

HOW TO BECOME A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING FORUM: A GUIDE FOR NON-PARISHED AREAS

For more information on neighbourhood planning visit www.kirkwells.co.uk

Much talk on neighbourhood planning has centred on existing parishes, but what about non-parished areas? Areas with, say, neighbourhood forums, area boards, or some other less formal local decision-making structure?

For such non-parished areas there are additional requirements you will have to meet before you can be designated a neighbourhood forum so that you can prepare a neighbourhood plan.

To be designated a neighbourhood forum you will have to submit an application to your local planning authority. This application must include:

- the name of your proposed neighbourhood forum;
- a copy of your written constitution of the proposed neighbourhood forum;
- the name of the neighbourhood area to which your application relates and a map to identify your area;
- contact details of at least one member of the proposed neighbourhood forum; and
- a statement explaining how your proposed neighbourhood forum



Take charge of the planning of your neighbourhood

meets conditions contained in section 61F(5) of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act.

One final hurdle is your forum must have a **minimum of 21 members**.

Some of the above should be straight forward, but at Kirkwells we know many groups, especially in urban areas, do not have written constitutions, struggle with fluctuating memberships, and overlaps with other neighbourhood groups.

If you are thinking of seeking designation as a neighbourhood forum you will also have to prepare the statement referred to above.

This will have to describe how your forum was established for the “express purpose” of promoting or improving social, economic and environmental well-being of

your area. You will also have to demonstrate membership of your forum is open to all who live and work in the neighbourhood, and to elected members of the local county council, district council and London Borough Council if you are in London.

You will also have to show your membership is drawn from all parts of the neighbourhood and all sections of the community in your area.

So, all in all, not insurmountable problems but not as easy as being a parish council!

If this guide raises on questions on how to go about seeking a designation for your parish, or you need help preparing your application call Michael Wellock on:

01282 872570.

At Kirkwells we believe neighbourhood planning is about making things happen. Whether that be redeveloping a difficult brownfield site, or protecting beautiful countryside. We only do well planned, high quality sustainable development. The type of development we all want—*development that creates great places.*

Low Cost Training

Thinking of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan?

Not sure where to start?

Why not get help from our award winning team.

Sign up today for our special offer of low cost Neighbourhood Planning training.

Specially designed for parish, town councils and other neighbourhood groups - our seminars deal with all aspects of neighbourhood planning: including the neighbourhood planning process, how to work with your local council, how to engage land owners and developers, and consult the rest of your community.

Our seminars also have the added benefit that one of our award winning team will come to you - we discuss the issues you want to discuss in your town or parish at a time and place of your choosing.

To make sure you don't miss out book now. Our Neighbourhood Planning Seminars start from just £99.00 (plus VAT).

We will be happy discuss your needs and arrange a seminar with your parish or neighbourhood.

Just telephone Michael Wellock on 01282 872570 or email:

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