ULLESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Katherine Clarke, The Old Stables, Fir Tree Lane, Swinford, Leicestershire, LE17 6BH. Email: clerk.ullesthorpepc@gmail.com Tel: 01788 869 007

David Atkinson Head of Planning Harborough District Council Adam & Eve Street Market Harborough Leicestershire LE16 7AG

12th July 2017

Dear Mr Atkinson,

Re: Neighbourhood Plan for Ullesthorpe Parish – application for designation as a Neighbourhood Area

I am writing to inform you that Ullesthorpe Parish Council has taken the decision to develop a Neighbourhood Plan and we are therefore applying for the Parish to be designated as a 'Neighbourhood Area' in accordance with Part 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

We can confirm that Ullesthorpe Parish Council is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act which specifically includes parish councils.

The area to be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan consists of the land contained within the parish boundaries and the Bittesby parcel of land that has been excluded from the area designated by Bitteswell with Bittesby Parish Council. A map confirming the area to be designated is attached.

The reason for this decision is as follows:

- 1. The natural fall of the land, watercourses and springs align Ullesthorpe with Bittesby;
- 2. Established bridle paths (W86 / W88) and footpaths (W83 / W89 / W96) traverse both Parishes;
- 3. The track of old railway line also traverses both Parishes and offers the opportunity for amenity and public use;
- 4. Existing land use (agriculture) is similar in both Parishes;
- 5. There is a palimpsest and established historical link between the two Parishes going back into antiquity;
- 6. The proposed Neighbourhood Area has meaningful boundaries, reflects the existing local sense of community and is generally meaningful and coherent for policy making purposes.

Ullesthorpe Parish Council recognises that Bittesby Civil Parish is an area of Strategic Importance to Harborough District Council. The purpose of including it in our Neighbourhood Area is not to challenge this, rather, it is intended as a precaution against development in this area not taking place within a reasonable timespan. Ullesthorpe Parish Council would not wish to see Bittesby unrepresented.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information and I look forward to working with the District Council and other partners in its development.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Chamberlain Chair, Ullesthorpe Parish Council