
Subject:	DESIGNATION OF AYLESHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA
Date:	12th August 2024
Report of:	Sarah Platts, Head of Planning and Development
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Edward Biggs, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Built Environment
Decision Type:	Executive Non-Key Decision
Classification:	Unrestricted

Purpose of the report: To designate Aylesham Neighbourhood Area.

Recommendation: That the whole of the Aylesham Parish's administrative boundary be designated as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning.

1. Summary

- 1.1 Aylesham Parish Council have made a formal request for the entire parish area to be designated as a Neighbourhood Planning Area, as set out in the Localism Act 2011 and The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act 2011, and enables local communities to shape development and growth in their area through the production of a neighbourhood development plan, a neighbourhood development order, or a community right to build order.
- 2.2 A neighbourhood plan covers a geographic area and can be taken forward by town and parish councils or 'neighbourhood forums'. It is the role of the local planning authority to agree who should be the neighbourhood. A neighbourhood plan, if adopted, becomes part of the statutory development plan for that area and will be used in determining planning applications.
- 2.3 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 specify that an application for designation must include:
- a map of the proposed area
 - a statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area
 - a statement explaining that the organisation/body making the application is a relevant body to do so.

3. Identification of Options

- 3.1 Aylesham Parish Council have made a formal request for the entire parish area to be designated as a Neighbourhood Planning Area. All the required details were submitted in their request. As the application is submitted by the Parish Council and the area requested is the whole parish, no public consultation is required on the boundary or designation request in accordance with neighbourhood planning regulations.

4. **Evaluation of Options**

- 4.1 In accordance with the Regulations, the Council must designate the neighbourhood area if the above requirements have been met. Therefore, there is no consideration of alternatives.

5. **Resource Implications**

- 5.1 The Planning department will be required to provide advice and assistance to the Neighbourhood Plan group on production of a Neighbourhood Plan, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations. This will include undertaking a stage of public consultation, arrangements for Examination and adoption, if the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made' and becomes part of the development plan for the district. Costs for Examination will be met through government funding.

6. **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

- 6.1 The Climate Change Officer had no comments for this report.

7. **Corporate Implications**

- 7.1 Comment from the Director of Finance (linked to the MTFP): Accountancy has been consulted on the report and have no further comments to add.
- 7.2 Comment from the Solicitor to the Council: The Solicitor to the council has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to make.
- 7.3 Comment from the Equalities Officer: This report seeking approval to designate Aylesham as a Neighbourhood Planning Area does not specifically highlight any equality implications, however in discharging their duties members are required to comply with the public sector equality duty as set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/149>
- 7.4 Other Officers (as appropriate): Not applicable.

8. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Designated area map - Aylesham

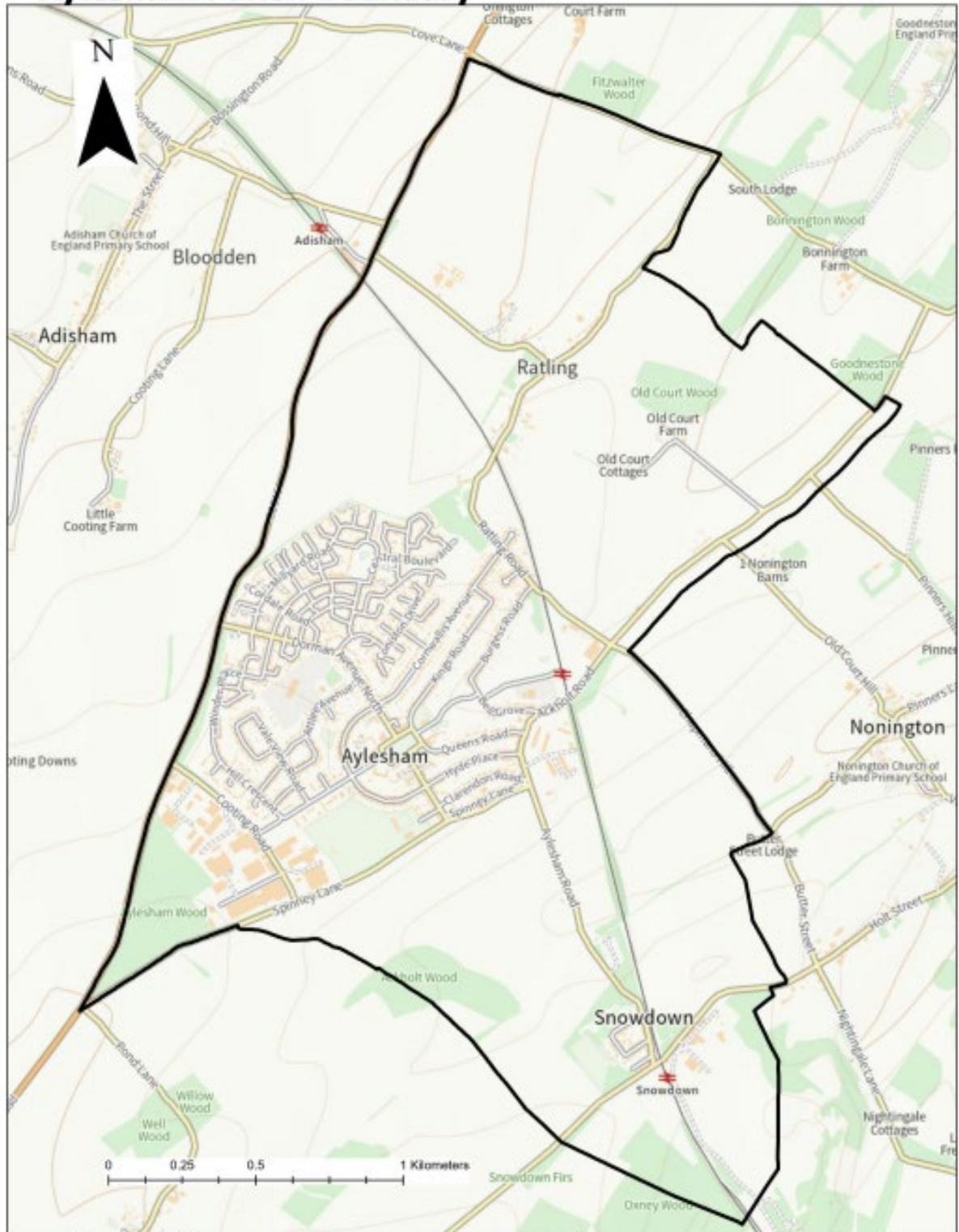
9. **Background Papers**

- 9.1 [Localism Act 2011 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/22)
- 9.2 [The Neighbourhood Planning \(General\) Regulations 2012 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/2700)
- 9.3 [The Neighbourhood Planning \(General\) and Development Management Procedure \(Amendment\) Regulations 2016](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/1000)

Contact Officer: Carly Pettit – Planning Policy Team Leader

Appendix 1 – Area Designation Map – Aylesham

Aylesham Parish Boundary



Legend

 Aylesham Parish Boundary

