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## Whitnash Neighbourhood Plan Decision Statement, Referendum Area and Proposed Date

An application for designation as a neighbourhood planning area for Whitnash was made to Warwick District Council (WDC) in September 2012. This was approved on the 9 January 2013.

The Plan, having now gone through all the required stages of preparation to the satisfaction of WDC and meeting all relevant regulations and a formal examination by an individual examiner, WDC supports the Draft Whitnash Neighbourhood Plan now moving to a referendum.

Since the neighbourhood planning area was approved, the Boundary Commission has recommended changes to the parish boundary, which to date has resulted in a small additional portion of land being included in an amended parish boundary for Whitnash (Order made by WDC on 30 January 2015 which came into force on the 1 April 2015). Other proposed changes are to be the subject of a further review that could result in some small areas of the existing parish being transferred to another parish. However this will not happen before the date of the referendum on this plan, and so the provisions of the Plan still meet the Basic Conditions in that it deals only with land within the designated area that the Town Council is the qualifying body for.

There is no requirement for a designated area to include all of a parish, so the change to include an extra portion of land within the parish of Whitnash does not affect the legal position of the plan. However there is at least one dwelling on this land now included in the parish, but not included when the designated area was agreed as the former parish boundary. Although people in this small addition to the parish will not be formally covered by the Whitnash Neighbourhood Plan, it will be relevant for land and









property nearby to them, and the general town council area that they are newly part of.

Therefore, as recommended by the Whitnash Neighbourhood Plan Examiner in her report of July 2015 and in the interests of equality of opportunity for all current residents of Whitnash the boundary of the referendum will follow the revised parish boundary (April 2015) of the Town Council. This will ensure that all residents in the defined town council area of Whitnash are included in the democratic process. For the avoidance of doubt a map of the area is enclosed below.

All recommendations of the Examiner in her report have been accepted by the neighbourhood plan body and incorporated into the final draft of the Plan. This is supported by Warwick District Council and therefore the Plan will progress to a referendum on Thursday 26 November 2015.

Copies of the Draft Whitnash Neighbourhood Plan, August 2015, maps and the Examiner's Report of July 2015 can be found on WDC's website <a href="https://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20444/neighbourhood\_plans/964/whitnash">www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20444/neighbourhood\_plans/964/whitnash</a>

Or Whitnash Town Council's website <u>www.whitnashtowncouncil.gov.uk/council/neighbourhoodplan/</u> And paper copies are available to view at Whitnash library and at the Council Offices, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa









