



WHITESHILL & RUSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
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Mr. Barry Wyatt
Strategic Head of Development Services
Planning Policy Team
Stroud District Council
Ebley Mill
Stroud, GL5 4UB

Dear Mr. Wyatt,

Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area:- Whiteshill and Ruscombe Parish

Whiteshill and Ruscombe Parish Council, being a 'relevant body' as required by legislation under Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, formally applies for the Parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area, with the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and/or Neighbourhood Development Order. A resolution to make this application was passed by the parish council on 11th April 2013.

We confirm that as a Parish Council, accountable to the community that it serves, Whiteshill and Ruscombe Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act (inserted by paragraph 2 of Schedule 9 to the Localism Act 2011).

The Neighbourhood Area defined by the Parish Council is the whole of the civil parish of Whiteshill and Ruscombe. We consider the defined area to be an appropriate area for designation as a Neighbourhood Area for the following reasons:

1. The area defined is covered by Whiteshill and Ruscombe Parish Council in its entirety. The Neighbourhood Area will sit comfortably with the electorate; also, the existing sense of community that currently exists can continue to be built upon as the Plan is created.
2. The area defined was the subject of a community-led planning exercise, involving local consultation, namely the Parish Plan which was produced in March 2011 – available to view on the parish website. The parish plan consultations demonstrated an appetite for the community to shape growth and development in the parish and issues raised by this parish plan will be used and developed in the Neighbourhood Development Plan.
3. The Parish Council works actively to include residents and stakeholders from all parts of the Parish. The extensive community consultation already undertaken through previous plans and ongoing community work will be of great use in developing the Neighbourhood Plan.

We envisage that the NDP will address economic issues such as housing need plus infrastructure requirements (facilities and services) to meet the future needs of the community. Design and character of development and its relationship with landscape character and setting will also feature in the NDP.

We understand that Stroud District Council will contact us immediately with any queries about this application and that the application will be advertised by Stroud District Council for 6 weeks prior to the

approval decision. Please address any communication to myself which I will forward to all Councillors.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Helen Dunn
Clerk to the Council

CC Philip Skill, Head of Planning, SDC
Conrad Moore, Principal Planner, SDC