

Peakirk Neighbourhood Plan Summary

Over the past 3 years, Peakirk Parish Council (The Qualifying Body) and the Peakirk Neighbourhood Planning Group (PNPG) have taken the first steps towards producing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan offers the chance for residents and businesses to have their say on future development within the parish and influence how our neighbourhood evolves. Peakirk faces many challenges over the coming years.

The Neighbourhood Planning Group has consulted those living and working in the village, together with key stakeholders, asking how they wish to see the village develop to 2030. The results have helped us prepare a (pre-submission) draft version of the Peakirk Neighbourhood Development Plan. A six week pre-submission consultation period on the proposed Neighbourhood Plan for Peakirk ran from Monday 29th August for 6 weeks to 15th October.2016. It is proposed that Version 8 of the Plan will be submitted to Peterborough City Council in December 2016..

"The Neighbourhood Plan gives us the opportunity to say how we would like Peakirk to develop to 2030. Without it developers could make the choices for us."

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work. Like other plans, the Peakirk Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the statutory planning framework for the area and it will be used to help decide future planning applications.



Our Vision for Peakirk

'Our Vision is for Peakirk to remain a small, green village within a rural parish with a rich heritage and culture which can be enjoyed, protected and where possible enhanced, whilst supporting appropriate and proportionate growth.'

The Plan has four main Aims

Housing, Community, Getting About and Environment

Housing

We want to plan for a mix of housing to meet the needs of people living locally. Using data from the 2011 Census we know that Peakirk has 169 homes and 446 residents. Peakirk has a larger proportion of older householders in the 60 to 74 age group but there is also an increase from the 2001 Census in the 10 to 14 age group. We would like new housing development to take account of the housing needs of our younger residents (starter homes) and our older residents (to be able to downsize).

Community, Getting About and Environment

We want to conserve the unique character and identity of Peakirk. We will do this by safeguarding the local landscape, protecting the countryside between the village and nearby settlements, identifying green areas of local importance within Peakirk, protecting and enhancing heritage assets and the natural environment, and through the design of new buildings.

Green Spaces

Important green spaces were identified by local people during the first consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan three years ago. Suggestions for Local Green Spaces were Meadows Field, The Church Field, Firdale Close and The Old Wildfowl Trust site. The proposed Local Green Spaces are identified in policy PK12 and on Map 9 in the Plan.

Policies

In addressing these issues/aims, policies have been created to ensure that new development meets the needs and aspirations of the community. Each of the policies has been created in response to the Aims and these are in turn linked to evidence coming from the community consultations. The full wording and more explanation for the rationale behind the policies are contained in the full copy of the Plan.

A summary of the key stages in Neighbourhood Planning

Step 1	Designating Neighbourhood Area and if appropriate Neighbourhood Forum
April 2012	Neighbourhood planning regulations published
June 2013	Peakirk Parish Council submits an application to the local planning authority to designate a Neighbourhood Area
	Local planning authority publicises and consults on the area application for minimum six weeks.
	Local planning authority takes decision on whether to designate the Neighbourhood Area
Step 2	Preparing a draft Neighbourhood Plan
August 2013	Peakirk Neighbourhood Planning Group(PNPG) launch Plan
	PNPG develops proposals (advised or assisted by the local planning authority)
	Gather baseline information and evidence, engage and consult those living and working in the neighbourhood area and those with an interest in or affected by the proposals.(e.g. land owners)
	Identify and assess options, determine whether a Plan is likely to have significant environmental effect.
Winter 2013/14	Start to prepare proposals documents e.g. Basic Conditions Statement, Vision, Aims and Objectives. Proposals for future development.
Summer 2014	Consult with community
Winter 2014/15	Preparation of Version 1 of Plan. Revise and update after consultations with community, local planning authority and consultants. This took the whole of 2015 and the beginning of 2016 to achieve acceptable policies to revision 7.2.

What Happens Now - The Next Steps

Step 3: Pre-submission publicity (Regulation 14) & consultation (Regulation 16)

29th August 2016 The PNPG publicises the draft Plan and invites representations. Sends a copy of the draft Plan to the local planning authority. six weeks consultation process. Considers consultation responses and amends Plan if appropriate.

Step 4: Submission of Neighbourhood Plan proposal to the local planning authority

Winter 2016 Qualifying body submits the Plan to the local planning authority

Local planning authority checks that submitted proposal complies with all relevant legislation and if the local planning authority finds that the Plan meets the legal requirements it:

Publicises the proposal for minimum 6 weeks and invites representations (Regulation 16)

Notifies consultation bodies referred to in the Consultation Statement

Appoints an independent examiner (with the agreement of the qualifying body)

Step 5: Independent Examination

Spring 2017 Local planning authority sends Plan proposal and representation to the independent examiner

Independent examiner undertakes examination

Independent examiner issues a report to the local planning authority and qualifying body

Local planning authority publishes report

Local planning authority considers report and reaches own view.

Local planning authority takes the decision on whether to send the Plan to referendum

Steps 6 and 7: Referendum and Making the Neighbourhood Plan (bringing it into force)

Spring/Summer 2017 Parish council / planning group publishes information statement

Parish council / planning group publishes notice of referendum

Polling takes place and results declared (50% acceptance of those who vote for Plan to be adopted)

Subject to results local planning authority considers Plan in relation to EU obligations and Convention rights

Summer 2017 If the Plan is compatible with EU obligations and does not breach Convention rights – local planning authority makes the Plan. The Plan then has legal status