

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012**

CHETWYND: THE TOTON AND CHILWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Application for Designation
of a Neighbourhood Area

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Broxtowe Borough Council
Legal and Planning Services
Broxtowe Town Hall
Foster Avenue
Beeston
NG9 1AE

Date:

For the Attention of: Steffan Saunders, Head of Neighbourhood and Prosperity

Dear Steffan,

Application for Designation of Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Area

I am writing to apply for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area under Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (“the Act”) and in accordance with Part 2, Regulation 5 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The name of the proposed Area is **Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Area**. Annex 1 is a map that identifies the Neighbourhood Area, the boundary of which is shown edged red.

Annex 2 is a statement which explains why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area. The application is made by **Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum**, which is capable of being a 'relevant body' within the terms of the legislation.

Annex 3 is a statement which explains how **Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum** meets legal requirements for the purposes of this application.

The application meets all the legislative provisions and requirements and is being submitted in parallel with a separate application seeking the designation of **Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum**. Together, these designations will empower the local community to plan positively and creatively for the future development of the Area through the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

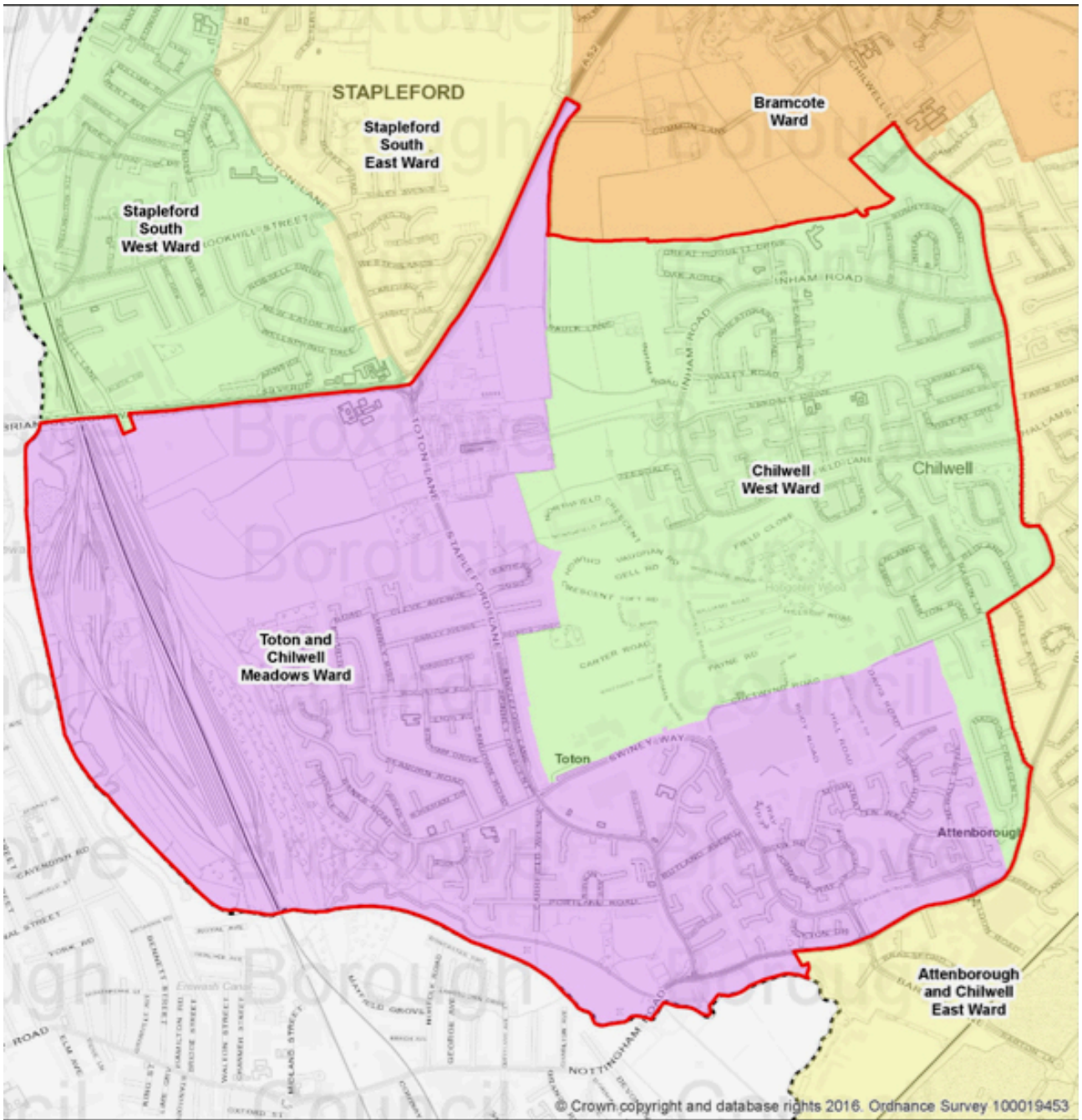
On behalf of the Forum, I look forward to the Council's designation of the Neighbourhood Area once statutory consultation procedures have been met.

