

Cheshire West and Chester Council

Making of Davenham and Whatcroft Neighbourhood Plan

Decision Statement published pursuant to the Localism Act 2011 Schedule 38A (9) and Regulation 19 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Davenham and Whatcroft Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.1 Work on the Davenham and Whatcroft Neighbourhood Plan began in 2013, led by a neighbourhood planning working group on behalf of Davenham and Whatcroft Parish Council.
- 1.2 The first formal stage of plan preparation was designation of the Neighbourhood Area. The Neighbourhood Area was designated on 8th May 2013 and covered the same area as Davenham and Whatcroft Parish Council.
- 1.3 Preparation of the plan has involved significant community involvement throughout, with support provided by Cheshire West and Chester Council and Cheshire Community Action. The Plan seeks to protect the character and distinctiveness of the area, including policies to ensure that the character of new housing development reflects the previous organic growth of the village, provides housing development that meets the housing needs of the local community, ensure that development proposals support sustainable transport and consider traffic impacts and ensure that development enhances the quality of the local built and natural environment.
- 1.4 The draft Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents were formally submitted to Cheshire West and Chester Council in April 2017. Following a six week period of publicity, an examiner was appointed with the agreement of the qualifying body. The plan was then subject to examination and the independent examiner's report was received in August 2017. The report concluded that, subject to a number of (relatively minor) modifications, the plan meets the required 'basic conditions' and could proceed to referendum.
- 1.5 On 2 October 2017, the Council's Cabinet Member agreed to accept the examiner's recommendations and it was agreed that the plan would then proceed to referendum.
- 1.6 At the referendum held on 30 November 2017, voters were asked to say 'yes' or 'no' to the prescribed question:

“Do you want Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Davenham and Whatcroft to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

- 1.7 89% of those who voted said ‘yes’ to the plan. The outcome was as follows:

Response	Votes
Yes	407
No	50
Rejected (unmarked)	0
Turnout	20 %

Making of the Plan

- 2.1 Preparation of the Davenham and Whatcroft Neighbourhood Plan has now progressed through the prescribed stages set out in the regulations with a positive outcome at both independent examination and referendum. The plan now forms part of the statutory development plan for the area. The Parish Council is to be congratulated on a significant achievement in reaching this stage, which would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the local community and in particular the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- 2.2 The final stage of the preparation process is for the Council to ‘make’ the Plan. At the meeting of the Council’s Cabinet on 11 October 2017 it was agreed that the decision to make a neighbourhood plan be discharged to the Senior Management – Planning and Strategic Transport. The full report and minute can be read at <http://cmttpublic.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=983&MId=5184&Ver=4>

Decision

- 3.1 That the Davenham and Whatcroft Neighbourhood Plan is formally made.
- 3.2 The reason for this decision is that the Davenham and Whatcroft Neighbourhood Plan has progressed through the prescribed stages set out in the regulations with a positive outcome at both independent examination and referendum. The Council is now required to make the plan and no reasons exist as to why this should not happen.
- 3.3 The Senior Manager - Planning and Strategic Transport hereby exercises their delegated authority to make the plan.
- 3.4 A copy of this note will be sent to the qualifying body, namely Davenham and Whatcroft Parish Council and anyone who asked to be notified of the

decision. The note will also be sent to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Infrastructure and local ward councillors.

3.5 In accordance with Regulation 26 of the 2012 Regulations, the Council has published the following on its website at:

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning

- This statement which sets out the decision to make the plan and reasons for it;
- Details of where the decision document can be inspected.

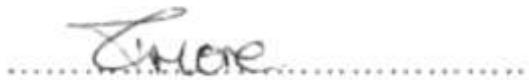
3.6 The final version of the plan and associated documents has also been published on the website.

3.7 The documents can be viewed online on computer screens in the following Customer Service Centres during opening hours – please check the Council’s website for details:

- The Forum, Chester, CH1 2HS;
- Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, CW7 1AH;
- Northwich Customer Service Centre, 1 The Arcade, Northwich, CW9 5AS;
- Neston Library, Parkgate Road, Neston, CH64 6QE;
- Ellesmere Port Customer Service Centre, First Floor, Ellesmere Port Library, CH65 0BG; and
- Frodsham Library and Integrated Services, Princeway, Frodsham, WA6 6RX;

3.8 A paper copy of the Neighbourhood Plan is also available to view at:

- Wyvern House, The Drummer, Winsford, CW7 1AH.



Fiona Hore
Senior Manager - Planning and Strategic Transport

20/12/2017