



DECISION STATEMENT Regulation 18

STATHERN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. Following an independent examination, Melton Borough Council can now confirm that the Stathern Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Referendum.
- 1.2. The decision statement is available to view online on the Council's website at www.meltonplan.co.uk.

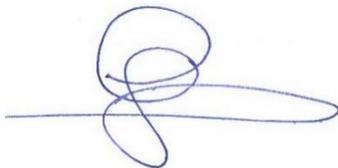
2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Stathern Parish received formal area designation for the purposes of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan the 7th of May 2019. This area comprises of the whole of the Parish of Stathern, inclusive of the settlement of Stathern as shown in Appendix 1 in this document.
- 2.2. Stathern Parish Council – the 'qualifying body', submitted the Stathern Neighbourhood Plan, along with supporting documents, to Melton Borough Council in November 2020 for consultation, independent examination and the remaining stages of the draft Plan's preparation in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The Council conducted a 'Regulation 16', 6-week formal public consultation on the Plan, from the 11th November 2020 until 23rd December 2020.
- 2.3. Following this period, Melton Borough Council appointed an independent examiner, John Slater, in February 2021, to examine the Plan and consider whether it should proceed to referendum.
- 2.4. The examiner's final report was issued to the Local Planning Authority on the 22nd February, 2022. He concludes that subject to a series of recommended modifications set out in this report, the Stathern Neighbourhood Development Plan meets all the necessary legal requirements and should proceed to referendum.
- 2.5. Moreover, it is also recommended that the referendum should be held within the neighbourhood area (Stathern Parish).

- 2.6. As stated in the Decision Notice associated with this Statement, it has been approved to (1) accept all the recommendations in the Examiner's report and (2) advance the Neighbourhood Plan to the Referendum Stage.

3. DECISIONS AND REASONS

- 3.1. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 18 requires the local planning authority to outline what action to take in response to the recommendations of an examiner made in a report under paragraph 10 of Schedule 4a to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as applied by Section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
- 3.2. Having considered the examiner's recommendations and reasons for them, Melton Borough Council concurs with the examiner's view and have decided to make modifications to the draft Stathern Plan to ensure that it meets legal requirements including the Basic Conditions as set out in the legislation.
- 3.3. The Council is satisfied that the Neighbourhood Plan, as modified, complies with the legal requirements and can proceed to referendum.
- 3.4. The Council also agrees with the examiner that the referendum area should reflect the extent of the parish of Stathern.
- 3.5. The Referendum is currently being arranged by Melton Borough Council. Details of the Referendum, including the date it will be held, how people can vote and who is eligible to vote will be published in due course.



Edd De Coverly
Chief Executive
Melton Borough Council
25th March 2022

APPENDIX 1 – Stathern Neighbourhood Area

