



SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL

The Deepings

Neighbourhood Plan

Referendum

Information for Voters

About this booklet

There will be a referendum on a neighbourhood plan for your area. It is to be held on Thursday 6th May 2021. In this booklet you can find out about:

- The referendum and how you can take part
- The neighbourhood area
- The neighbourhood plan
- The development plan (of which neighbourhood plans are a part)

Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan

A referendum asks you to vote yes or no to a question. For this referendum you will receive a ballot paper with this question:

“Do you want South Kesteven District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for The Deepings to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

How do I vote in the referendum?

You show your choice by putting a cross (X) in the 'Yes' or 'No' box on your ballot paper. Put a cross in only **one** box or your vote will not be counted.

If more people vote 'yes' than 'no' in this referendum, then South Kesteven District Council will use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in The Deepings area.

The Neighbourhood Plan will then become part of the adopted South Kesteven District Council Local Plan.

If more people vote 'no' than 'yes', then planning applications will be decided without using the Neighbourhood Plan as part of the Development Plan for the local area.

What is Neighbourhood Planning?

Neighbourhood planning aims to help local communities play a direct role in planning the areas in which they live and work.

A community can prepare a neighbourhood plan. This plan can show how the community wants land to be used and developed in its area.

What is a neighbourhood area?

A neighbourhood area can cover single streets or large urban or rural areas.

The boundaries of a neighbourhood area are put forward by:

- Town or parish councils
- A neighbourhood forum (a group of at least 21 people in areas without town or parish councils)

Who can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood plans are prepared by town or parish councils, or neighbourhood forums.

What is a Development Plan?

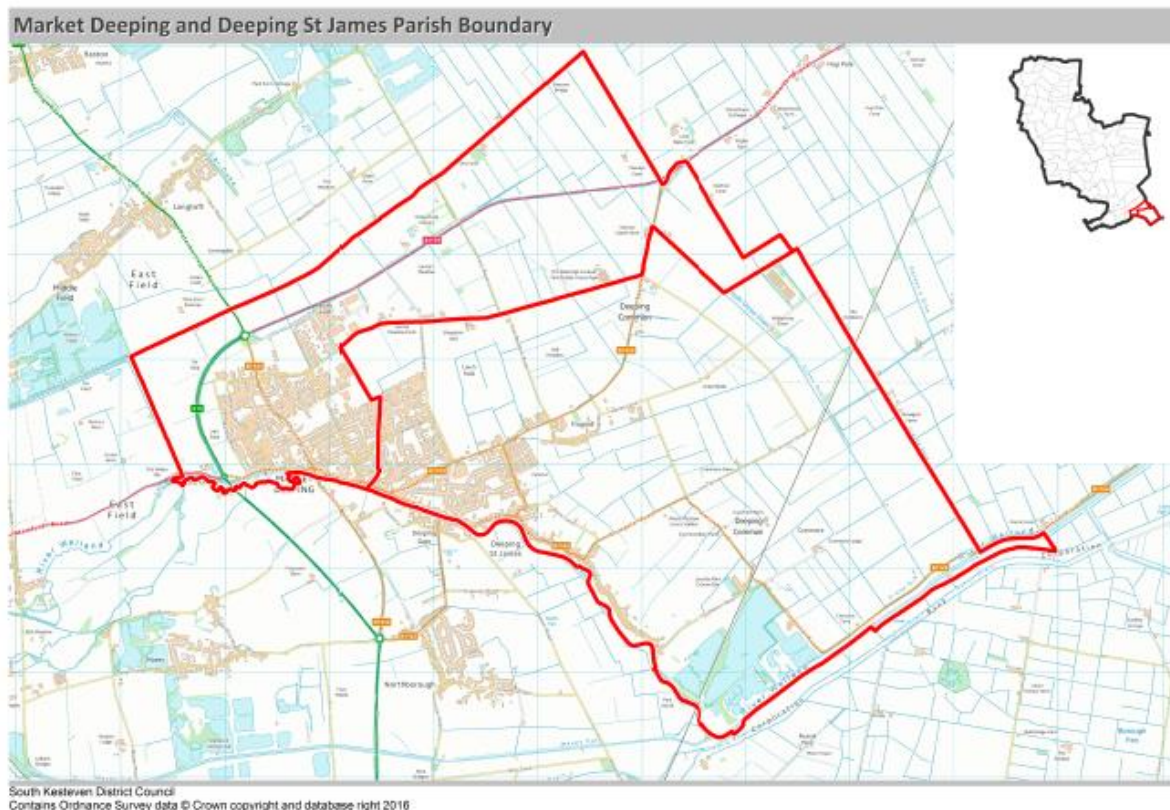
In England, planning applications are determined by local planning authorities in accordance with the development plan.

