

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

MENDIP DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

www.nortonstphilipparishcouncil.co.uk

Chairman Clive Abbott, [REDACTED]

Clerk Nicola Duke, [REDACTED]

Jo Milling
Planning Policy Team
Mendip District Council

By email

30th March 2018

Dear Jo

Neighbourhood Plan Application – Norton St Philip

I write in reference to the Neighbourhood Plan for Norton St Philip.

The Parish Council wishes to submit the whole area of the Civil Parish of NSP as our Neighbourhood Area. A map is attached showing the boundaries of the Parish. The Plan Area was agreed at our Meeting of 13th December 2017. Minute ref 7936 refers.

The entire Parish of Norton St Philip is considered as appropriate for designation as the Neighbourhood Plan Area as it is a logical planning unit – the entire area is administered by Norton St Philip Parish Council, which is eligible as the Qualifying Body and therefore the relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the 1990 Act. The Parish Council is an established corporate body and functional component of local government and has considerable experience in both public administration and planning. It therefore has the experience and authority to manage a plan covering its entire area. In addition, the parish council is the body most familiar with its parish area and, as such, is best placed to act as the Qualifying Body.

Inclusion of the entire area will allow all residents to participate and is therefore in the interests of local government and public participation in the planning system. The parish has a strong community ethos with well used village facilities; such as a village hall, local shop, pubs, open spaces and recreation areas. The 'community spirit' necessary to make a plan therefore exists over the proposed plan area and all residents would want and expect to be involved.

Norton St Philip Parish has a population of around 858 (2011 Census) and is situated 9 miles southeast of Bath, 3½ miles west of Trowbridge on A366, in the valley of the River Frome. There is a desire among residents to preserve the rural status and character of Norton St Philip – not only the village but also its rural setting.

Norton St Philip itself is identified in Mendip District Council's Adopted Local Plan Part I (Core Policy 1) as a primary village. The Local Plan Part I acknowledges that Norton St Philip has a separate and distinct identity as a large village. The Neighbourhood Plan would of necessity involve considering the outlying areas of countryside and not simply the main village. The whole Parish must therefore be the area selected.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Duke (B.A Hons), MILCM
Parish Clerk
For and on behalf of
Norton St Philip Parish Council