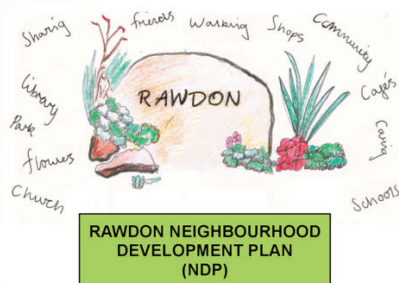
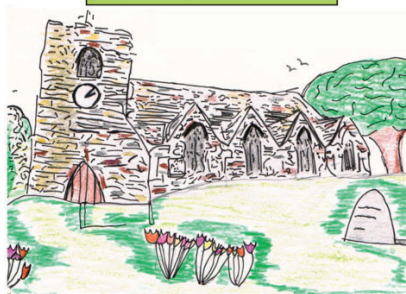


NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM

Thursday 7th March 2024

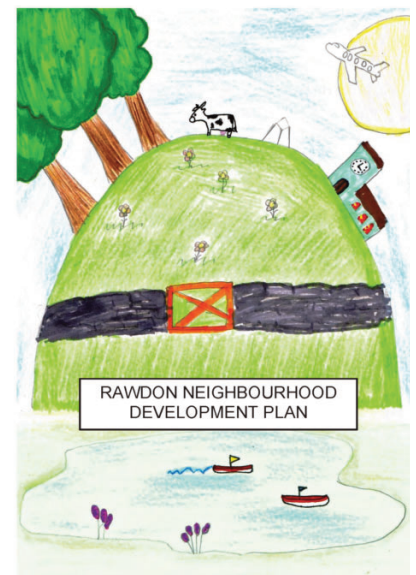


The biggest project undertaken by Rawdon Parish Council has been the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan for our village.



The Plan is designed to help preserve the much loved character of Rawdon and to ensure that any development is appropriate and carried out in a sympathetic manner.

The referendum is the final stage leading to adoption. The community has been consulted throughout the development of the plan and once approved by referendum it will become a legal planning document which must be taken into account when Leeds City Council considers planning applications in Rawdon.



What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

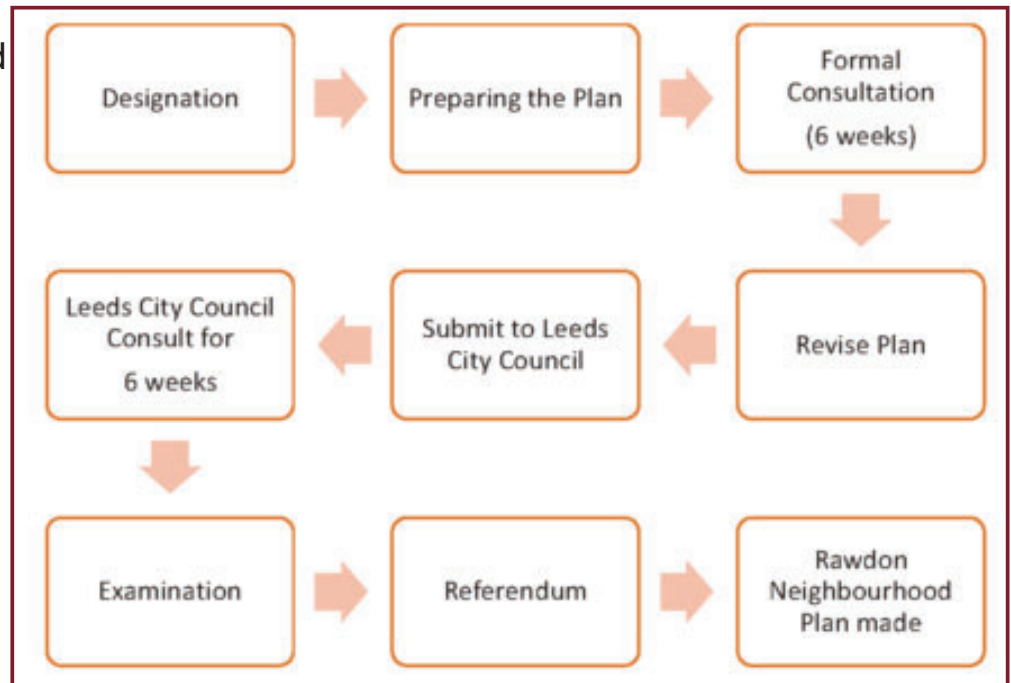
Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs - known as Neighbourhood Plans) are a relatively new type of planning policy document, prepared locally to guide new development within a defined local area. They are used alongside policies set by the Planning Authority (Leeds City Council) and national planning policy to help determine planning applications.

