

Foreword

At its meeting on July 30 2018, the Parish Council approved the decision to proceed with the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan.

This process will enable the community to have a greater influence on future development within the Parish. It will not replace the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework or the Local Plan (created by the then Harrogate Borough Council in 2020) but it will work alongside these, and by enabling us to provide a greater degree of community input, it should help to bring about the type of planned environment where we can all continue to be happy to live and work in the years to come.

We realised at the time that the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan was a long process and, even allowing for the delay caused by the Covid pandemic, this is proving to be the case.

As you will recall in 2021 a Public Consultation Questionnaire was sent to everyone over 16 years in the Parish and also made available to anyone else who worked or operated here. We received a good response to this and the views and opinions from this have been analysed and published on the community website. A Stakeholders Consultation was also undertaken with responses obtained from local employers, organisations and groups.

During 2022/23 the Steering Group, which comprises local residents and Councillors, have worked with our planning consultants to produce a draft Neighbourhood Plan based on those responses.

We are now seeking your views on the Policies and Parish Actions set out in this draft Plan, together with any other observations you wish to make. After this we will consider and reflect this latest round of local Consultation in an amended version before proceeding with the formal 'Regulation 14' consultation with relevant statutory authorities such as North Yorkshire Council, Nidderdale AONB and others.

Please take this opportunity to comment and share your views on the future of the Parish.

Cllr Pippa Manson, Chair of the Parish Council

Mrs Claire Walker, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Section 1: Introduction and Background

Introduction

1. The Kirkby Malzeard, Laverton and Dallowgill Neighbourhood Plan ('the Plan') sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the sustainable development of the parish until 2035.
2. The Plan covers the whole of the combined 'grouped'¹ parish of Kirkby Malzeard, Laverton and Dallowgill ('the parish').
3. The parish comprises the main village of Kirkby Malzeard, in which most services, facilities and population are concentrated, the smaller village of Laverton and the hamlets of Dallow, Carlsmoor, Swetton and Greygarth surrounded by unspoilt open countryside with farms, woodland, streams and, to the West, moorland.

Background

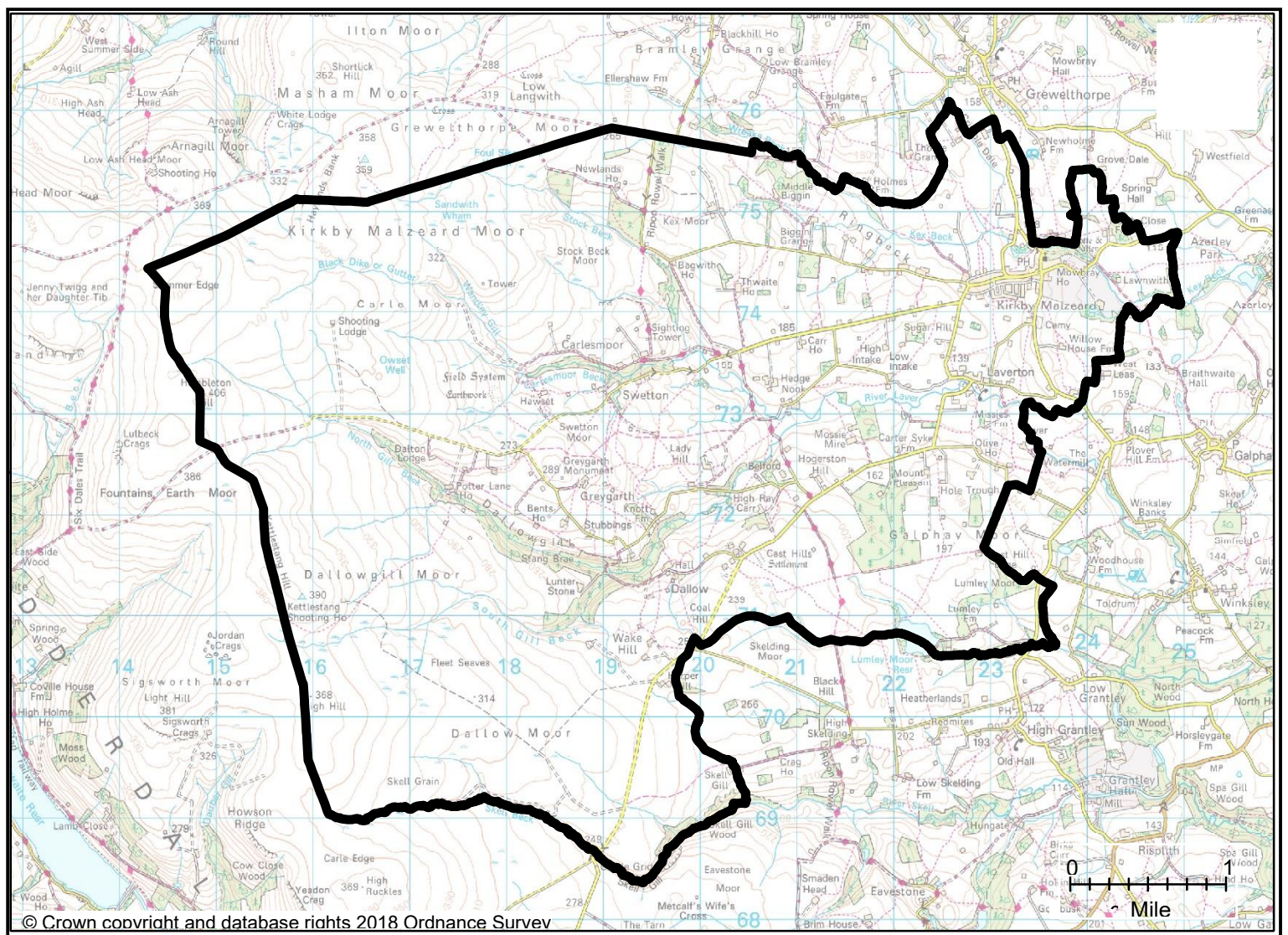
4. The Localism Act 2011 gave parish councils and other relevant bodies new powers to prepare statutory neighbourhood plans to help guide development in their local areas. The legislation aims to empower local communities to use the planning system to promote appropriate and sustainable development in their area.
5. The Plan will contribute to sustainable development by seeking improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions. In particular, it seeks to ensure that any development protects and enhances the parish's distinctive character, built and natural environment and its strong sense of identity and community.
6. The Plan considers the important local issues identified through the consultation process and avoids re-stating existing national or local planning policies. The policies proposed in the Plan, therefore, focus on a relatively small number of key development issues.
7. Once approved at referendum and adopted by the Local Planning Authority, the Plan becomes a statutory part of the development for the parish and the wider district. This means that the Plan will carry significant weight in how planning applications and other planning decisions are made.

