

THURNBY & BUSHBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Mr S Pointer
Strategic Planning and Housing Manager
Harborough District Council
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28 January 2016

Dear Mr Pointer

DESIGNATION OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA FOR THURNBY AND BUSHBY

I am writing to inform you that Thurnby and Bushby Parish Council has taken the decision to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. At the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9 November, it was resolved to apply for designation as a Neighbourhood Area in accordance with Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

I can confirm that Thurnby and Bushby Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act which specifically includes Parish Councils.

The Neighbourhood Area to be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan is the whole of the Thurnby and Bushby Parish as shown marked in red on the attached map. It is considered that the Neighbourhood Area is appropriate to be designated for the following reasons:

Parish Boundary

The Parish Council believes that it is appropriate for the Thurnby and Bushby Neighbourhood Area to abut the boundaries of its neighbouring parishes within Harborough District, to the north, east and south of the settlement. This would ensure that there are no areas of "no man's land" and would in addition provide opportunities for the various parishes to take account of collective as well as local perspectives.

The neighbouring parishes of Scraftoft, Houghton-on-the-Hill and Hungarton are at different stages in developing their own Neighbourhood Plans. It is noted that Houghton-on-the-Hill and Hungarton Parish Council have submitted a proposed boundary change between the two parishes. This would have no impact on Thurnby and Bushby and the Parish Council has confirmed its support for the change.

Location within the Leicester Principal Urban Area (PUA)

Thurnby and Bushby, together with Scraftoft, are part of the Leicester Principal Urban Area. While the Parish Council recognises that there is a need for housing within the PUA, it is concerned to ensure that the village settlements remain distinct and are not absorbed into the city of Leicester to the west.

Taking into account the above issues, the Parish Council believes that the development of a Neighbourhood Plan would enable the community to play an active part in how the parish of Thurnby and Bushby develops.

Yours sincerely

S R Bloy (Mrs)
Clerk to the Parish Council