Neighbourhood Development Plans are powerful tools and present significant opportunities for local people to have a real say in shaping development.

Neighbourhood Plans are required to have regard to the local authority's plan, national planning policy (National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Planning Practice Guidance 4 and other Ministerial statements and guidance) and to comply with Environmental Regulations.

Preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan is therefore a complex and lengthy process.

The main steps are set out here:



Why A Referendum?

The Neighbourhood plan must also reflect the views and requirements of the community it serves as a whole.

The Rawdon Neighbourhood Development Plan has been prepared following extensive consultation with the community and the last stage before the plan is “made” and becomes a material planning consideration is, therefore, to go back to the community and seek final approval via a referendum.

Rawdon's Plan has passed all stages including examination with only the referendum remaining

Rawdon Neighbourhood Plan

Key Issues and Aims

The views expressed by hundreds of local residents from surveys, questionnaires and at the various consultation events were used to identify the key issues to include as aims in the Plan:

Neighbourhood Plan Aims

Preserving Character and Heritage

1. To support the preservation and enhancement of the character and heritage of Rawdon.

Protecting the Countryside

2. To support the preservation and enhancement of the open countryside setting within Rawdon and the areas of countryside which separate it from adjacent communities. This will also include green spaces, wildlife areas, biodiversity and habitats, amenity land and productive agricultural land.

Managing Housing Character

3. To support and guide housing development so that it reflects and enhances the character of the village.

4. To ensure such housing is built to high standards and are resource and energy efficient to help ensure targets for carbon emissions are met.

5. To ensure the character of the conservation areas within Rawdon are conserved and enhanced and development incorporates suitable materials and sympathetic designs.

Promoting Local Economy and Jobs

6. To promote a thriving local economy to ensure that jobs and enterprise opportunities are available for local people of all ages, enabling the community to maintain both its village centres centred on Harrogate Road and Town Street.

Rural Economy

7. To support opportunities to enable farming and local food production to thrive.

Improving the Infrastructure

8. To support suitable infrastructure which meets the needs of Rawdon and improves local sustainability and community resilience in response to flooding and other extreme weather events.

9. To support measures that improve the accessibility of schools and other amenities by active travel and low carbon means of transport and public transport.

Community, Health and Well Being

10. To protect and maintain existing community amenities, buildings, facilities and services throughout Rawdon. New services and facilities including accessible services and facilities to be provided as appropriate in the future.

Managing Housing Supply

11. The Rawdon Plan housing policies are designed to provide a framework which will enable the parish of Rawdon only to grow at a sustainable rate which will satisfy the identified future local housing need during the Plan period.

Rawdon Neighbourhood Plan

The views expressed by local residents also helped in identifying a “Vision for Rawdon” which the Neighbourhood plan aims to deliver:

A Vision For Rawdon

Rawdon identifies itself as a Village with a semi-rural, semi-suburban nature. Rawdon is a distinct community within the outer suburbs of the City of Leeds.

Rawdon consists of a mixture of residential housing and also encompasses large rural areas as well as business and farming activities which combine to define its unique nature.

Over the Plan period, Rawdon will continue to be a distinctive semi-rural, semi-suburban village, whilst evolving in a way that respects and reflects the views of the community.

It will retain its distinctive character of a village, largely physically separate from nearby communities.

Its interesting heritage will continue to be enjoyed and valued, and development proposals will be sensitively designed to respect local character.

It will continue to consist of a wide mixture of residential properties alongside large open areas of mixed farming and woodlands which also contain more isolated small pockets of residential property.

There will be a range of community facilities, businesses and farms that will prosper within an attractive environment.