¹ Kirkby Malzeard, Laverton and Dallowgill Parish Council became a grouped Parish Council in 1977, although Kirkby Malzeard Parish Council and Laverton Parish Council (which includes the Dallowgill area) remain separate for electoral purposes.

8. The Plan will cover the period up to 2035, which complements the plan period for the approved Local Plan for Harrogate district.

Neighbourhood Plan Area

9. The boundary of the neighbourhood plan area corresponds to the parish boundary, as illustrated in Figure 1 below.



Why we decided to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan.

10. It was decided to produce a neighbourhood plan in order for the community to play a much stronger role in shaping how the parish develops.
11. A neighbourhood plan provides the opportunity to set out a vision and to plan for how they want the parish to develop until 2035 in ways that meet identified local need, make sense for local people and make the parish an even better place to live, work and visit.
12. It enables the community to put in place planning policies that will help deliver an agreed vision for the parish. It provides the opportunity to specify in more detail what we expect from development in the parish. Furthermore, unlike parish plans or other kinds of documents that may be prepared by a community, a neighbourhood plan forms an integral part of the development plan for an area. This legal status means that it must be taken into account by the local planning authority when determining planning applications for planning permission.
13. Having a neighbourhood plan will also result in direct financial and other benefits to the parish. In particular, the Local Planning Authority has introduced a levy on future development called the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)². Without a neighbourhood plan, the Parish Council would receive 15% of any CIL collected of any qualifying development, with one it would receive 25% of the CIL collected by the Local Planning Authority to be spent in the parish.

How the Plan was Prepared

14. The Plan has been prepared by a Steering Group comprising parish councillors and members of the local community supported by officers and members from the Local Planning Authority and neighbourhood planning consultants Andrew Towlerton Associates of Clifton Mount, Rotherham.
15. As the appropriate 'Qualifying Body', the Parish Council applied to the Local Planning Authority in March 2019 to designate it as a neighbourhood plan area. The Local Planning Authority subsequently publicised the application for six weeks and formally approved it on 4 April 2019.
16. The Plan has been produced with strong and meaningful input from the community. This has been at the heart of its preparation. This includes meetings, a community

² CIL charging schedule can be viewed at <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/planning-and-conservation/developer-contributions/developer-contributions-your-area/developer-contributions-harrogate/community-infrastructure-levy>

survey and other community consultation events. The range of consultation events has ensured that residents of all ages have had an opportunity to have their say.

17. It should be noted that while every effort has been made to make the main parts of this Plan easy to understand, the wording of the actual policies is necessarily more formal, so that it complies with statutory requirements.

How the Plan is Organised

18. The Plan is structured in the following way:

Section 1 sets out the introduction and background to the Plan and how it is organised.

Section 2 outlines the strategic planning policy framework within which the Plan has been prepared.

Section 3 provides a profile of the parish, its history, and characteristics, and outlines the key issues and opportunities that the Plan will address.

Section 4 outlines the vision for the parish for the future and details the key objectives that will help deliver the vision.

Section 5 contains the Plan's detailed policies and proposals:

- Each policy theme is set out as a heading.
- Background information is provided for each policy theme, explaining why it is relevant to the parish.
- Each policy theme may be supported by several policies and parish actions, and these policies are highlighted in green and blue respectively.
- The policies are supported by an explanation as to how and why the policy or parish action is needed and why its requirements should be met.

Section 6 outlines how the Plan will be reviewed and monitored.