

# Spring Boroughs Neighbourhood Plan

## Neighbourhood Plan? What's this all about then?

You have the power to plan the future of Spring Boroughs. **Yes YOU, really!**



Communities in Northampton and across the country are helping to plan where they live by creating their own Neighbourhood Plans. Your own neighbourhood, **Spring Boroughs is one of the front runners!** Andy Clarke, Chair of the Neighbourhood Forum, may have already invited you to

attend meetings about the Neighbourhood Plan or the regular Thursday 'Drop in'.

Northampton Borough Council has received an application to set up a Forum and start Neighbourhood planning in Spring Boroughs. This is **not the Council's plan, it is the community's.** However, the Council must help, as it has to make sure everyone who lives, works or uses the facilities in the area knows that this application has been made, so that everyone has a chance to comment.

We want **your** comments about the **forum** and the **area**.

This leaflet explains:

- what the **application** is for
- what a Neighbourhood Plan can and cannot do
- how **you can comment** on the applications
- how **you can get involved** in writing the neighbourhood plan at the next stage



Along with this leaflet there is a comments form you can use to tell us if you want to get involved in further consultations.

## Whose plan is it anyway?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a new type of plan that is created by the community with the help of planners. This plan will have legal status and must be used by the Council to help make local planning choices for the area. **It's YOUR plan!**



*A Neighbourhood Plan isn't a magic wand and it won't make things happen overnight, but when it's done well it can make a difference!*

## Neighbourhood Forum

We have received an application to 'designate' a Neighbourhood Forum. This means the Forum will be legally recognised and it's **really important!** The Forum will need to include and consult with as many residents as possible.

When this application was made by "**Spring Boroughs Voice**", the Council had to tell you. The Council cannot make any changes itself; those can be made only by the

Neighbourhood Forum. If you think something is wrong, you must tell the Council so that they can use your comments on deciding if Spring Boroughs Voice meets the legal requirements. A copy of the application is included with this leaflet.

**If the Council makes Spring Boroughs Voice the forum for Spring Boroughs, no other group can produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the area.**

## I see, so what's in the 'Neighbourhood Area' application?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a legal document and there is a process that the Council must go through to make sure the plan can be used. We are re-advertising the Area application. Why? Because last time we didn't hear from enough local people, so we couldn't make decision. **It's really important to tell us what you think!**

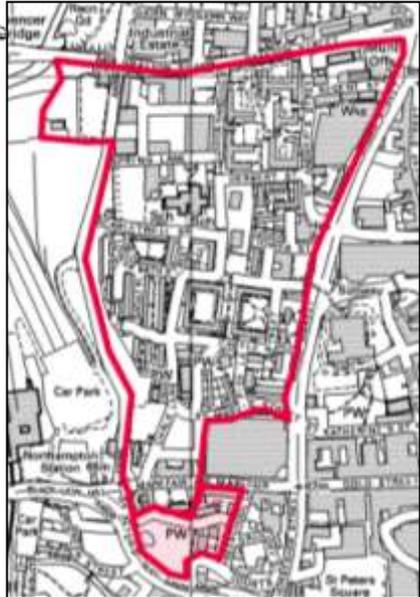
There are **three** important things in the Area application;

**1.** A map of the proposed **Neighbourhood Area**



**2.** Contact details for **Jennie Crane**, the Community Minister at Castle Hill Church, who has made the application on the community's behalf

**3.** A statement that a proper **Neighbourhood Forum** will be set up, as the law requires (this is covered by the Forum Application)



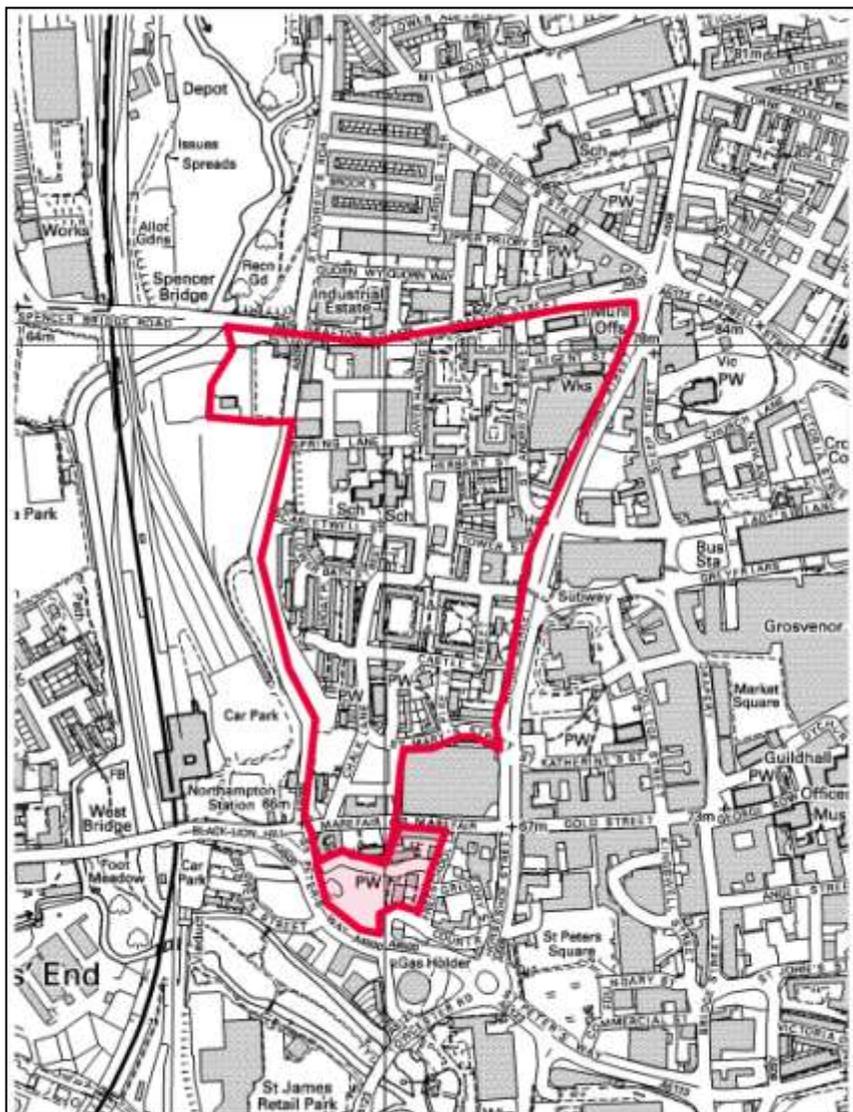
## How do I tell you my views on the Area and the Forum?

For the **Neighbourhood Forum**, you can say if you have heard of the Forum (or Drop Ins). It is important that the forum is open to hear the views of everyone who lives in, works in or uses facilities in Spring Boroughs.

For the **Neighbourhood Area**, just look at the map on the next

page and tell us if you think the red line covers your community. If someone from another town asked you to show them around Spring Boroughs, would you show them everything inside the red line? Would you leave something out? Add something in?

Please use the enclosed comments form to tell us what you think



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### The Spring Boroughs Neighbourhood Area

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