Laxfield Neighbourhood Plan Referendum Information Statement



A referendum on the Laxfield Neighbourhood Plan will be held on Thursday 24 March 2022

The Laxfield Neighbourhood Plan 2018 - 2036 contains planning policies for the use and development of land in the designated area.

There is a statutory process which must be followed before a neighbourhood plan can be 'made' (adopted). That involves holding a referendum, which will be conducted in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections.

Those entitled to vote will be asked to answer 'Yes' or 'No' to the following question:

'Do you want Mid Suffolk District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Laxfield to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?'

If more than 50% vote 'yes', then Mid Suffolk District Council will be legally obliged to 'make' (adopt) this neighbourhood plan as part of its planning framework.

A person is entitled to vote in the referendum if;

- He or She is entitled to vote in a local government election in the referendum area; and
- He or She has an address at which they are registered to vote within the referendum area and are over the age of 18 years on the date of poll.

The referendum area is identical to that which was originally designated as the Neighbourhood Plan Area and follows the parish boundary. A map can be found within the referendum version of the Plan (see link further below).

Expenses can be incurred by an individual or body during the referendum period for referendum purposes but are subject to a limit calculated to be £2,411.86

The number of persons entitled to vote in the referendum by reference to which that limit has been calculated is 845

Copies of the specified documents (meaning those listed below) can be viewed by following the appropriate links or by going to www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/LaxfieldNP

- The referendum version of the Laxfield Neighbourhood Plan
- The Independent Examiner's Report on the submission draft Neighbourhood Plan
- The <u>Written Representations</u> and the <u>Parish Council Response</u> to these, both of which were submitted to the Independent Examiner
- A <u>Decision Statement</u> (first published on 18 February 2021) which confirmed that, subject to modification, the draft Plan meets the basic conditions and other legislative requirements, and that it can proceed to referendum.
- A Statement that sets out general information relating to neighbourhood planning and the referendum (*this document*).

Two sets of the same documents can also be viewed on request. In the first instance, please contact Candida Wingate on tel: 01986 798057