



**EXTRAORDINARY
COUNCIL**

**Tuesday 12 September
2023**

Subject: Adoption of the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan

Report by:

Director of Planning, Regeneration and
Communities

Contact Officer:

Nev Brown
Senior Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer

nev.brown@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Purpose / Summary:

To adopt the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION(S): To adopt the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan in
accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.**

IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

This work is a duty under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

Regulation 18A of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, stipulates that a neighbourhood plan must be made within 8 weeks of the referendum. Here is the link:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/637/regulation/18A>

Financial: FIN/56/24/C/SST

For every neighbourhood plan (NP) successful at examination the Council receives a grant of £20k from the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to help support its neighbourhood planning role in the district. A claim of £20k will be submitted for the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan (KNP) when the next funding window opens.

Staffing:

Internal resources are in place to deal with neighbourhood planning.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

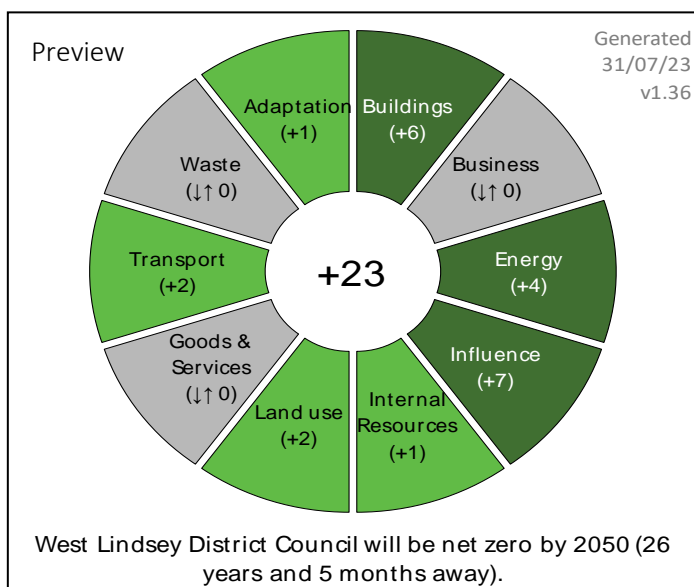
The KNP has been examined under the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations for any issues relating to equality and diversity.

Data Protection Implications: n/a

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

The KNP supports proposals for suitable local renewable energy schemes and encourages the provision of electric vehicle charging points on new properties. It expects new developments to make the best use of passive solar gain in layouts and the KNP would like to see locally sourced building materials used where practicable.

The KNP received positive outcomes when it was evaluated using the Council's Climate, Environment, and Assessment tool. Please see below. The KNP scored highly in terms of influence by increasing awareness of climate change and by expecting buildings to be used and constructed in a sustainable way. The KNP's approach to promoting active travel and protecting local facilities also scored well.



The KNP was also the subject of strategic environmental and habitats regulations assessments which confirmed that it was unlikely to give rise to any significant effects on protected sites.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

National planning guidance expects NPs to help create safe and accessible places, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion - for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public spaces, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

The KNP requires new residential development to provide safe walking route links, of the highest quality design, to the central parts of Keelby. The KNP also expects the provision of public open green spaces in such developments that promote and encourage healthy and safe neighbourhoods.

Health Implications:

Health and well-being-related guidelines in the KNP include requirements for housing developments to provide walking routes to central areas of Keelby and policies to protect and enhance identified environmental assets in the parish.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

<https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning/neighbourhood-planning/all-neighbourhood-plans-west-lindsey/keelby-neighbourhood-plan>

Risk Assessment : n/a

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks Members' approval to adopt (make) the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan (KNP) as part of the West Lindsey Development Plan. The report follows the KNP's successful referendum which was held in July.

2. Background

- 2.1 NPs were introduced in the Localism Act 2011. They are important and powerful tools that give parish and town councils the statutory planning powers to shape how their communities develop. A NP is a document written by parish/town councils that sets out planning policies for a parish area which are used to help decide planning applications.
- 2.2 There are legal steps to creating a NP which must be followed and they are: area designation, plan preparation, consultation, examination, referendum, and finally adoption (making). At each step, West Lindsey District Council strongly supports parish/town councils with their NPs. Currently, West Lindsey has 24 adopted NPs covering a large part of the district.
- 2.3 Following a NP's successful referendum, it is a requirement that the NP should be adopted by Full Council in order for it to formally become part of the West Lindsey Development Plan for that NP area alongside the Local Plan. As part of the Development Plan, the KNP will be given full weight in helping determine future planning applications within Keelby parish. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

3. Decision & Reasoning

- 3.1 Keelby Parish Council (PC), as the qualifying body, received Council approval in December 2016 to prepare the KNP. The KNP was submitted by the PC to the Council for examination in August 2022 and comments were invited from the public and stakeholders.
- 3.2 The Council, in agreement with the PC, appointed an independent examiner to examine whether the KNP met the basic conditions required by legislation and if it should proceed to referendum.
- 3.3 The Examiner's Report concluded that the KNP met the basic conditions, and that subject to the modifications proposed in the report, the KNP should proceed to a referendum. The KNP was examined alongside the new Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and was prepared in accordance with EU obligations or Convention rights.
- 3.4 The Examiner's Report was considered under the Council's delegated powers and it was agreed that the KNP should proceed to a referendum and if successful should be recommended for adoption (making) by the Council.

3.5 The KNP referendum met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. It was held on 20 July 2023 in Keelby and posed the question:

'Do you want West Lindsey District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Keelby to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area'

3.6 At the referendum 80.8% of residents who voted were in favour of the KNP. Legislation requires that the Council must make the NP if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of it. Greater than 50% of those who voted were in favour of the KNP being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area.

The results of the referendum were:	Votes Recorded*	Percentage
Number of votes cast in favour of 'yes'	303	80.8%
Number of votes cast in favour of 'no'	71	18.9%

Electorate	1588
Ballot Papers Issued	375
Turnout	23.6%

* One ballot paper was rejected as it was blank or unclearly marked.

3.7 In accordance with national planning guidance, an adopted (made) KNP should be given full weight in the determination of planning applications within the parish area.

3.8 NPs have given many of West Lindsey's local communities the tools to shape and protect their areas. This is welcomed by the Government which sees neighbourhood planning as a key part of its ambition to deliver the Localism Act.

3.9 The total number of NPs in the district should continue to rise as there are many in various stages of preparation. There are also 8 NPs being reviewed and around 40 areas remaining in the district that are suitable for NPs but have yet to start the process. Compared to nationally, West Lindsey continues to perform well in terms of NP coverage.

3.10 For the latest on NPs in West Lindsey please go to:

<https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning/neighbourhood-planning>

4. Recommendation:

4.1 That Members formally agree to adopt (make) the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.