

# Woodford Neighbourhood Forum



\* Team effort. Two planning advisors on our team

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# Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

Application

Grant funding and technical support

Consultation and evidence gathering

Vision and objectives

Policies

Approval, referendum, adoption

# Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

Forum suggested to Woodford Community Council by Rt Hon Don Foster MP in February 2013

Application for designation of the Neighbourhood Forum submitted to the local authority (SMBC) in Mar 2013

- At least 23 Forum members, made up of residents and business owners in Woodford (now over 80 members)
- Defined Neighbourhood Area (Parish boundary)
- Constitution

Woodford Neighbourhood Forum was approved by SMBC in October 2013 (BAe site and A6MARR were excluded)

# Aims of the Forum

To promote and improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Area



Preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan in partnership with the Local Planning Authority

# The Neighbourhood Plan

It will become part of the Local Authority Development Plan

The policies contained in it will have to be considered along with existing policies when making planning decisions

It has to be approved by:

- Local Authority
- Independent Planning Inspector
- Residents in a referendum

# Management Committee

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Management Committee with 23 places, including 3 officers

Meets monthly

Working group of 8 people to concentrate on the Neighbourhood Plan

Meets fortnightly

Sub groups to tackle specific tasks:

- Communication
- Wildlife habitat surveys
- Footpath surveys

# Funding and technical support

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Grants were obtained from the Community Development Foundation via Locality  
Technical support was also provided via Locality

Grant 1: £6885 in 2014 from the Community Development Foundation

Grant 2: £5550 in 2015

Grant 3: £1320 in 2016

If not a registered company, then need fund administrators  
The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and Avro Heritage Museum held funds for WNF

Costs included: printing, meeting room hire, exhibition production and external consultants fees

# Consultation

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Residents' Questionnaire in 2014 sent to every individual on the extended electoral register for Woodford

Forum Workshop in 2014 and subsequent report produced by external consultants

Public Exhibition of draft Vision and Objectives in June 2015

Questionnaires for business and charities in 2015

Consultation on draft policies via the website in 2016

Formal pre-submission consultation

# Vision and Objectives

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*“The Vision for the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan is to manage and support beneficial change whilst retaining and enhancing the village’s rural identity, character, quality of life and sense of community”*

This Vision is supported by a series of Objectives under these headings:

***Environment***

***Community***

***Development***

***Movement***

***Employment***

***Integration***

# Example of one of the Objectives

## *Environment*

***“Protect the area’s Green Belt and preserve the open and rural character. Protect the landscape and important views”***



# Evidence gathering

## Volunteer studies

Studies by volunteers on the committee were conducted to provide evidence for the objectives and policies

Employment: Business survey

Environment: Habitat surveys

Movement: Footpath survey

# Evidence gathering

## Professional studies

Studies by external consultants were commissioned to support the objectives and policies

Development:

Housing Needs Assessment by AECOM

Movement:

Study conducted by Peter Brett Associates

Environment:

Heritage and Character Assessment by AECOM

Habitat Distinctiveness Report by Cheshire Wildlife Trust

# Example Policy

An example of one of over 40 policies that have been written to cover the objectives

## **ENV3: Protecting natural features which are a key component of the landscape (1-4, 7-11, 12-13, 21)**

- a) Proposals that protect and enhance natural features which are a key component of the landscape shall be encouraged, provided that they do not impair views and vistas listed in the table and shown on the map below.
- b) Proposals that would be detrimental to natural features that are a key component of the landscape shall be discouraged.