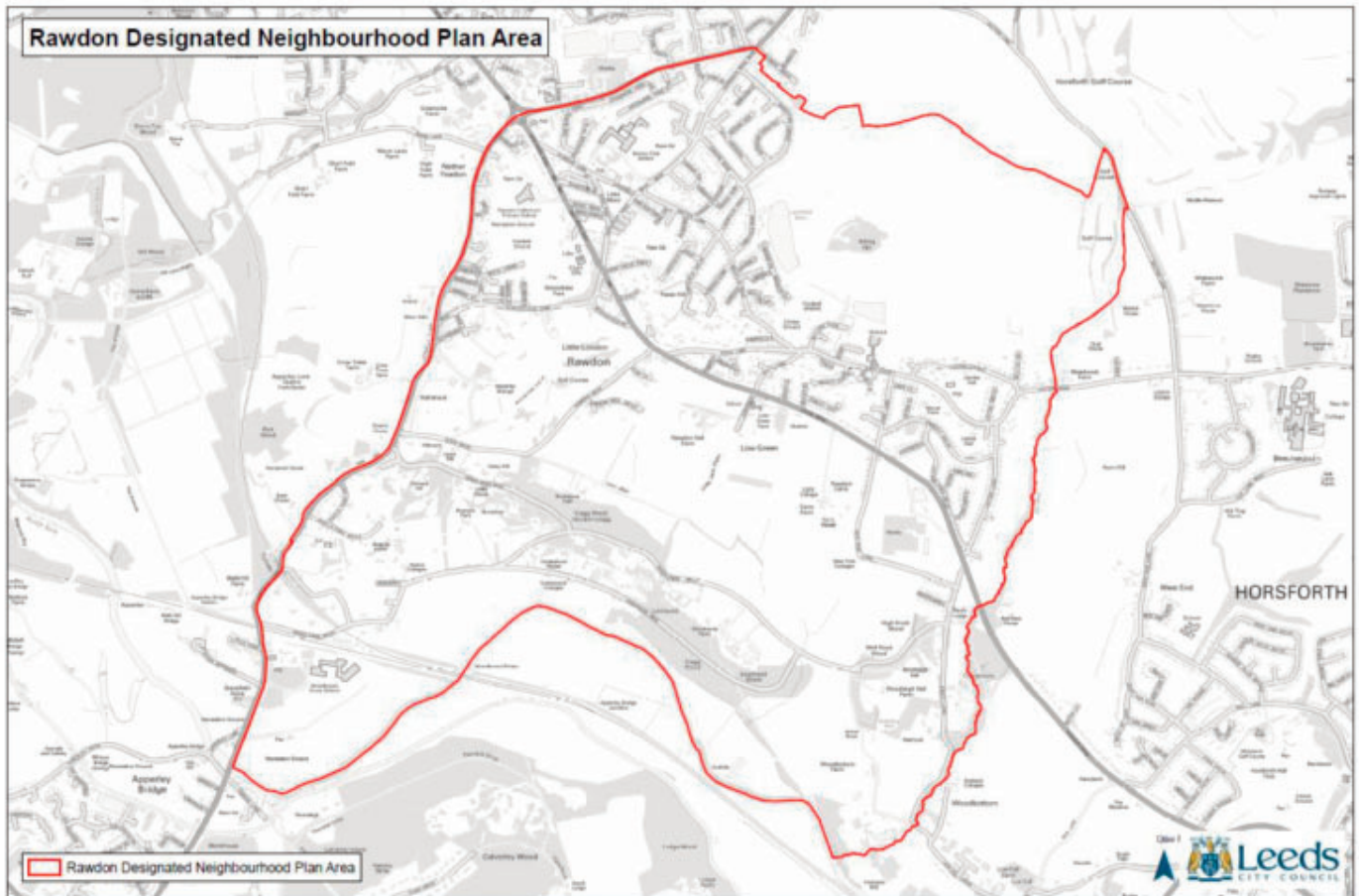
Current and future generations will enjoy a strong sense of community, a high quality of life, and a flourishing natural environment.

The resulting Neighbourhood Plan will be a legal planning document which, once adopted, must be taken into account when making planning decisions. It must, therefore, be legally robust and as such is inevitably a fairly lengthy and complex document. It has been written in conjunction with specialist consultants based on information gathered through extensive community consultation.

In summary, the **Neighbourhood Plan** contains **Policies** designed to deliver the **Vision for Rawdon** and the listed **Aims**. It also contains a number of **Parish Council Actions** which are included where the objectives cannot be dealt with through the planning framework.

The Area The Plan Supports

If your Household pays a Parish Council Precept alongside your Council Tax Bill, you are in the designated area as detailed in the map below:



Find out more:
Copies are available to view at:

**Rawdon Community Library,
Guiseley Library,
Yeadon Library
Merrion House**

or online at:

www.rawdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

There is even more information at

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/rawdon-neighbourhood-plan>

The Plan is a lengthy document which you are welcome to read in full. The main points, however, can be viewed by focussing on the highlighted Policies and Parish Council Actions.

POLICIES

PARISH COUNCIL ACTIONS