WEST BERK COUNC 10 FEB 201/

FLANNING AL. **West Berkshire Council** COUNTRY DE SE Neighbourhood Area Designation Application form
Application to designate a Neighbourhood Area
Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Please note that the information provided on this application form will be published on the Council's website. If you require further clarification, please email planningpolicy@wastberks.gov.uk

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5. Extent of area: Please attach an OS plan sh ndicate below the relationsh	owing the o	extent of the proposed Neighbourhood oposed area to parish boundaries.	Area and
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9. Supporting Information

Please provide details of why you would like to carry out a Neighbourhood Plan and what you would like the Neighbourhood Plan to deliver for the Neighbourhood Area

Please continue on separate sheet if necessary AS ATTACHED

10. Declaration:

I/We hereby apply to designate a Neighbourhood Area as described on this form and the accompanying plan

Name	ERLE MINHINNICK
Date	7/2/17
Signature	

Please return your application form to:

Planning Policy, Planning and Countryside, West Berkshire Council, Market Street. Newbury, **RG14 5LD**

planningpolicy@westberks.gov.uk

01635 519111

8. Reasons for considering the area appropriate Please describe below why you consider this area is appropriate to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area

The Parish of Burghfield covers an area of approaching seven square miles situated to the south-west of Reading. It has a population of approximately 4,500 adults living principally in the settlements of Burghfield Common and the smaller Burghfield Village. It also includes the hamlet of Burghfield Bridge, lying by the Kennet and Avon Canal, and much of the floodplain of the Lower Kennet Valley. This provides important wildlife habitats as well as effective separation from Reading. The Parish also includes extensive areas of scenically attractive woodland and agricultural land surrounding the two main settlements, some of it bordering on Wokefield Common to the South-East. All these open areas are valued by local residents for their scenic value and for recreational use, and "Preservation of the surrounding countryside" is one of the aspirations listed in the Burghfield Parish Plan Refresh of 2012. It is therefore considered appropriate to include the whole Parish within the designated area or the NDP.

9. Supporting Information Please provide details of why you would like to carry out a Neighbourhood Development Plan and what you would like the Neighbourhood Development Plan to deliver for the neighbourhood Area

Burghfield Common is recognised as a Service Village in the West Berkshire Council Core Strategy, 2006-2026. This, together with the possibility of a new development of 15,000 dwellings centred on Grazeley in Wokingham District, just over West Berkshire's eastern border, ensures that the Parish of Burghfield will be under continuing pressure to accept new housing development. We believe that local people should have the maximum possible influence in determining both the distribution and the character of the new housing, and in ensuring that it provides a mix of housing types appropriate to the needs of the community.

We must also ensure that the new housing is accompanied by the development of infrastructure capable of supporting the increasing population and enhancing the existing sense of community. For example, our local schools, both primary and secondary, are currently operating at close to capacity, and additional land may be required to permit the necessary expansion in educational facilities.

We believe there is a great deal of support locally for the proposal to prepare an NDP for Burghfield, as indicated first by the large and enthusiastic attendance at a public meeting to launch the project held in November 2015, second the substantial response to the call for relevant proposals to be submitted at the Burghfield May Fayre in 2016, and third the positive response to the proposal to develop an NDP posted on social media sites set up to publicise the initiative.

We therefore trust that West Berkshire Council will accept the proposal that we develop an NDP for Burghfield.

Burghfield Parish Boundary