A development plan is a set of documents that set out the policies for the development and use of land across the entire local authority area.

Neighbourhood Planning in The Deepings

The Referendum area is identified on the map below as the parish areas of Market Deeping and Deeping St James and is identical to the area which has been designated as The Deepings Plan area.

THE DEEPINGS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA



Referendum expenses

The Referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Referendum is £3,008.82. The number of persons entitled to vote in the Referendum by reference to which that limit has been calculated is 10,963.

Specified documents

A copy of the specified documents, that is the documents listed below, may be viewed on the neighbourhood planning page of the council's website at

<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/TheDeepingsPlan>

Alternatively, you can contact the Planning Policy Team to request a hard copy of the documents:

Email: planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk

Telephone: 01476 406080

Address: Planning Policy, South Kesteven District Council Offices, St Peter's Hill, Grantham, NG31 6PZ

The specified documents are:

- The Deepings Neighbourhood Development Plan;
- Report of the independent examiner;
- Summary of the representations submitted to the independent examiner;
- Statement by the local planning authority that the draft plan meets the basic conditions and complies with the relevant legislation;
- This information statement;
- A statement that sets out general information about town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum.

Can I vote?

You can vote in the referendum if you live in the parishes of Deeping St James or Market Deeping and if:

- You are registered to vote in local council elections, and
- You are 18 years of age or over on 6th May 2021

You have to be registered to vote by midnight on **Monday 19th April 2021** to vote in the referendum. You can check if you are registered to vote by calling the elections team on **01476 406080**.

The referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections.

Ways of voting

There are three ways of voting:

In person on: Thursday 6th May 2021

Most people vote in person at their local polling station. It is easy and a member of staff will always help if you are not sure what to do.

- In Deeping St James and Market Deeping parish areas the polling stations are:

The Deepings Methodist Church, Church Street, Deeping St James, PE6 8HF

The Green School, Church Street, Market Deeping, PE6 8DA

Deeping Community Centre, 2 Douglas Road, Market Deeping, PE6 8PA

Market Deeping Scout and Guide Hall, Wellington Way, Market Deeping, PE6 8LF

You will receive a poll card to advise you about the polling station.

- If you do not receive your poll card, you can contact Electoral Services on **01476 406080**. You can vote without your poll card as long as you are registered.
- Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.
- If you are not in the queue at the polling station by 10pm you won't be able to vote, so make sure you arrive in plenty of time.

By post:

- To vote by post, fill in an application form and send it to Electoral Services, **South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St. Peter's Hill, Grantham, Lincs NG31 6PZ** to arrive by **5pm on Tuesday 20th April 2021**. Alternatively, you can scan or take a photograph of your completed application form and email it to elections@southkesteven.gov.uk.
- Ballot papers can be sent overseas, but you need to think about whether you will have time to receive and return your ballot papers by 6th May 2021.
- You should receive your postal vote one to two weeks before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can get a replacement up to 5pm on 6th May 2021.

By proxy:

- If you can't go to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody you trust to vote on your behalf.
- To vote by proxy, fill in an application form and send it to **Electoral Services, South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St. Peter's Hill, Grantham, Lincs NG31 6PZ** to arrive by **5pm on Tuesday 27th April 2021**. Alternatively you can scan or take a

photograph of your completed application form and email it to elections@southkesteven.gov.uk.

- When you apply for a proxy vote you must say why you cannot vote in person.
- Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible and registered to vote and are willing to vote on your behalf. You will have to tell them how you want to vote.

Postal and proxy vote application forms are available from Electoral Services on **01476 406080** or for downloading at:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/how-cast-your-vote>

Am I registered to vote?

- If you're not registered, you won't be able to vote.
- If you are not sure if you are registered, you can contact the elections team on 01476 406080.
- If you are not on the electoral register, you will need to either register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote or complete a voter registration form and send it to **Electoral Services, South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St. Peter's Hill, Grantham, Lincs NG31 6PZ**.
- The deadline for registering to vote at this referendum is **Monday 19th April 2021**.

Registration forms are available from Electoral Services on 01476 406080 or applications can be submitted online at: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

How to find out more

- Further general information on neighbourhood planning is available on the following websites <https://www.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning>
- You can find the specified documents and a copy of this information statement and the decision statement, on the council's website at: <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/TheDeepingsPlan>
- Information about The Deepings Plan is also available on The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan website at: <http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/TheDeepingsPlan>

- For queries relating to the neighbourhood plan please contact the Planning Policy team on 01476 40 60 80 or by email: planningpolicy@southkesteven.gov.uk