

Redgrave Neighbourhood Plan

Post-Examination Decision Statement

Dated: 1 March 2022

Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

Summary

Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) requires the relevant local planning authority to decide what action to take in response each of the recommendations made by the Independent Examiner and to publish its decision on its website. This Decision Statement fulfills that purpose.

The submission draft Redgrave Neighbourhood Plan has been independently examined by Janet Cheesley BA (Hons) DipTP MRTPI. Her final report, dated 2 September 2021, set out a number of modifications and advised that subject to those being made the Plan meets the basic conditions and can proceed to referendum. The Examiner also concluded that the referendum area should be the same as the Plan area.

Having considered the Examiners Report, Mid Suffolk District Council hereby accepts all of the modifications proposed therein and instructs Redgrave Parish Council, who have already indicated that this is their intention, to *'make all the necessary modifications to their Neighbourhood Plan.'* Subject to the satisfactory completion of that task (to be signed-off by the Corporate Manager for Strategic Planning), the Neighbourhood Plan will then be advanced to a local referendum covering the parish of Redgrave.

Background

The Redgrave Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in accordance with the relevant regulations. The key stages are set out below:

- In December 2018, designation of the whole parish as a Neighbourhood Plan Area by the District Council. This enabled the Parish Council, as the 'qualifying body,' to prepare its Plan.
- Publication by the Parish Council of their Regulation 14 Pre-submission draft Plan for consultation between 14 September and 8 November 2020.
- In May 2021, submission of the draft Plan to Mid Suffolk District Council. This was made available for public consultation between 26 May and 16 July 2021.
- In July 2021, following publication of the revised NPPF, a focused two-week consultation on how this might affect the Neighbourhood Plan meeting the basic conditions.
- Starting in July 2021, independent examination of the Plan. The Final Examination Report was issued on 2 September 2021.



The 'Basic Conditions' are set out in Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). In order to satisfy them a Plan must:

- have regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State,
- contribute to the achievement of sustainable development,
- be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the Development Plan for the area of the authority, *and*
- not breach and be otherwise compatible with EU obligations and human rights requirements.

Regulation 32 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) also prescribes the following basic condition:

- The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017(7).

The pre-submission draft Redgrave Neighbourhood Plan was subject to independent screening. This concluded that the content of the Plan could be 'screened-out' for any further assessment and that Mid Suffolk District Council can demonstrate its compliance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). After consultation with Natural England, the Council issued a formal Determination Notice to this effect in November 2020.

Decision

The Redgrave Neighbourhood Development Plan as modified to incorporate all the modifications set out in the Independent Examiners Report dated 2 September 2021 complies with the basic conditions as set out in Paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and should proceed to a local referendum.

The date of the local referendum will be announced separately.

The 'Referendum Version' of the Neighbourhood Plan, i.e., the version incorporating all the required modifications, will be published on the day the referendum is announced, or sooner if it is both practical and sensible to do so.

References:

1. Independent Examiners Report on the Redgrave Neighbourhood Plan:

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Neighbourhood-Planning/Redgrave-NP-Examiner-Report.pdf>