

Brandon and Bretford Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

General Information on Planning and Neighbourhood Plans

Brandon and Bretford Parish was designated a Neighbourhood Area for the purpose of Neighbourhood Planning on 12th May 2016.

A referendum on the final version of the Brandon and Bretford Neighbourhood Development Plan will be held on the 2nd May 2019. Information on the Plan can be found on the Rugby Borough Council website with hard copies available to view at the Town Hall and Rugby Library. Further information on this can be found in the Information Statement.

The Town and Country Planning System

Background Information

The planning system in the UK manages the use and development of land and buildings. The planning system has two main parts to it:

- Plan making – setting out a plan for how an area will develop over time as a guide to future development.
- Managing development – when development is agreed through planning permission.

National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework was published on 27 March 2012. The framework provides guidance to local Councils in drawing up local plans and on making decisions on planning applications. It includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development. A revised NPPF was published in February 2019.

Further Information is available on-line at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

Local Plans

Local Plans are prepared by the local planning authority. These must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. They must be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the National Planning Policy Framework. Policies set out in these development plan documents will be used for decision making purposes (together with national planning policy and any relevant Neighbourhood Development Plans).

Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood Planning was introduced under the Localism Act 2011 to give members of the community a more “hands on” role in the planning of their neighbourhoods. The plan must be prepared through a process of consultation with local residents before an Independent Examiner reviews the plan. The legislation, however, sets out that Neighbourhood

Development Plans have to meet a number of 'Basic Conditions' to ensure they are legally compliant and take account of wider policy considerations.

The Basic Conditions are that the Plan must:

- Have regard to national planning policy and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State (e.g. National Planning Policy Framework);
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- Be in general conformity with strategic policies in the development plan for the local area; and
- Be compatible with EU obligations and human rights requirements. Further information about neighbourhood planning is available on the following website: <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/>