

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION OF PELTON, URPETH AND OUSTON PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA**

#### Introduction

1. In accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Pelton Parish Council, Urpeth Parish Council and Ouston Parish Council wishes to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Pelton Parish Council has considered a series of reports since September 2021 and at its September 2022 meeting agreed an application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area should be submitted, agreeing the Neighbourhood Area at its February 2023 meeting. Urpeth Parish Council agreed to be part of the Neighbourhood Area at its January 2023 meeting. Ouston Parish Council agreed to be part of the Neighbourhood Area at its November meeting.
2. The proposed designated area is the entirety of Pelton Parish, Urpeth Parish, Ouston Parish and the allotment land in Edmondsley Parish which is maintained and the responsibility of Pelton Parish Council.
3. This application has the support of Edmondsley Parish Council to include the allotment land within the Neighbourhood Area.
4. This submission of the Pelton, Urpeth and Ouston Parish Neighbourhood Area for designation represents the first formal step in this process.

#### Mapping

5. A map of the current Pelton Parish, Urpeth Parish, Ouston Parish and the allotment land in Edmondsley Parish is included in the application at Appendix 1. While it is understood a review of boundaries is taking place, any changes would not impact on the proposed neighbourhood area. It would still cover the parish of Pelton, Urpeth, Ouston and the allotment land in Edmondsley Parish, defined in paragraph 2.

#### Supporting Statement

6. Pelton Parish Council, Urpeth Parish Council and Ouston Parish Council believe a Neighbourhood Plan would materially benefit this area and its residents by guiding the future development of the area in a way that reflects the needs and aspirations of the community.
7. The adjacent communities of Pelton, Ouston and Urpeth have a long shared history dating from Mediaeval Times and earlier. The main occupations were in mining and agriculture. Our villages mushroomed from 1835 onwards when Pelton Colliery was opened at Pelton Fell.
8. The communities retain linkages and a shared identity, including through:

- a. The three parishes are in one Electoral Division.
  - b. Remembrance Sunday Services are held at different times throughout the day so that all Memorial Services can be represented by Civilians and Military Personnel.
  - c. Partnership working - Community Centres within the 3 parishes all work together to ensure any national events are not held at the same time/day.
  - d. Community Emergency Plan (CEP) - presently working on a joined up CEP with all three parishes as they are on different electricity grids.
  - e. Play areas in all three parishes were improved as part of one project by local County Councillors to share the Section 106 funding fairly.
  - f. Transport routes by local bus companies link the parishes as part of a bus route.
9. The Grange Villa allotments in Edmondsley Parish were agreed to be maintained and the responsibility of Pelton Parish Council as the allotment tenants primarily lived in the village of Grange Villa. Consequently, many residents in Grange Villa benefited from the produce grown on the allotment land which is still how it is in 2023.

#### Relevant Body

10. Pelton Parish Council is a properly constituted body as required by section 61G of the Town and Country Planning 1990 Act. The 15 councillors are elected for a four-year term. Its financial accounts, agendas and minutes are available for public scrutiny.
11. At its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 Pelton Parish Council, “agreed without prejudice, an application for a defined Neighbourhood Plan area to cover the parish council, Urpeth Parish, Ouston Parish and the allotment land at Edmondsley parish”.
12. At its meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Urpeth Parish Council, “agreed without prejudice, an application for a defined Neighbourhood Plan area to cover the parish council, Pelton Parish, Ouston Parish and the allotment land at Edmondsley parish.”
13. At its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 Ouston Parish Council, “agreed without prejudice, an application for a defined Neighbourhood Plan area to cover the parish council, Pelton Parish, Urpeth Parish and the allotment land at Edmondsley parish.”
14. A Neighbourhood Plan Working Group was established on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 by Pelton Parish Council.