

Abbotskerswell Neighbourhood Development Plan

Information for Voters

Referendum: 28th September 2017

About this booklet

On Thursday 28th September 2017 there will be a referendum on a neighbourhood development plan for your area. This booklet explains more about the referendum that is going to take place and how you can be involved in it. In this booklet you can find out about:

- The referendum and how you can take part
- The neighbourhood area
- The neighbourhood plan
- The development plan (of which neighbourhood plans are part)

Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan

A referendum asks you to vote 'yes' or 'no' to a question. For this referendum you will receive a ballot paper with this question:

“Do you want Teignbridge District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Abbotskerswell to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

How do I vote in the referendum?

You vote by putting a cross (X) in the 'yes' or 'no' box on your ballot paper. Put a cross in only one box or your vote will not be counted.

If more people vote 'yes' than 'no' in this referendum, then Teignbridge District Council will use the Neighbourhood Development Plan to help it decide planning applications in the parish of Abbotskerswell. The Neighbourhood Development Plan once 'made' (adopted) will then become part of the Development Plan.

In Teignbridge District the development plan for your area currently consists of the adopted Teignbridge Local Plan 2013-2033; the adopted Devon Waste Plan, December 2014, and the Devon Minerals Local Plan 2011-2031.

If more people vote 'no' than 'yes', then planning applications will be decided without using the Neighbourhood Development Plan as part of the Development Plan for the local area.

What is a Development Plan?

In England, planning applications are determined by local planning authorities in accordance with the development plan. A development plan is a set of documents that set out the policies for the development and use of land across the entire local authority area.

What is Neighbourhood Planning?

Neighbourhood planning aims to help local communities play a direct role in planning the areas in which they live and work. A community can choose to prepare a neighbourhood plan. This plan can show how the community wants land to be used and developed in its area.

What is a neighbourhood area?

A neighbourhood area can cover single streets or large urban or rural areas. The boundaries of a neighbourhood area are put forward by:

- Town or parish councils
- A neighbourhood forum (a group of at least 21 people in areas without town or parish councils)

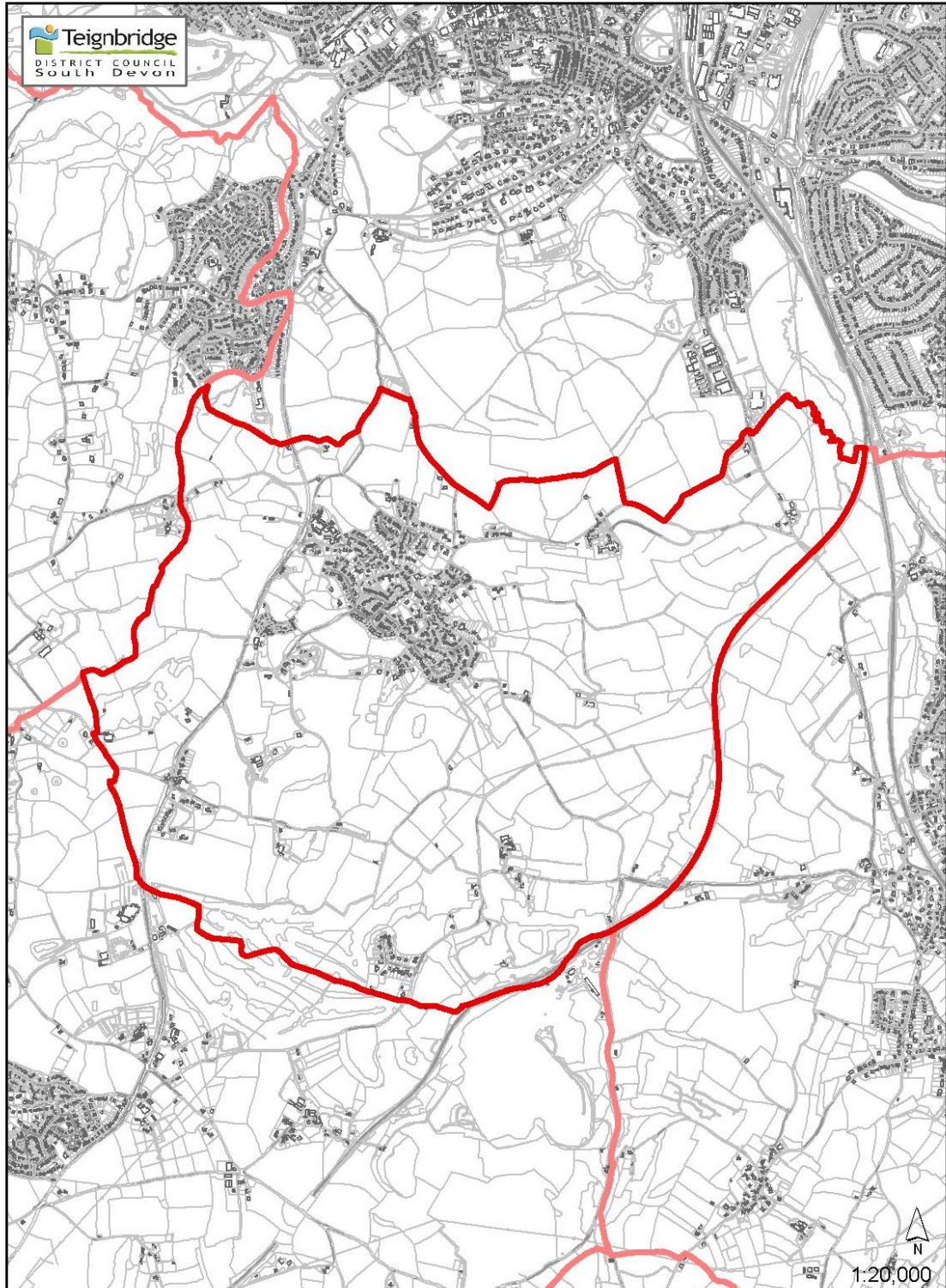
In Abbotskerswell the boundary of the neighbourhood area was put forward by Abbotskerswell Parish Council and determined by Teignbridge District Council and comprises the full extent of the Abbotskerswell parish.

