

## **Agreement between South Cambridgeshire District Council and Waterbeach Parish Council: Working together on future projects including the Neighbourhood Plan**

### **Introduction**

Waterbeach Parish Council submitted an application to South Cambridgeshire District Council to designate the whole of its parish as a neighbourhood area. South Cambridgeshire District Council carried out a public consultation on this application. At a meeting of the Planning Portfolio Holder on 10 August 2015 it was agreed to designate the whole parish subject to the District and Parish Councils agreeing a framework for how they will work together.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this agreement is to establish key principles of the working relationship between Waterbeach Parish Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council. This recognises a number of strategic factors and projects that will affect Waterbeach and the surrounding area in the near future, whilst the local community led by the Parish Council, is drafting a neighbourhood plan for the area. These include:

- South Cambridgeshire Local Plan examination
- Development Framework Document to be prepared by one of the promoters of the proposed new town to the north of Waterbeach. – Urban & Civic
- Planning application for proposed new town north of Waterbeach to be prepared and submitted by one of the promoters of new town – Urban & Civic
- City Deal - A10 corridor future key priority

The District Council in deciding to designate the whole parish wishes to ensure that all parties will work together to achieve the best outcomes for Waterbeach and its local community.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

This agreement confirms:

South Cambridgeshire District Council will

- Be responsible for the strategic element of the planning for the proposed new town
- Take the lead on bringing forward the Strategic Site included in the Submission Local Plan of a new town north of Waterbeach.
- Liaise with the promoters of the proposed new town to bring forward its successful implementation
- To ensure opportunities for the Parish Council to bring their local knowledge to better plan for the proposed new town through engaging on future planning applications and master planning.
- Work with Waterbeach Parish Council to ensure it is kept informed of progress on the proposed new town

- Work with the stakeholders in developing options for the A10 corridor as part of a future City Deal priority
- Offer the opportunity for the Parish Council to enter into a neighbourhood plan agreement to set out clearly the roles and responsibilities of each council in preparing a neighbourhood plan for Waterbeach.

Waterbeach Parish Council will

- Work with the District Council bringing their local knowledge of the Waterbeach area to inform future planning and development in the area.
- Prepare a neighbourhood plan that will focus on the priorities outlined in the parish statement included with their neighbourhood area application.
- Engage with the promoters of the proposed new town to ensure it is as successful as it can be for both the existing and new residents.

### **Working Relationships**

The parties to this agreement seek:

- an open and constructive working relationship
- to respect each other's views, and where different, after discussion to ensure proper understanding of the reasons for such differences
- to have a 'no surprises' policy, based on notifying each other well in advance, where possible, of significant announcements and developments in policy
- to minimise duplication of activity wherever possible
- to inform other stakeholders about our relationship so as to reduce uncertainty.
- to ensure a good working relationship on an ongoing basis with regular meetings between the District and Parish Councils.

### **Date and nature of Agreement**

It is expected that this Agreement will be a live document to be reviewed and updated as necessary by agreement by both parties.

Jo Mills  
 Director of Planning and New Communities  
 South Cambridgeshire District Council

Chairman of Waterbeach Parish Council  
 Waterbeach Parish Council

Date:.....

Date:.....