

KENILWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2017-2029

SUBMISSION PLAN

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FOREWORD

Kenilworth is a great community which attracts people to live, work and visit. It has good homes, outstanding schools, attractive surroundings, health facilities, sports facilities and work places. The heritage of the past, the historic sites and the resultant green spaces and abundant trees within the town all add to the unique character. We now have an opportunity to plan for the future and welcome new facilities and new people to our town.

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to affect planning decisions in a way that will benefit the residents, workers and visitors to Kenilworth. In the plan you will find policies that will influence traffic and transport, design and heritage, economic development and social and green policies. These policies have been developed through the participation of residents in the production of the plan.

This plan addresses the key issues that face the town over the next twenty years. It defines how development can enhance the town and what facilities are needed to ensure that Kenilworth continues to be a town we love and are proud of.

Many residents, community organisations, and professional advisors have contributed to this document. Each person has brought their own expertise and perspective and we are very grateful that Kenilworth residents have enthusiastically participated in the consultation process. We have seen how much Kenilworth people care about their town.

Once the Neighbourhood Plan is 'made', it, together with the Warwick District Local Plan becomes part of the statutory development plan for the town. This means that all planning applications in the plan area must be determined in accordance with the policies in the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Summary and Guide

Of necessity this Neighbourhood Plan is quite a complicated and detailed document. The purpose of this page is to explain the structure and help you find your way around.

It may be useful to clarify what the Neighbourhood Plan cannot do. It cannot modify the strategic policies of the recently adopted Warwick District Local Plan. These include allocations of land, some of which was previously in the Green Belt, for housing and school relocation and of land for outdoor sports facilities. What it can do though is to apply policies to influence and manage such allocations and also control more of the money arising from development for the benefit of the town.

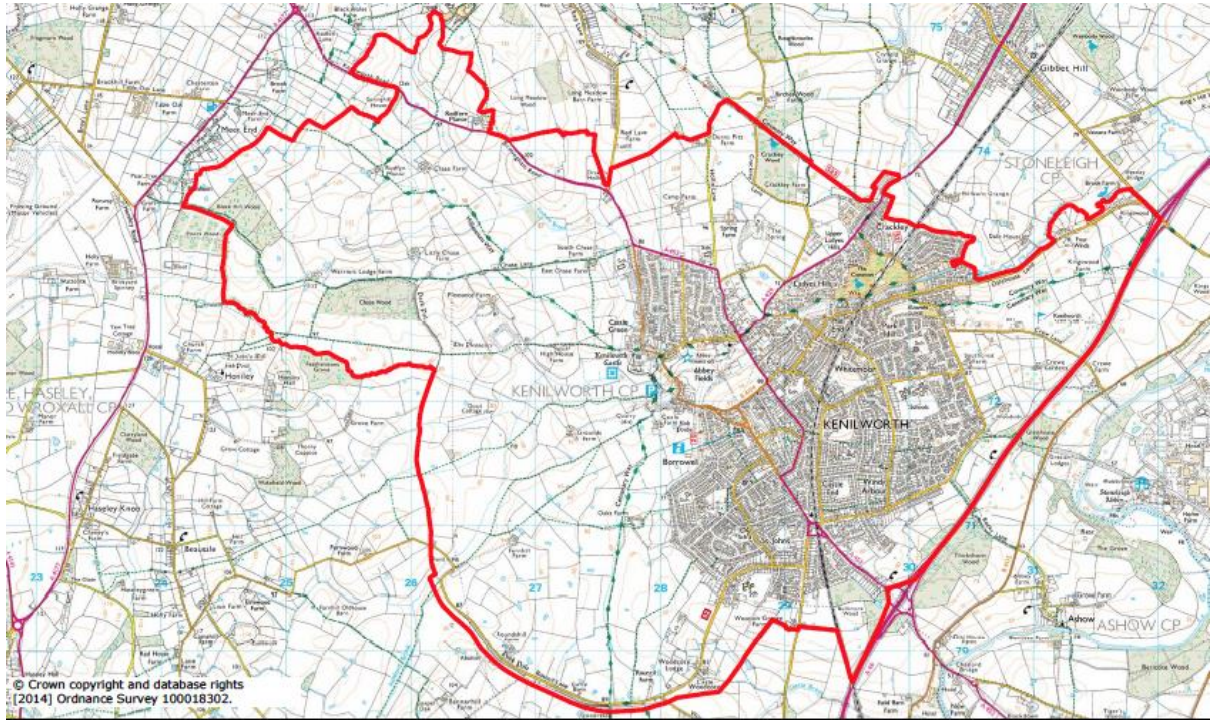
- 1. Background** This section explains the background to the Kenilworth Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2. The Neighbourhood Area** This section details many of the features of the Town and its facilities together with many of the issues which have been raised during the various Surveys and Consultations. It is supported by a Series of maps. Some of these are included in the text but the main maps are 2.1 to 2.8 at the back.
- 3. Planning Policy Context** This rather technical section relates this Plan to the National Planning Policy Framework and the Warwick District Council Local Plan.
- 4. Community Views on Planning Issues** This section explains the extensive Community involvement there has been over the last few years and summarises the main issues.
- 5. Vision, Objectives & Land Use Policies** This is the key section. Following a statement on Vision and Objectives it details 22 Policies from the Town Centre to Flooding which are proposed to address the issues raised. These Policies are listed opposite. There are two main maps, 5.1 and 5.2 at the back and a number of Local Character Area Maps in Appendix A relating to Policy KP14. The Policy KP 15 which proposes a Local List of properties refers to the List in Appendix B.
- 6. Implementation** This section sweeps up several matters. It explains how the Plan will be implemented and future development guided and managed. It suggests projects which might be supported by the Community Infrastructure Levy which the Town Council will have some influence over. Finally it deals with a number of issues from Charity Shops to HS2 which although relevant are outside the scope of a Neighbourhood Plan.