Who can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood plans are prepared by Town and Parish Councils, or neighbourhood forums. In this case, the Abbotskerswell Neighbourhood Development Plan was prepared the Parish Council in collaboration with a steering group and members of the local community.

Neighbourhood Planning in Abbotskerswell

The referendum area is the parish area of Abbotskerswell Parish Council comprising the full extent of the Abbotskerswell Parish.



Abbotskerswell Neighbourhood Area

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Referendum expenses

Expenses can be incurred by an individual or body during the period of the referendum for referendum purposes. The referendum expenses limit that will apply to this referendum is £2442. The number of persons entitled to vote in the referendum by reference to which the limit has been calculated is 1356 (on 13th July 2017)

Specified Documents

A copy of the specified documents listed below, may be inspected at:

- Web address: www.teignbridge.gov.uk/abbotskerswellnp
- Teignbridge District Council Offices, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4XX

Between the hours of 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4.30pm Friday.

And

Orchard Café & Deli, The Square, Abbotskerswell, TQ12 5NT

Between 9am to 5pm Tuesday to Sunday

The specified documents are:

- The Abbotskerswell Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016-2033 (Referendum version);
- The report of the independent examiner into the Neighbourhood Plan;
- Copies of the written representations submitted to the independent examiner;
- A Decision Statement of the Local Planning Authority's satisfaction that the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan meets the basic conditions specified by statute and complies with the provision made by or under Section 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004;
- Information for Voters- A statement that sets out general information as to town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum;
- Map of the Abbotskerswell Neighbourhood Development Plan area.

Can I vote?

You can vote in the referendum if you live in the Abbotskerswell Parish Council Area and you are registered to vote in local council elections; and you are 18 years of age or over on 28th September 2017. You have to be registered to vote by Tuesday 12th September to vote in the referendum. You can check if you are registered to vote by calling 01626 215104.

The referendum will be conducted based on procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections.

Ways of voting?

There are three ways of voting:

1. In person on Thursday 28th September 2017

- At your local polling station. It is easy and a member of staff will always help if you are not sure what to do; the polling station will be the Abbotskerswell Village Hall, Abbotskerswell.
 - You will receive a poll card for this referendum
 - If you do not receive your poll card, you can call 01626 215104 or email electoralservices@teignbridge.gov.uk to find out where your polling station is.
- Polling stations are open from 7am until 10pm.

2. By post:

- If you have a postal vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- To apply to vote by post you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to be received by 5pm on Wednesday 13th September, at this address:

Teignbridge District Council, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4XX

- Postal votes can be sent overseas but you need to think about whether you will have time to receive and return your completed postal vote by 10pm on Thursday 28th September 2017.
- You should receive your postal vote about a week before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can ask for a replacement up to 5pm on Thursday 28th September 2017 by calling 01626 215104.

3. By proxy:

- If you have a proxy vote already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- If you can't get to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody that you trust to vote on your behalf.
- To vote by proxy, you will need to complete an application form and send it to; The Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 20th September at this address:

Teignbridge District Council, Forde House, Brunel Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 4XX

- When you apply for a proxy vote, you must say why you cannot vote in person
- Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible to vote and are willing to vote on your behalf. You will have to tell them how you want to vote.

Postal and proxy vote application forms are available from the electoral services office on 01626 215104 or by e-mail to electoralservices@teignbridge.gov.uk or you can print one from our website at www.teignbridge.gov.uk/elections

If you need to register to vote you can do this directly online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote You will need to have your date of birth and national insurance number to hand. Alternatively, you can obtain a paper form by calling 01626 215104 or by email to electoralservices@teignbridge.gov.uk

How to find out more

Further information on neighbourhood planning is available at

You can find specified documents on the Abbotskerswell Neighbourhood Development Plan at: www.teignbridge.gov.uk/abbotskerswellnp

For queries about planning issues and neighbourhood planning in general please contact David Kiernan on 01626 215758.