

# Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area

The application is made by Tilehurst Parish Council to:

The Head of Planning and Countryside Planning and Countryside Services  
West Berkshire Council  
Council Offices  
Market Street  
Newbury  
RG14 5LD

## 1. Parish Clerk details:

Miss Jacky Major  
Parish Office  
High View  
Calcot, Reading  
Berkshire  
RG31 4XD

[clerk@tilehurstpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tilehurstpc.co.uk)

## 2. Relevant body

I confirm that Tilehurst Parish Council is the relevant body to undertake neighbourhood planning in the area in accordance with section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and section 5C of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

## 3. Name of Neighbourhood Area

The neighbourhood area will formally be known as:  
Tilehurst Parish Council

## 4. Extent of the Area

The area is exactly the same as the entire area of the Civil Parish of Tilehurst. A map showing the area, denoted by the black Parish boundary, is attached (Map of Tilehurst Parish.pdf).

## 5. Intention of Neighbourhood Area

The sole intention is to develop a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Area. A Neighbourhood Plan will provide an opportunity for local people to create a framework for delivering a balanced and sustainable future for the benefit of all who live in, work in or visit the parish.

## 6. Statement

Tilehurst Parish Council is the suitable body under the Localism Act to lead the development of a Neighbourhood Plan and there is a strong desire in the community to contribute to the future

development of the parish. The reasons why this area should be considered to be appropriate for designation as a Neighbourhood Area are given below.

Situated to the west of Reading and within the Eastern Urban Area of West Berkshire, Tilehurst Parish covers an area of 11 square miles which extends from the A4 in the south to a few metres short of the A329 in the north. The Reading boundary forms the eastern border while its western border follows the line of the Sulham escarpment. The present Tilehurst Parish was created on the extension of the Reading Borough boundary in 1919.

Tilehurst Parish is relatively remote from the Newbury “hub” of West Berkshire and has its own distinctive sense of identity and unique characteristics that would be best served by a Neighbourhood Development Plan, which will reinforce the local sense of place.

The parish is a unique mix of town and country and is home to over fifteen thousand people, with a current electoral roll of 11,049, yet it retains essentially rural characteristics in parts and borders the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Parish has several primary and secondary schools within its boundary with their catchment areas falling beyond the Parish. There is a lack of Youth provision, with no Youth Club or Youth Worker within the Parish and inadequate sports facilities, with the only recreation spaces being provided and maintained, on a limited budget, by the Parish Council.

Producing a Neighbourhood Plan will help channel increasing interest in planning matters into a community-led plan for sustainable development that reflects local priorities and needs whilst aligning with the needs of the wider community in West Berkshire and nationally.

During the latter half of 2014 a number of community meetings were held in the Parish. One outcome was the proposal to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan.

Following acceptance in principle by the Parish Council, the idea of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan was introduced at a community meeting held on 23 January 2015 attended by in excess of 100 residents and backed up by a leaflet drop and web-site reference to almost every house, school and business within the Parish boundary. The response has been encouraging with 18 volunteers coming forward immediately to offer their services to work on the proposed Plan. An enthusiastic and well-informed group is now in place and eager to get started consulting with the community and developing the plan.

## **7. Declaration**

I hereby apply to designate a neighbourhood area as described in this document.

Name: Miss Jacky Major (Clerk, Tilehurst Parish Council) Date: 03.02.2015

## **Attachments:**

Map of Tilehurst Parish