

Neighbourhood and Community Planning

The Localism Act and NPPF provide the framework for Town or Parish Councils and defined neighbourhoods across Coventry to engage in community and neighbourhood planning. This can include a host of activities including Neighbourhood Plans, Parish Plans or other forms of design guidance etc. Where local neighbourhoods wish to engage in the development of local planning policy the Council will help support this process and work with communities to achieve their planning aims, where these are in conformity with the NPPF and the strategic policies of this Plan. Once adopted, a Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the statutory development plan and must be taken in to account in making planning decisions in that locality. Once proposed they will also be referred to within the Council's Local Development Scheme.

Policy CO3: Neighbourhood and Community Planning

1. Where appropriate the Council will support communities in the preparation of:
 - a. Parish Plans;
 - b. Parish Design Statements, and;
 - c. Neighbourhood Plans.
2. When preparing these plans, they must remain in accordance with national legislation, this Local Plan and any other city-wide planning documents which support it.
3. Where appropriate the Council will support the application and designation of land or buildings as Assets of Community Value.
4. The Council will not support applications for Neighbourhood, Parish Plans or Assets of Community Value where they conflict with this Local Plan or supporting documentation.

The Council considers that local communities taking an active role in determining the future for their neighbourhoods is a key part of achieving sustainable communities and these are processes which make a difference in bringing forward development in a way that is consistent with local needs and aspirations.

At the current time one neighbourhood plan area has been designated at Willenhall and work on a Neighbourhood Plan for the area remains on-going. Coventry has three Parish Councils at Keresley, Finham and Allesley, which have the autonomy to prepare either a Parish Plan or Neighbourhood Plan.

The designation of land and buildings as Assets of Community Value was also introduced through the Localism Act. Since its introduction three assets have been designated:

- the listed building at 449/449A Foleshill Road
- the former Coventry Loop Railway Line area of open space.
- The White Lion Public House, Brownhill Green

Such designations are considered important to protecting non-statutory heritage assets and retaining important buildings and areas of land within local communities.