

## **Gaddesby Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan pre-submission Consultation Statement**

This Consultation Statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of Regulation 15.2 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012. Regulation 15.2 sets out that a Consultation Statement should contain:

- (a) details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan;
- (b) explains how they were consulted;
- (c) summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted;
- (d) describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan.

### The commencement of the Neighbourhood Plan and its consultation

The key stimulus behind the creation of this plan was concern by the community as to the way in which the village of Gaddesby was being dealt with in the draft Melton Plan. In the earlier drafts of the Melton Plan, Gaddesby village was deemed to be a Rural Supporter and as such had not been allocated any sites for development. When the pre-submission Melton Plan was published, the methodology used to grade villages had changed and Gaddesby village was earmarked for significant development which the community opposed. At all times Ashby Folville and Barsby, being much smaller settlements, were not identified for development.

As the result a Gaddesby Community Group was formed and an open meeting held at which 70 Gaddesby villagers attended. On two occasions written objections were tabled by the Gaddesby Community Group against the draft Melton Plan supported by over 130 villagers. It was at that stage that the benefit of a neighbourhood plan was perceived.

On the understanding that such a Plan would require significant consultation with, and support from local people, the Parish Council agreed to establish a Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee ( the Committee ). The Committee was established to oversee the commencement of work on the Plan, with the view that all formal decisions should be brought to the meetings of the Parish Council for agreement. The Committee consisted of 12 interested individuals, two of whom are Parish Councillors and others who had expressed an interest in becoming involved. Residents of all three villages represented.

The Committee met on the following dates:

6 December 2017

5 January 2018

19 February 2018

13 April 2018

16 May 2018

23 January 2019

6 January 2020

Copies of all the minutes are at:

<https://gaddesby.org.uk/gaddesby-neighbourhood-plan/>

### The aims of the consultation

The aims of the Gaddesby Neighbourhood Plan consultation process have been:

- To involve as much of the local community as possible throughout all stages of the Plan's development so that the content of the Plan has been informed by the views of local people and other stakeholders throughout the entire process;
- To ensure that sufficient consultation events took place at points in the process when critical decisions have needed to be informed by local views;
- To engage with as wide a range of people as possible, using a variety of approaches and communication techniques;
- To ensure that results of consultation were fed back to local people and available to read on the Gaddesby Village website as soon as possible after the consultation events.

### The consultation methods

Consultation was undertaken by and through Gaddesby Parish Council, supported by its consultant, YourLocale, and looked to engage with local people and other stakeholders through a variety of engagements and methods of contact. The following methods of sharing ideas and feedback with local people were used:

- Open discussion at the monthly meetings of the Parish Council
- Written invitations to an Open Event delivered to every household in the Parish
- Presentations at the Open Event
- A questionnaire delivered to every household in the Parish
- An e mail or letter sent to stakeholders in the early stages of the process

- Information put on the Gaddesby Village website - [www.gaddesby.org.uk](http://www.gaddesby.org.uk) – ( the Website )
- The pre-submission draft Plan was placed on the Leicestershire Communities website - <https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/uploads/gaddesby-draft-neighbourhood-plan.pdf>
- An e mail or letter sent individually to stakeholders and landowners inviting comments on the pre-submission draft

### The stages of the consultation process

It was envisaged at the start of the process that it could well take up to two years to have a suitable Plan ready for submission to the local planning authority. The consultation work undertaken from March 2018 to Autumn 2019 has followed the following course:

- A written invitation to the Open Event was delivered to each household in the Parish and placed on the villages' noticeboards ( two in Gaddesby and one each in Ashby Folville and Gaddesby ) and the event advertised on the Website.
- The Open Event was held on 17 March 2018 from 9.30am until 11am at Ashby Folville Village Hall and from 12pm until 2.00pm at Gaddesby Village Hall. 74 people attended.
- The summary of the results of the Open Event were placed on the Website <https://gaddesby.org.uk/gaddesby-neighbourhood-plan/gaddesby-parish-consultation-analysis-march-2018-web-version/>
- In June 2018 e mails or letters were sent to all known stakeholders inviting them to identify any issues which they would like the Neighbourhood Plan to address
- In July 2018 a questionnaire was delivered to each household in the Parish. At the same time notices were placed on the three villages' noticeboards encouraging households to complete the questionnaire either online or in hard copy and also to keep in touch with the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan on the Website. 93 responses were received – 29% of all households
- An analysis of the questionnaire responses was placed on the Website <https://gaddesby.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Gaddesby-Q-Analysis-v2.pdf>
- At the Open Event parishioners were invited to become involved in the collation of evidence and the drafting of the Plan. Thirteen people indicated an interest in being involved.
- Three Theme Groups were established and an initial meeting of all three held on 13 June 2018. The three Groups covered the Environment, Housing and Sustainability. Leaders of each group were appointed.
- From then on the Groups met from time to time and carried out their tasks. In particular the Environment Group surveyed over 450 fields. There were over 15 Parishioners involved in the survey of whom only 4 were members of the Committee.

- The pre-submission draft Neighbourhood Plan was finalised in August 2019. This was placed on the Leicestershire Communities website - <https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/uploads/gaddesby-draft-neighbourhood-plan.pdf> . A link to that site was placed on the Website and hard copies made available.
- Regulation 14 consultation took place thereafter by:
  - Placing an advertisement in the Parish Magazine which is delivered to each household
  - Placing notices on the four village noticeboards
  - Advertising on the Website
  - Writing or e mailing all stakeholders and landowners

#### The main issues arising out of consultation

- A strong belief of a moderate need for 2/3 bedroom houses
- That development should not be on greenfield sites
- The wish to protect heritage assets, the environment, important open spaces and views
- In the event of development, the concerns as to traffic management – particularly speeding
- Poor broadband connections
- Several site-specific issues

All these issues have been considered by the Committee and the Parish Council and most have been incorporated into the Plan.

#### Appendices

- Copy invitation to the Open Event delivered to every household
- The Open Event consultation summary is at: <https://gaddesby.org.uk/gaddesby-neighbourhood-plan/>
- List of stakeholders contacted either by letter or e mail in June 2018
- Example of letter to stakeholders sent in June 2018
- Copy notice placed on all villages' noticeboards asking parishioners to complete the Questionnaire
- Community Consultation Analysis of the Questionnaire is at: <https://gaddesby.org.uk/gaddesby-neighbourhood-plan/>
- List of stakeholders contacted either by letter or e mail August 2019 regarding regulation 14 consultation
- Example of letter sent to stakeholders August 2019
- Copy advert in the Parish Magazine
- Copy notice placed on noticeboards inviting comments on the pre-submission draft