LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

South Cambs District Council South Cambridgeshire Hall Cambourne Cambridge **CB23 6EA**

28th January 2014

Dear Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Plans

Following discussions between Linton and Hildersham Parish Councils both councils have unanimously agreed to submit the following requests to SCDC:

- 1. A Joint Application by Linton and Hildersham Parish Councils to be Recognised as Qualifying Bodies for the Preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan Under the Terms of the Localism Act 2011
- 2. Application by Linton and Hildersham Parish Councils for the Area of Land Encompassed by The Parish Boundaries of Linton and Hildersham (See Attached Map) to be Recognised by SCDC as the Designated Area for the A Single Neighbourhood Plan Under the Terms of the Localism Act 2011

Supporting Information

Both LPC and HPC have held open discussions at formal (and therefore public) PC meetings where unanimous approval was given by both PCs to proceed with the above requests. These discussions are noted in the public minutes of the relevant meetings.

Parishioners in both parishes have been informed of the rationale and background to this joint application through a series of articles in the Linton Village News (also distributed in Hildersham) which included a request to parishioners to act as volunteers in specialist areas of expertise in the eventual preparation of the NP to which positive responses have been received.

Both Parishes have carefully considered the processes, resource and financial implications of the preparation of a NP and a formal agreement has been concluded as to how the costs of the consultation process and development of the plan would be met.

Rationale

Linton already has a place a very well developed and comprehensive Community Plan which it is felt can now best serve as a springboard for the NP. It is felt that the development of joint NP with Hildersham is needed to confer statutory status on the wishes of the local communities, to widen the scope of their aspirations and to draw the communities closer together to address shared concerns. LPC and HPC are adjacent and interdependent Parishes of a similar character with common interests, opportunities and issue which it is believed can now be best developed and addressed within the framework of a statutory NP. These include (amongst others):

Chairman: Mrs Enid Bald The Village Hall

Clerk: Mrs Sue Parry Coles Lane Tel: 01223 891001 Linton

E-mail lintonpc@btconnect.com Cambridge **CB21 4JS**

Website www.lintoncambridgeshire-pc.gov.uk

Environment and Community

The development of more community facilities in walking distance of village centres where possible including Green Spaces, recreational areas and Allotments where required.

- The protection and enhancement of wildlife areas and measures to support biodiversity
- The management of flood risk arising from agricultural practices and the River Granta
- Ensuring development builds in facilities to encourage recycling, water dollection and appropriate local energy generation.
- The strengthening of social cohesion through dedicated initiatives to support those needing special support such as the elderly, single parents and disengaged young people

Employment

The development of infra structure and facilities to support and encourage home working

- The provision of varied local employment opportunities at a sustainable wage for all ages
- Applications to statutory funders(s for the support of employment in rural areas such as LEP funds

Housing, Development and Conservation

- Provision of affordable housing for local residents and a mix of appropriate housing types
- Ensuring that any new development is sustainable and does not adversely impact on the environment or quality of life within the Designated Area
- The encouragement for the reuse and refurbishment of existing buildings
- Prioritising development of suitable locally based businesses through NDOs if appropriate
- Conserving historic areas, buildings and environments and ensuring they remain in productive use and retain their unique character
- Appropriate locally informed design polices and guidelines for new and refurbished buildings
- Protecting Greenfield and prioritising Brownfield sites where possible
- Conserving historic buildings and environments and ensuring they remain in productive use

Transport, Traffic and Roads

- The maintenance and improvement of public transport links
- A common approach to issues and mediation measures associated with the A1307, especially safe access and exit and the increased use of minor roads and village centre within the proposed designated area by 'overflow commuter traffic' and HGVs
- · Noise and pollution arising from traffic
- · Safety of pedestrians and cyclists especially at peak times

We hope that SCDC will give a positive response to our requests in respect of Qualifying Body and Designated Area status as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Clerk to the Council

Cc Keith Miles