Yours sincerely

Chair, Chetwynd: The Toton & Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum

ANNEX 1

Map of Proposed Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Area



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ANNEX 2

Supporting Statement for Proposed Neighbourhood Area (the Area)

(Regulation 5(1b) of Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012)

1. Description and historical identity

Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum is a distinct and definable neighbourhood on the western edge of Broxtowe. It comprises two Broxtowe Borough Council wards: Toton & Chilwell Meadows, and Chilwell West.

The physical constitution is a historical legacy of Attenborough parish, a settlement known in Saxon times as *Addensburgh*. In John Marius Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales (1870-72) it states '*[Attenborough] parish comprehends the township of Toton and hamlet of Chilwell*'. It goes on to state:

'Toton, a township in Attenborough parish, Notts; 5¾ miles SW of Nottingham. Real property, £3,504. Pop., 200. Houses, 39.'

'Chilwell, a hamlet in Attenborough parish, Notts; near the river Trent and the Midland railway, 4 ½ miles SW of Nottingham. Real property, £5,003. Pop., 815. Houses 180.'

The area's population grew substantially during World War I when most of the area of level ground between Chilwell and Toton was occupied by the National Shell Filling Factory No. 6 and the original direct route between Chilwell and Toton became a gated military road, now known as Chetwynd Road.

On 1 July 1918, 134 people were killed in an explosion at the factory, with over 250 people injured in the explosion. This tragedy remains the largest number of deaths caused by a single explosion in Britain. Memorials to the dead can be found in both Chetwynd Barracks and the churchyard of St Mary's, Attenborough.

Chetwynd Barracks, therefore, forms the central feature of the Area. In fact, the boundary between the two wards slices through the middle of the site and the 'Depot' (as it is still known to many locals) forms a natural bond between residents of the two wards.

Of equal importance to this identity and sense of place are the areas of open land to the north and west which are both the setting to, and an integral part of, the Area.

To the north west of Chilwell are open farmland fields designated as green belt and which slopes generally northwards to a well-established footpath which forms the boundary with Bramcote and westwards to the A52, which forms the boundary with Stapleford Parish.

To the north of the built-up area of Toton is a substantial piece of land (either side of Toton Lane) that has recently been removed from green belt and re-designated as a "Strategic Location for Growth". A feature of this area is the NET tram terminus and further major developments are planned for the remaining land comprising both housing (500 houses) and commercial areas reserved to exploit the advent of HS2

To the west of Toton is the Toton Fields Local Nature Reserve, a tract of land within the flood plain leading to Toton Sidings and the River Erewash which forms the county boundary between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The river provides a strong and natural edge to the Area.

The remaining boundaries to the south and east of the proposed Area adjoin the Attenborough & Chilwell East ward and are separated by three main arterial roads; Nottingham Road (A6005), Attenborough Lane/High Road (leading to Chilwell & Beeston), and School Lane/Bramcote Lane (leading to Bramcote)

2. Rationale behind the Neighbourhood Area

The chosen boundaries for the proposed Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Area have been arrived at following consideration of three guiding principles:

- a) Community identity
- b) Tangibility of boundaries
- c) Appropriateness for Neighbourhood Planning

a) Community identity

The physical setting and form of the area along with the central feature of Chetwynd Barracks provides a very strong starting point for defining the Area.