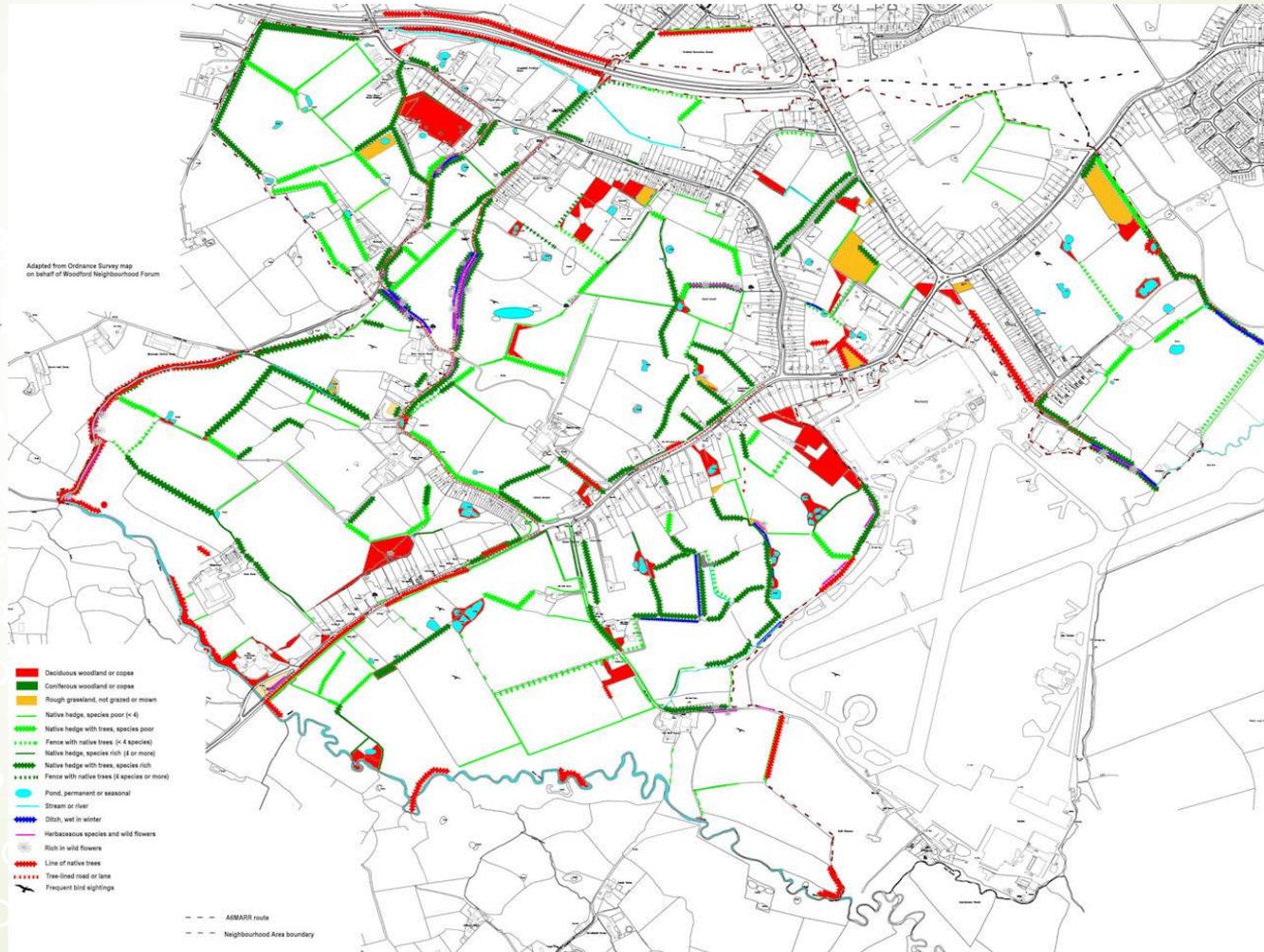
# Example Policy

## Natural Features which are a key component of the Woodford Landscape

1	Trees in public places and bordering roads, in pavements and in grass verges along Chester Road, Wilmslow Road Bridle Road, Church Lane, Blossoms Lane, Moor Lane, and Hall Moss Lane
2	Trees and woodland with Tree Preservation Orders
3	Mature trees in farmland (therefore owned by landowner)
4	Mature trees in domestic gardens (therefore owned by landowner)
5	Grass verges with daffodils and wildflowers, such as bluebells
6	Native hedgerows

# Example of evidence

## Natural Features map



# Pre-submission Consultation

## Justification, evidence and references

Explain how the policy meets the community vision and objectives.

Set out how the policy complies with national and local policies, e.g.

- NPPF
- SMBC Core Strategy
- SMBC UDP

List the evidence from voluntary and professional studies which supports the policy

Any other relevant references e.g. DEFRA, Natural England

# Next steps

- Ongoing liaison with SMBC
- Preparation of the Pre-Submission Plan Document
- Pre-Submission Consultation (regulation 14)
- Amend if necessary
- Approval by SMBC
- Examination by independent inspector
- Amend if necessary
- Formal submission
- Referendum
- Formal adoption as part of SMBC local development plan

# Further information on the website

[www.woodfordnf.co.uk](http://www.woodfordnf.co.uk)



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## Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

Welcome to the Woodford Neighbourhood Forum website.

The Forum was formally approved by Stockport Council on 17th October 2013. Woodford Neighbourhood Forum (WNF) was formed, principally, to encourage responsible development in Woodford whilst protecting the Green Belt.

Please have a good look round the website, you will (soon) find full details of the Forum's "coming to life", its birth, its constitution, how it operates, what is going on right now and what plans for the future look like.

We would love to keep you informed via our newsletter, so if you would like to receive this please complete the signup form. We can assure you that WNF will not part with your details to third parties.

Our Facebook and Twitter pages are also kept up to date with the latest news.

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**Latest News**

- [The 2015 Annual General Meeting](#)
- [Neighbourhood Plan Exhibition](#)
- [Business Questionnaire](#)
- [Handforth Development next to Woodford in Green Belt on Hold](#)

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\* indicates required

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# Woodford Neighbourhood Forum

A typical view of the farmland in Green Belt

