

Decision in respect of the designation of the whole of Whimble Parish as a Neighbourhood Area



In respect of the application by Whimble Parish Council for designation of the whole of the Parish of Whimble as a Neighbourhood Area, the following decision has been taken in accordance with the requirements of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

In accordance with the Cabinet Decision on 6th April 2016, the application from the Whimble Parish Council for the designation of the whole Parish as a Neighbourhood Area is **REFUSED**. However, East Devon District Council has designated a smaller Neighbourhood Area which excludes the Cranbrook expansion area within the parish. This designated neighbourhood area is identified on the accompanying Plan attached to this notice.

Cabinet resolved that the reasons for refusing the original application and designating a reduced area are as follows:

1. The development of the strategic eastern expansion area at Cranbrook will have implications that impact upon a wider sphere of influence than Whimble parish. It is not appropriate for such a site or sites to be planned by, and for, the community with a referendum which involves only Whimble residents.
2. That the inclusion of the Cranbrook Expansion area with the Neighbourhood Plan might conflict with the priorities identified in the Cranbrook Masterplan, delaying the delivery of a much-needed framework for the future growth of the Town with possible impacts upon the ability of the Council to demonstrate a 5-year housing land supply in the future.
3. There is a distinct difference in the nature and character of the Parish between the existing village of Whimble, the extensive rural area to the south of the parish and the significant new development to the west of the parish. It is unlikely that a single approach or set of planning policies could comprehensively address such a diversity of issues.
4. Parishes with adopted Neighbourhood Plans would be able to claim up to 25% of CIL receipts to fund local infrastructure which could significantly reduce the CIL receipts of the Local Planning Authority and undermine the ability of the District and County Councils to deliver key infrastructure to which they are already committed and which are needed for the strategic developments.

Ed Freeman, Service Lead - Planning Strategy and Development Management

