation 5a

A map that identifies the area to which this Application relates is included as *Appendix C*.

Regulation 5b

The proposed neighbourhood plan area (as outlined in green on the map in *Appendix C*) is as defined by the Woking Borough Council – Hoe Valley Ward Boundary.

The Neighbourhood Area is located in the south of Woking and runs broadly east-west from the Hoe Stream in the west to Newark Lane in the east. It includes the three villages of Westfield, Kingfield and Old Woking, as well as Woking Park and Claremont Avenue.

The inhabitants of the proposed neighbourhood area have a definite sense of local community and share common development, infrastructure and development challenges. The Green Belt is of particular importance to the neighbourhood and a significant proportion of the neighbourhood area is open countryside.

Collective representation has been the norm for the Hoe Valley community and there are longstanding local residents associations focused on two of the three villages. It is intended that the plan will fairly reflect the wishes of the community by setting up a forum composed of residential and business members, drawn from all parts of the area and representing a wide range of interests. This group will collectively create and endorse the plan.

No part of the Neighbourhood Area overlaps any other Neighbourhood Area (Section 61G(7) of the Act).

### Regulation 5c.

In the summer of 2018, a number of local residents within the Area, aware of legislation permitting Neighbourhood Plans, proposed consulting other residents on support for the formation of a Neighbourhood Forum in order to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the Hoe Valley area.

To ensure full and general public participation in the HVNF, a public meeting was held in the Old Woking Community Centre on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018 which was attended by approximately 125 people from the local community. Also in attendance were Woking Borough Council local councillors for the Hoe Valley Ward. At this meeting strong general support was expressed for the formation of a Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum.

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018, there was a subsequent consultation meeting, attended by 38 residents, at which the proposed neighbourhood area and draft constitution were discussed and agreed, subject to a wider public consultation.

### **Publicity method**

Following the two public meetings, a group of volunteers from the proposed Forum carried out a letter drop to most households within the proposed HVNF area. The letter invited local residents to join the Forum and included links to the online consultation survey.

In addition, a HVNF website and Facebook page were created and publicised. These sites provided information and links to the proposed constitution, maps of the proposed area and minutes of meetings, as well as to an online survey.

Notices were displayed on the public notice boards in Old Woking, Kingfield and Westfield. Leaflets were also handed out to the public at the Old Woking Car Boot Sale held on 10<sup>th</sup> November. In all we distributed approximately 4,250 leaflets.

At the HVNF inaugural meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the meeting voted overwhelmingly to set up the Hoe Valley Neighbourhood Forum. A map showing the proposed Neighbourhood Area was discussed and the boundaries were agreed on by those present at the meeting, .

To date 154 persons have agreed to become members of the Forum with 34 people offering to take on roles within interest groups focusing on developing various aspects of the Forum's proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November a steering group meeting was held at the Old Woking Community Centre to elect officers, agree roles for the Forum and to formally adopt the constitution and feedback from the consultations. This meeting was attended by 12 people.

From this meeting a Committee of 14 was elected. The members represent all areas and most activities of the proposed HVNF area. The Chair role is held by Nick Murza

Our ongoing publicity methods planned are to:

- Continue to develop the HVNF website as the central online location for all news and public documents relating to the Forum
- Posters and leaflets posted on notice boards, community centres, churches and local businesses
- Carry out further letter drops to local residents at key points in the process of developing a Neighbourhood Plan inviting comment and contributions
- Have stands at various public local events at local community centres and other locations





Minute Secretary          John Godsland

Treasurer                  Bill Corney

Membership Secretary      Jenny Ryan

Webmaster                  Bill Corney

Publicity                    Karen Smith

Committee Members        Henry Beck  
                                 Nathan Green  
                                 Sonia Green  
                                 Geoff Pugh  
                                 Bill Corney  
                                 Sarah Palmer  
                                 Jeremy Instone  
                                 Louise Morales  
                                 Deborah Hughes

## Appendix B Map of Proposed Neighbourhood Area

