

APPENDIX 2A

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF WYNYARD NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA

Background

Neighbourhood planning is central to the Coalition Government's Localism Act 2011. Grindon Parish Council has a long standing history in serving their local community and has also previously collaborated with the neighbouring Elwick Parish Council on projects.

In May 2013, Grindon Parish Council began partnership working with Wynyard Residents Association (WRA). The WRA was established in 2012 to represent the interests of the Wynyard community and is a fully constituted body. The Wynyard community have strong aspirations to develop a Neighbourhood Plan to provide a joined-up approach to the planning of their area, in particular to develop community facilities and appropriate housing whilst protecting the valuable characteristics and design of the neighbourhood.

It was decided that a sub-committee of the WRA needed to be set up as a working group to oversee the development of the Neighbourhood Plan for Wynyard.

This submission of the proposed Wynyard Neighbourhood Area for designation represents the first formal step in this process.

The Wynyard Neighbourhood Area incorporates parts of both Grindon Parish (within Stockton Borough) and Elwick Parish, (within Hartlepool Borough). The resulting Neighbourhood Area is therefore is a cross-Parish and cross-Local Authority entity.

The Wynyard Neighbourhood Area – appropriateness for designation¹

The proposed Neighbourhood Area for Wynyard encompasses a distinct community bounded by Greenfield land and situated between two conurbations (Stockton and Hartlepool). The area consists of 900 houses in a semi-rural setting known as Wynyard Woods, together with a commercial/industrial area to the north known as Wynyard Park. The Neighbourhood Area covers these two distinct parts of Wynyard.

An explanatory map and key has been included as part of this application in Appendix 3A and 3B respectively. These help clarify the extent of the proposed Neighbourhood Area in the context of both Grindon & Elwick Parishes and the Borough boundaries.

The boundaries of the Neighbourhood Area have been specifically chosen to follow strong physical features (roads, walkways, woodland edges) or Parish/Local Authority boundaries. These firmly demarcate and encompass the Wynyard Neighbourhood Area, which is a robust and logical entity for the purposes of neighbourhood planning. There are no areas of overlap with other Neighbourhood Areas.

¹ Statement in fulfilment of Regulation 5(1)(b) (Part 2) of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Grindon Parish Council - Relevant Body status²

Grindon Parish Council is a Relevant Body within the terms of Section 61G(2)(a) of the Act.

The development of the Wynyard Neighbourhood Plan has the full support of Elwick Parish Council, which has confirmed in writing that they are happy for Grindon Parish Council to act as the lead body in this task in partnership with the WRA (see Appendix 2B).

As a sub-committee of the WRA, the Wynyard Neighbourhood Plan Working Group represents the community living within the Wynyard Neighbourhood Area. It consists of local residents, representatives from Grindon Parish Council, Elwick Parish Council and local organisations, all committed to working in partnership with businesses and landowners to influence how the Wynyard Neighbourhood Area develops into the future.

The Group has developed its own Terms of Reference and strong working links have been made with Officers within Hartlepool Borough Council and Stockton Borough Council Planning Policy teams.

² Statement in fulfilment of Regulation 5(1)(c) (Part 2) of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012