

Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area – Duston Parish

Duston Parish Council wishes to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan and formally applies to designate a Neighbourhood Area. I can confirm that Duston Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act, and has the authority to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan within the proposed Neighbourhood Area. A map outlining the proposed Neighbourhood Area is included in appendix A.

Extent of the proposed Neighbourhood Area

At a Parish Council meeting Monday 8th April the decision was taken to apply to designate the current parish boundary as a Neighbourhood Area.*

The Civil Parish of Duston is located in the west of Northampton Borough. The western boundary of Duston adjoins the parishes of Harlestone and Harpole. The southern boundary adjoins Upton Civil Parish.

The northern and eastern edges of the parish are clearly defined by Harlestone Road and Bants Lane. These roads separate Duston from the adjacent communities of Lodge Farm, Kings Heath and St James.

Making Duston a great place to live, work and play

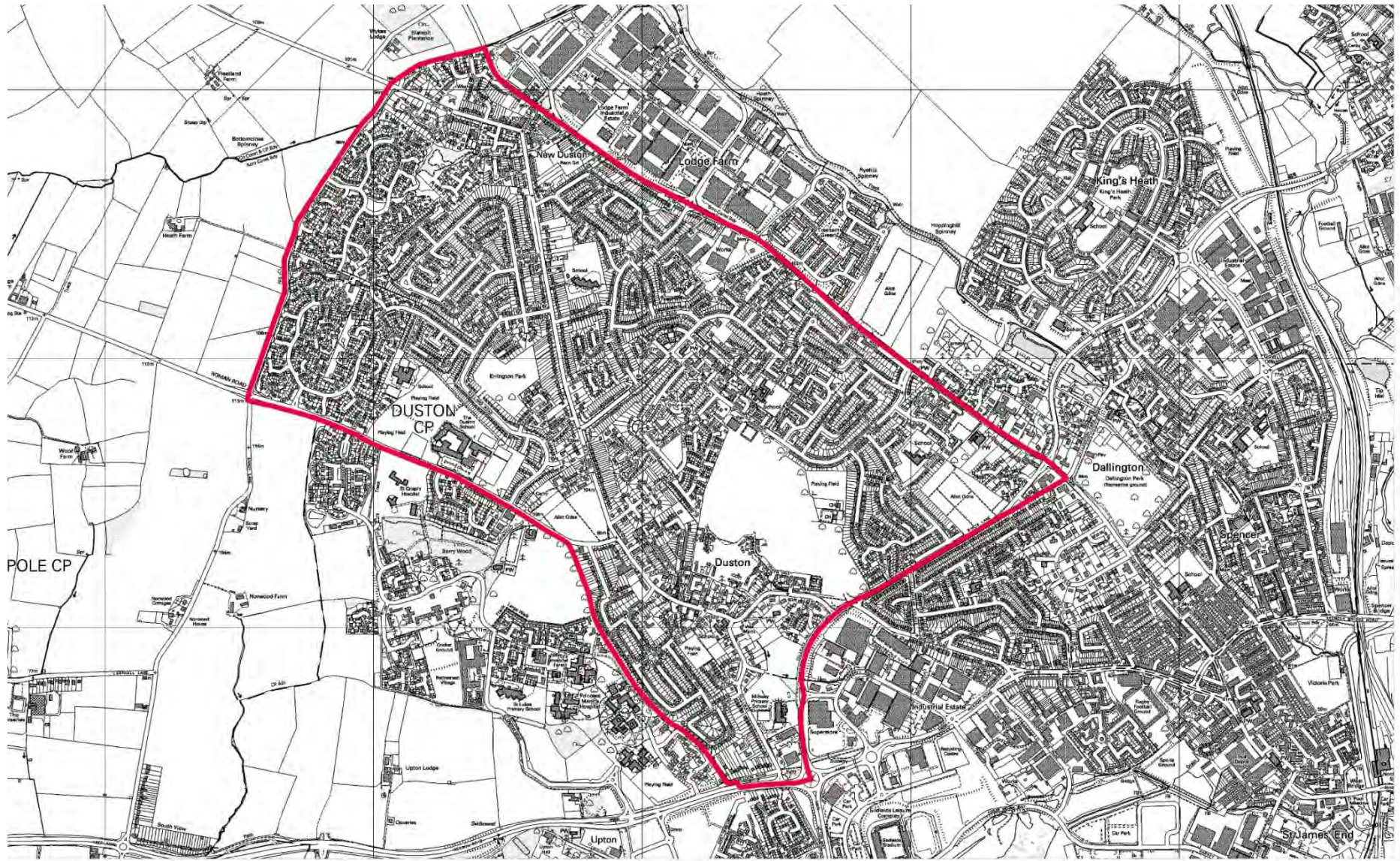
The proposed Neighbourhood Area reflects the area in which Duston Parish Council collects a precept from its residents, and the full extent of the area in which the Parish Council has the authority to act. Duston Parish Council is committed to “*Making Duston a great place to live, work and play!*” for all its residents. By designating the parish boundary as the Neighbourhood Area will enable Duston Parish Council to deliver this commitment to its residents through a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Parish Council is already actively delivering on this commitment through improving and growing the services offered to Duston residents. For example, by working with Northampton Leisure Trust, the new Duston Sports Centre was opened in 2012. The former St Luke’s School has just received a transformation from a derelict building in to a new community centre including a new nursery. The Parish Council has taken over the running of the Pendle Road community centre and hopes to renovate this site soon.

In addition, the Parish Council has a history of engaging in the planning process by responding to consultations on planning applications in the parish via the Parish Council’s Planning Committee.

Progress on the Neighbourhood Development Plan is in its early stages, however some emerging issues which we, the Parish Council, are seeking to address include;

- Improving access to and the quality of open spaces;
- Delivering the services and infrastructure residents require to meet their day-to-day needs;
- Protecting and enhancing the designated conservation area;
- Creating strong cycle and footpath links within the parish and to neighbouring areas.



Name: Duston Parish Council
 Date: 7th May 2013
 Scale: 1:20000
 Dept: Planning Policy
 Project: Neighbourhood Area application

Title
Proposed Duston Parish Neighbourhood Area

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