

Application for designation of the Queens Park Neighbourhood Area

Introduction

Since April 2012 (under the Localism Act) local communities have been able to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for their local area, putting into place planning policies for the future developments and growth for the neighbourhood.

This application is for the designation of the Neighbourhood Area and is the first formal stage of creating a Neighbourhood Plan for the communities within the Queens Park area. The designation of the Neighbourhood Area is important in allowing work to formally start on the Neighbourhood Plan.

This application has been prepared by local residents and the elected Members of Queens Park with the support of the officers at Northampton Borough Council.

In accordance with the *Neighbourhood Planning (General) regulations 2012* this application contains:

- A map of the proposed Neighbourhood Area
- A Statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area
- A statement that this group meets the requirements as a relevant body in accordance with section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act
- The contact details for the Secretary of the Queens Park Neighbourhood Forum.

Neighbourhood Area

The proposed Neighbourhood Area is set out in the Queens Park Neighbourhood Plan Area.

On the West side the area includes Thornton Park (Kingsthorpe Park) and the allotments adjoining the park. The area is then bounded by the South-west of Kingsthorpe Grove, North-west of Balfour Road and East of the Kingsthorpe Rd (A508) from the intersection with Balfour RD up to Thornton Park.

The area includes diverse and distinctive residential areas, small shops and businesses and places of worship. Also of importance, though not included in the boundary is Kingsthorpe Meadow Nature Reserve.

Families are an important part of the area with several popular schools within walking distance.

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We believe that the area is appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area for the following reasons

- A move away from family residences to houses in multiple occupation has resulted in increased pressure on local infrastructure. In particular parking and traffic is already an issue. Where there are opportunities for development, these should be sympathetic with the general character of the area.
- Thornton Park is the only significant green space bordering the Queens Park residential area. Because of the importance of retaining and attracting families to area, improving and enhancing the park is important to local residents.
- The allotments provide the residents with the opportunity to grow fruit, vegetables, plants and flowers. This is beneficial to both the mental and physical health of residents. For these reasons residents would like to see the allotments protected and improved
- With the prospect of further developments in the neighbourhood over the next few years, the formation of a Neighbourhood Plan is seen as a way for local residents to have a say in the appropriateness of these developments for the benefit of current and future citizens.

The Neighbourhood Forum

The proposed area does not contain any land covered by a parish council and therefore a Neighbourhood Forum will need to be designated. The Localism Act allows for groups capable of becoming a Neighbourhood Forum to make this application. We believe that the Queens Park Neighbourhood Area forms a suitable basis for setting up a Neighbourhood Forum to take forward the development of a Neighbourhood Plan. The forum is comprised of 21 members drawn from all Community Partnership members (which includes local residents and businesses), both elected NBC Members and Advisory Group co-optees. We have a written constitution and we believe that this group meets the requirements as a relevant body in accordance with section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act.

The contact for this application is:

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Secretary Queens Park Neighbourhood Forum
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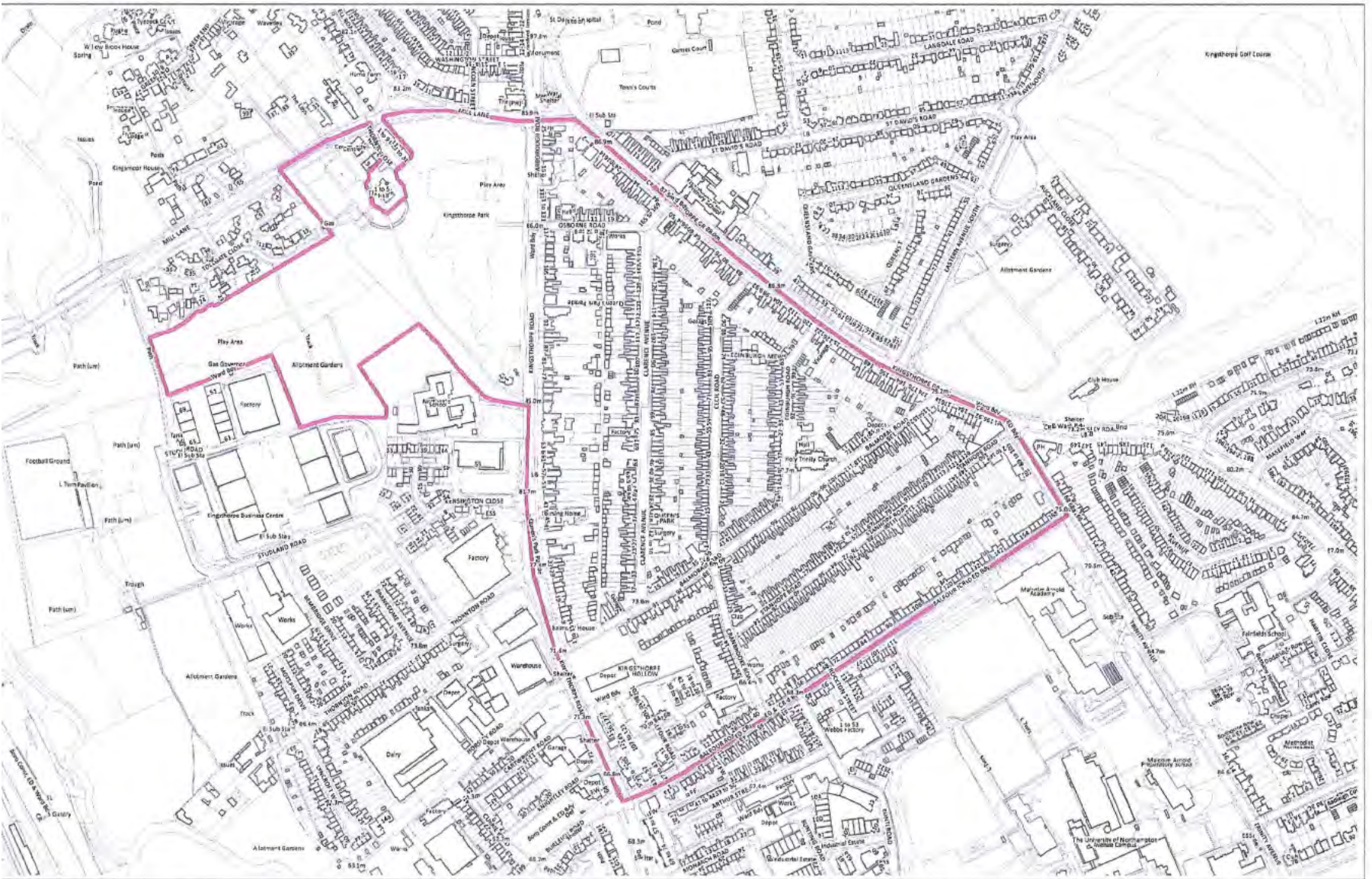
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 Chair

Date: 8/1/18

Signed  Secretary

Date: 8th January 2018



Proposed Neighbourhood Area for Queens Park Neighbourhood Plan

16 November 2017
not to scale

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