

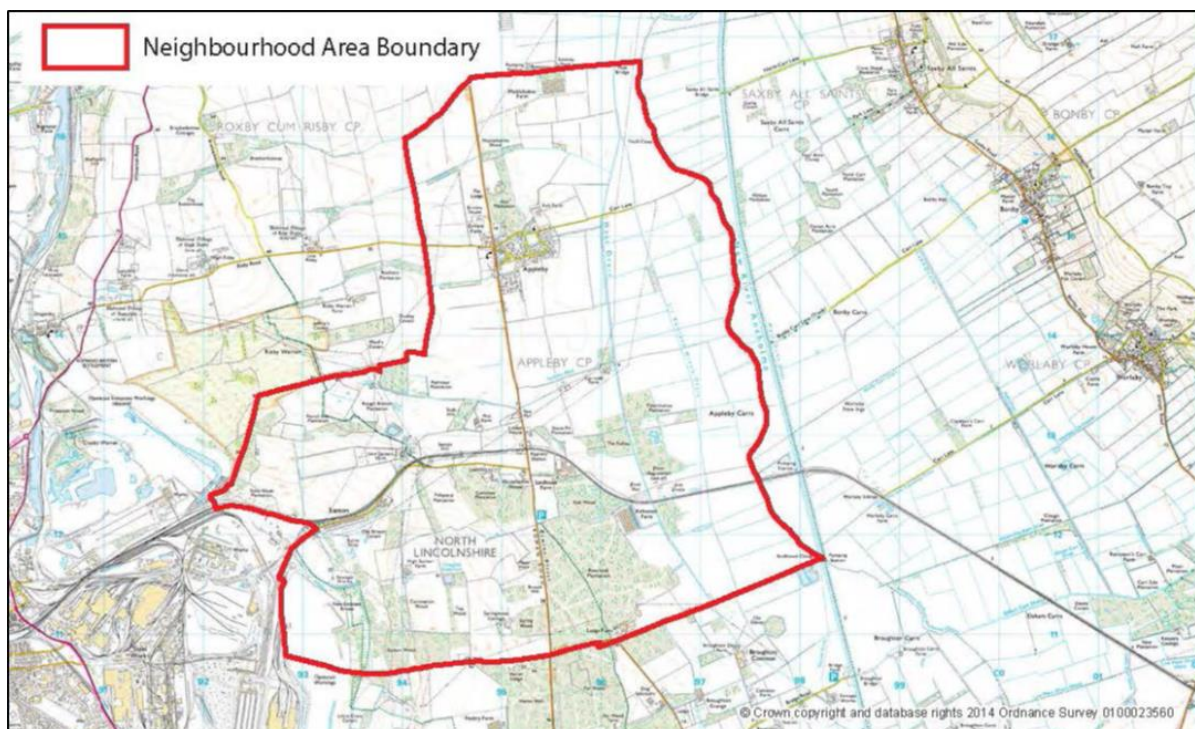
Appleby Parish Neighbourhood Plan

KVA Planning Consultancy has been commissioned by the Steering Group, to produce a brief synopsis detailing the potential key planning considerations to be included within the Appleby Parish Neighbourhood Plan. This statement is to be made publicly available following a series of consultation events held recently throughout the Parish.

Appleby Parish Council decided to replace the existing Village Design Statement for Appleby (adopted 1998) with an up to date Neighbourhood Plan for the entire Parish of Appleby, primarily because the existing document carries no weight in planning decision making processes.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a document that sets out planning policies for a specific neighbourhood area. The plan itself will include planning policies which will be used by North Lincolnshire Council to decide whether or not to approve planning applications in the Parish. It will sit alongside the Development Plan for the area and indeed become part of the Development Plan once adopted. Ergo, developers must pay heed to the document otherwise their proposals will not be approved. Crucially, the Neighbourhood Plan will be informed and written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, rather than the Local Planning Authority. Essentially, it is a powerful tool to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place.

In December 2014 the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group received a Neighbourhood Area designation from North Lincolnshire Council which covered the entire of the Parish (not just the village of Appleby) including green spaces and remote dwellings.



The first few parish consultation events seeking local information began with Fair Day in June 2015 and was followed by a Parish-wide survey which was delivered through every letter box in the Parish and was also made available online.

As a result of the feedback received from these events, the Steering Group were able to surmise that the key areas of interest to the communities within the Parish of Appleby were as follows:

- Housing and Development;
- Environment;
- Leisure;
- Employment;
- Services and Facilities;
- Heritage, incorporating the Conservation Area; and
- Traffic and Transport.

The Steering Group are in the process of determining a 'Vision for the Parish' which will in effect be what the Neighbourhood Plan seeks to deliver during its 15-year lifespan.

In May 2016, a 'drop-in' style consultation event was held in Appleby Village Hall which the entire Parish was invited to in order to review work undertaken to date on the Plan and give feedback to various questions posed relating to the key areas of interest. This information was also available online and was delivered to local care homes in the vicinity to ensure those who could not attend the village hall were still included in the consultation.

As a result of the evidence received as part of the consultation, the Steering Group are currently in the process of analysing all the information in order to proceed to the next step in creating the Neighbourhood Plan.

Having reviewed the information received to date, the key land use planning issues which can be included within the Neighbourhood Plan and which may be written into planning policies include:

- Housing and Development – limited infill developments; design and scale of developments; affordable homes and potential exception sites;
- Environment – protect green space within the Parish including where possible playing fields;
- Leisure – improve access to local countryside including potential new footpaths;
- Employment – investigate and promote areas for craft/artisan/farm shop developments; and
- Heritage – potential development of a Parish heritage trail.

The Neighbourhood Plan can only deal specifically with land use planning matters and is simply an inappropriate document for all the areas of interest listed by the communities to be listed. Other key themes raised by the community that do not feature in the list above will be addressed via other appropriate methods i.e. directly by the Parish Council in liaison with North Lincolnshire Council in the form of a Parish Management Plan or other appropriate means.

The Steering Group are currently consulting on the information received by the community and ‘self-checking’ that they have interpreted the consultation correctly. Once this has been achieved to the satisfaction of the communities within the Parish (by responding to the consultation request) the Steering group will proceed to the next stage of the Neighbourhood Plan process which will be the creation of the Neighbourhood Plan itself, i.e. writing Development Management Policies and the supporting text justification, to be used by the Local Planning Authority in determining planning application in the Parish alongside their existing and forthcoming Policy documents.

There will be a final opportunity for the community to have their say in the contents of this document prior to the submission of the document to the Council. Once it is submitted the Council will review the document and state whether or not they are prepared to put it forward to be examined by an independent Examiner. A hearing will be held where the community will be invited to take part and state whether or not they agree with the contents of the Plan and whether their views have been correctly expressed etc. The Examiner will also consider whether or not it conforms to and takes further the Local Planning Authority’s Planning Documents (i.e. it cannot say anything to the contrary of the Development Plan but can be more prescriptive and take certain themes further providing it conforms to the thrust of the development principles contained within the Plan).

Hopefully, the Examiner will find the plan to be robust and sound and move it on to the final stage in the process which is a neighbourhood referendum. This is the community’s last chance to state whether or not to accept the document or not with a simple yes / no vote. If agreed, the document will be formally adopted by North Lincolnshire Council and will become part of their Development Plan which developers are required to adhere to in order to receive planning permission as a matter of law.