Bill Richards Town Clerk



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> 4th November 2019 Our Ref:

Dear Mr Jaggard

Application for Designation of a Neighbourhood Area

Chesham Town Council wish to apply for the designation of the Parish of Chesham as a Neighbourhood Area with the intention to develop a Neighbourhood Plan as defined by the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. Such a decision was confirmed at its Council Meeting of the 28th October 2019 (*Minute No. 58 refers*).

Chesham Town Council is a relevant body as defined by the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 section 61G.

The Neighbourhood Area is to incorporate the whole of the town area (map enclosed).

Statement in Support of a Neighbourhood Area

Chesham Town Council represents the needs, views and requirements of all the residents who reside within the Town Council boundaries. The Council has played a major part in articulating the views and wishes of the residents of the town pertaining to the District Council's Local Plan consultation and has worked closely with the Chesham Renaissance Community Interest Company to develop a Masterplan for the whole town which, again, was predicated largely around the views and comments of the general public. Accordingly, Chesham Town Council considers that it is appropriate that the whole Town Council area be designated as a Neighbourhood Area particularly as major housing developments have been provisionally earmarked for sites outside of the traditional town centre. Moreover, cognisant of the importance of the rural hinterlands that reside within the auspices of the Town Council and the



Chesham Town Council

continued . . .



issues thereof, Chesham Town Council wishes to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan covers all of the parish boundary as indicated within the associated submitted map.

Chesham Town Council sees no justification for excluding any part of the town from the designation of a Neighbourhood Area since to do so would disenfranchise those residents who live in any excluded area. Moreover, Chesham Town Council does not wish to extend the area proposed for designation as a Neighbourhood Area beyond the town boundary as this may interfere with or complicate other Parish Councils' proposed Neighbourhood Plans, either in development or to be instigated in the future.

The Chesham Neighbourhood Plan Working Party has been set up and formally approved by the Town Council as its recognised and authorised body for the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Chesham.

It is the Council's intention to keep the Planning Authority (currently Chiltern District Council and, from March 31st 2020, Buckinghamshire Council) updated on timetables and developments as the Neighbourhood Plan progresses.

Yours sincerely

Bill Richards Town Clerk