



## **DECISION STATEMENT Regulation 19**

### **STATHERN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

#### Summary

This statement publicises the decision taken by the Melton Borough Council to 'make' the Stathern Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Melton Borough Council's Development Plan, in accordance with regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

#### Background

Stathern Parish received formal area designation for the purposes of preparing a NP the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2019. This area comprises of the whole of the Parish of Stathern.

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 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2020 until 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2020.

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. The examiner's final report was issued to the Local Planning Authority on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2022. He concluded that the Plan met the basic conditions against which it was examined, subject to a number of proposed modifications, and recommended that the plan should proceed to referendum.

These modifications were agreed (regulation 18 decision statement), and the Borough Council held the referendum in Stathern parish on 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2022. The referendum presented a single question upon which anybody registered to vote in the parish could answer 'yes' or 'no' to the following:

*Do you want Melton Borough Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Stathern to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?*

All neighbourhood plans are required to gain a majority of 50% plus one in favour at a local referendum in order to be 'made' by the local planning authority. 188 votes were cast in favour of 'Yes'; 10 votes were cast in favour of 'No'. It was declared by the Counting Officer that more than half of those voting had voted in favour of the Stathern Neighbourhood Plan.

### Decision and Reasons

The Council is satisfied that the Neighbourhood Plan (referendum version) complies with the legal requirements and can be formally 'made'. Melton Borough Council decided (Chief Executive decision in consultation with the Portfolio Holder) to formally 'make' the Neighbourhood Plan on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022, allowing the Neighbourhood Plan to form part of the development plan and to be used in the determination of planning applications in the parish of Stathern.

### Additional details

A copy of the Decision Statement is being sent to:

- The qualifying body, namely Stathern Parish Council; and
- to any person who asked to be notified of the decision.

The Stathern Neighbourhood Plan and its associated documents are available to view on the Council's website at: <https://www.meltonplan.co.uk/stathern>. Paper copies of the Neighbourhood Plan will be available to view during normal office hours at: Melton Borough Council, Parkside, Station Approach, Melton Mowbray, LE13 1GH<sup>1</sup>.

For further information, please contact:

Planning Policy Team

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Signature redacted

**Edd De Coverly**

Chief Executive

Melton Borough Council

June 2022

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<sup>1</sup> Please contact [planningpolicy@melton.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@melton.gov.uk) two days in advance in order to have the printed document ready.