

Foreword

Holme-next-the-Sea is a very special place with a wonderful environment, a small but active and cohesive community plus a thriving economy.

Although Holme is a small parish, it faces significant and complex challenges. Amongst these the resident population is coming under increasing pressure from external competition in the housing market, visitor pressure is mounting and our environment and property face threats from climate change and sea level rise. Increases in traffic, noise and falling biodiversity are all linked to these trends.

The Neighbourhood Plan provides a real opportunity to help to respond to these issues and for the whole community to develop a shared vision for the future. This means influencing the type and location of new development, how buildings should be laid out and what they should look like. It also means ensuring that our businesses can continue to thrive and that new people can join our community and become residents of our parish. It means protecting our precious natural environment, our green spaces and our historic assets and most of all it means that both we and future generations can continue to enjoy the exceptional quality of life that Holme has offered in the past. Looking to the future it is inevitable that Holme will change. The Plan must ensure that it changes in a way that suits the needs and aspirations of our community and prevents unwelcome and inappropriate change from being thrust upon us.

The Submission Plan represents the outcome of three year's work by a Parish Council Working Party. During that period an enormous amount of research has been carried out to inform the development of the Plan. We have consulted widely with stakeholders. All the advice and comments received throughout that time have been carefully considered and we believe that the Plan and the policies it contains are well balanced and grounded in solid evidence. Of particular importance, the policies have been designed to reflect the very specific circumstances pertaining to our parish and they closely reflect the feedback from our community as expressed through the NDP Questionnaire Survey and the consultation events held in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The Plan has been subjected to independent examination and this Draft Plan reflects the outcome of that process. It is now being taken forward to referendum by the Borough Council and everybody on the electoral roll will be invited to vote. If more than 50% of those who vote support the plan it will be adopted and incorporated into the Local Development Framework for Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and the policies it contains will be used in the determination of planning applications.

The Plan could not have reached this stage without the fantastic support of our community. To all those of you who have given up your time to distribute leaflets, set up exhibitions, bake cakes and serve teas, attend consultation events, study large amounts of background material, answer questions and fill in long forms expressing your views – a very big Thank You!

Lynn Devereux

Chair, Holme-next-the-Sea Parish Council