However, a key driver to defining the extent of the Area has been the local community's response to the announced sale of the Barracks and the nature and scale of development which will potentially take place within it.

This has been the trigger from which a clear 'community of interest' has emerged. It resulted in the community coming together over the summer and early autumn of 2016 with a shared desire to develop and implement its own vision for the development of the Barracks as well as other development sites within the Area to the north and west of Toton. Fundamental to this vision is the community's desire to utilise the opportunities of the various sites to protect the environment and help promote and develop a more sustainable community and social/demographic mix.

The spatial extent of this 'community of interest' is thus a product of the inherent physical relationship with the immediate surrounding landscape. In turn, this collectively provides the basis for defining a clear and rational Area which the residents within can all identify with.

The chosen boundaries therefore carry the full endorsement of the local community as expressed at the inaugural General Meeting of the Forum. The chosen Area carries a strong sense of place and identity for people from Toton and the west side of Chilwell, based not just on its history, form and setting, but also on shared interests and aspirations for their neighbourhood.

b) Tangibility of boundaries

The chosen boundaries follow clear, physical, defensible features, namely the A52 road (which also acts as the boundary to Stapleford Parish) to the north, the River Erewash to the west, the A6005 Nottingham Road to the south, and Attenborough Lane/ High Road, Chilwell/Bramcote Lane to the east.

c) Appropriateness for Neighbourhood Planning

The chosen boundaries encompass a strong and coherent spatial entity, within which there are opportunities and objectives which a Neighbourhood Plan will help deliver.

Furthermore, the Area comprises, in their entirety, two political wards with each having three elected councillors on Broxtowe Borough Council. These wards provide a sound basis to collect data and evidence about the socio-economic profile of the population from organisations such as the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Dept. for Communities and Local Government (CLG).

Finally, the Area encompass a strong and identifiable community which, through the creation of an interim Neighbourhood Forum and the forging of links with both nearby Bramcote Neighbourhood Forum as well as with Broxtowe Borough Council officers, has demonstrated itself to be willing and able to take forward the task of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.

3. Statements in fulfilment of Section 61G of the Act

No part of the proposed Neighbourhood Area overlaps any part of any other Neighbourhood Area (in fulfilment of Section 61G (7) of the Act).

No part of the proposed Neighbourhood Area consists of or includes the whole or any part of the area of a parish (in fulfilment of Section 61G(3)(b) of the Act).

Supporting Statement for Relevant Body

Regulation 5(1c) of Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012) requires that this application include a statement that the body making the application is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the Act

At a public meeting of residents held in May 2016 (organised by our local MP, Anna Soubry) and at a subsequent follow-up meeting in September 2016, a decision was made to lay the legal foundations for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan by establishing a Neighbourhood Forum and defining a Neighbourhood Area (the Area) for the local areas of Toton and western part of Chilwell. The outcome of the latter meeting was the formation an Interim Steering Group by representatives of the community.

Since then, the Interim Steering Group have been working to ensure that both the Forum and proposed Area are 'fit for purpose' in anticipation of making simultaneous applications for their designation.

In fulfilment of legislative requirements, membership the Forum is open all those who live and work in the Area, and to elected representatives for the Area. Membership also seeks to represent the character and diversity of the Area. It is pertinent in this respect to note that the Area is an overwhelmingly residential area, with a demographic skewed to an older, relatively affluent population, especially in the Toton & Chilwell Meadows ward.

Notwithstanding this, the current membership of the Forum is almost 500 members from all walks of life, including elected councillors for the wards and individuals who work in the Area. Geographically, membership is drawn from across the Area. A copy of the Constitution is included with the application for the Forum to be formally designated and which has been submitted in parallel to this one. The constitution explicitly states that an object of the Forum is to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the Neighbourhood Area.

In the context of this application, the Chetwynd: The Toton and Chilwell Neighbourhood Forum is thus a 'Relevant Body' for the purposes of section 61G(2)(b) of the Act since, in accordance with the Act, it is 'capable of being designated as a neighbourhood forum (on the assumption that, for this purpose, the specified area is designated as a neighbourhood area)'.