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1. Background

1.1 Kenilworth Town Council has prepared a Neighbourhood Plan for the whole of its area, which was designated in August 2015 by the local planning authority, Warwick District Council, under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 and of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The designated area shown in Map1.1 below.



Map 1.1: Kenilworth Designated Neighbourhood Area

1.2 The Neighbourhood Plan covers the period April 2011 to March 2029, which coincides with the plan period of the new Warwick District Local Plan adopted in September 2017. Once the Neighbourhood Plan is made, its policies and those of the Local Plan affecting Kenilworth will be applied as appropriate to help determine all planning applications in the town.

1.3 In preparing the Neighbourhood Plan, the Town Council has therefore been very mindful of the proposals for Kenilworth in the Local Plan to make sure that the two plans are entirely complementary. It decided to convert its existing Action Plan into the early part of the Neighbourhood Plan in order to influence and manage the integration of those planned developments into the town. The policies aim to positively plan for the growth of the town's housing, town centre, businesses and community facilities, but to do it in ways that will protect its special character.

1.4 Neighbourhood plans can only contain land use planning policies. This often means that there may be important issues of interest to the local community which cannot be addressed in a Plan as they are not directly related to planning.

1.5 Although there is considerable scope for the local community decide on its planning policies, Neighbourhood Plans must meet some 'basic conditions'. A separate Basic Conditions Statement is published alongside this Plan, which sets out how those conditions have been met. In essence, the conditions are:

- Is the Plan consistent with the National Planning Policy?
- Is the Plan consistent with local planning policy?
- Does the Plan promote the principles of sustainable development?
- Has the process of making of the plan met the requirements of the European environmental standards?

1.6 In respect of the last of these conditions, the Town Council received a screening opinion from the District Council, which established there would be no need for the Plan to be accompanied by a Strategic Environmental Assessment under the EU Directives 42/2001 and the 2004 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations. However, an appraisal of the ways in which the Plan will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development will be included in the Basic Conditions Statement.

1.7 In addition, the Town Council must be able to show that it has properly consulted local people and other relevant organisations during the process of making its Neighbourhood Plans and has followed the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations. It has demonstrated this in its separate Consultation Statement, that is also published alongside this Plan. It includes information on the statutory consultation exercise from May – August 2017 on the draft Plan.

1.8 The Neighbourhood Plan and these statements will now be tested by an independent examiner. If satisfied, the examiner will recommend that the plan goes to a referendum of the local electorate. If a simple majority of the turnout votes for the Plan, then it becomes 'made' as formal planning policy for the area.