



**Bassetlaw**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
— North Nottinghamshire —

**Blyth Neighbourhood Development Plan – Decision Statement**

**1 Summary**

- 1.1 In accordance with Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Bassetlaw District Council has produced this ‘Decision Statement’ in relation to the Blyth Neighbourhood Development Plan (the ‘Plan’) submitted by Blyth Parish Council.
- 1.2 Following an independent examination, Bassetlaw District Council confirms that the Plan will proceed to a neighbourhood planning referendum.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Examiner’s recommendations, and the Coronavirus Act 2020, the Plan will proceed to a public referendum scheduled for the 6 May 2021, based on the Blyth Neighbourhood Area, as approved by Bassetlaw District Council on 28 September 2017.
- 1.4 This Decision Statement, along with the Independent Examiner’s report, can also be viewed on the Bassetlaw District Council website:

**Bassetlaw District Council website –**

<https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-services/neighbourhood-plans/all-neighbourhood-plans-in-bassetlaw/blyth/>

**2 Background**

- 2.1 On 18 July 2017, Blyth Parish Council submitted an application to Bassetlaw District Council for the designation of Blyth Parish as a Neighbourhood Area. On 28 September 2017, Bassetlaw District Council approved the Neighbourhood Area Designation following a statutory four-week consultation period (14 August – 10 September 2017).
- 2.2 The Pre-Submission Draft Blyth Neighbourhood Plan was made available for consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations from 18 February to 7 April 2019.
- 2.3 The Parish Council formally submitted the Neighbourhood Plan to the District Council on 13 August 2019. Bassetlaw District Council held a 7-week consultation period, ending on 2 October 2019.

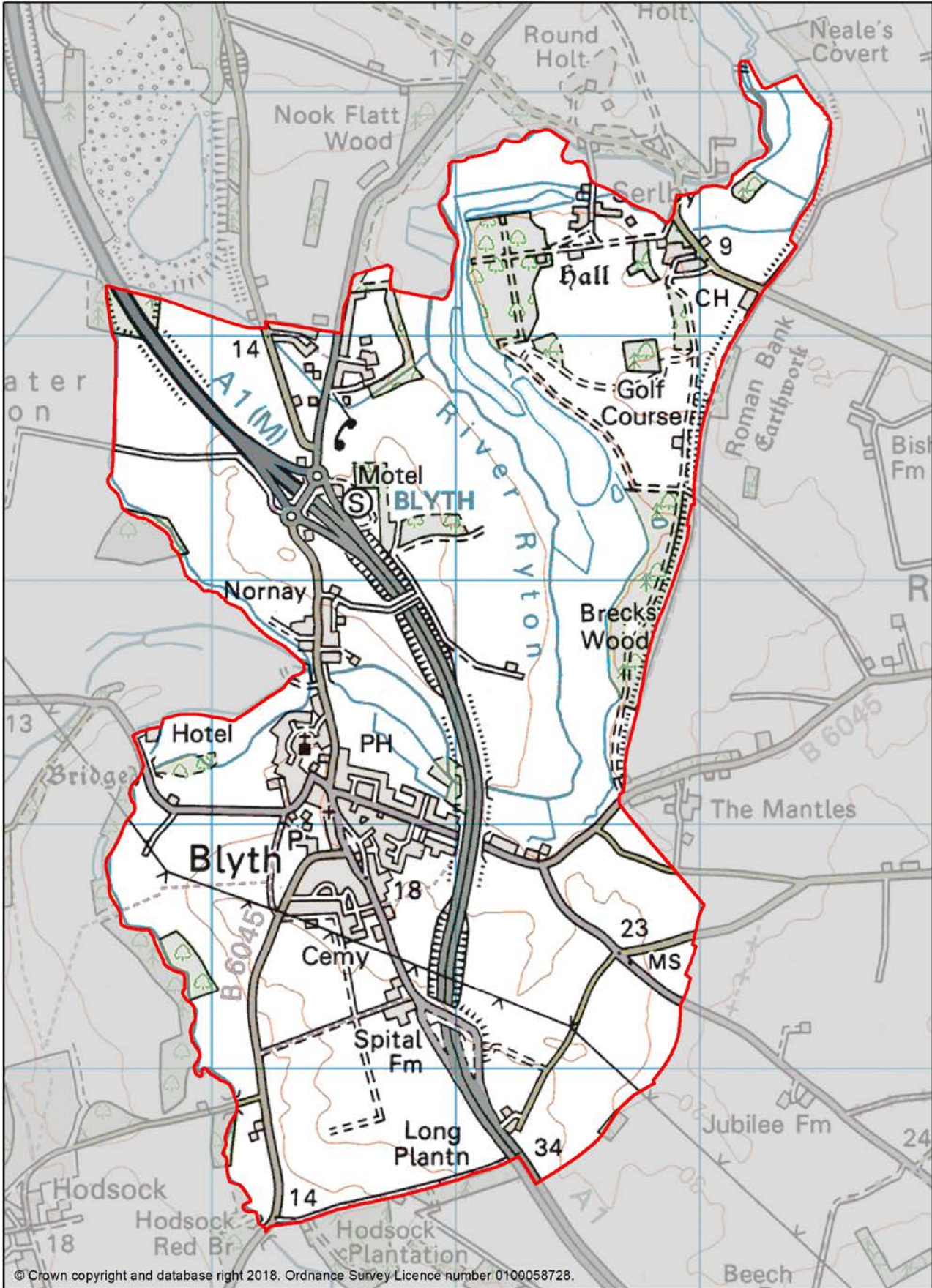
- 2.4 An Independent Examiner was appointed to undertake the examination of the Submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan. At the request of the Independent Examiner, an additional six-week consultation was hosted on revised submission documents, concluding on 2 March 2020. The Examiner's Report was sent to the District Council and Blyth Parish Council on 18 May 2020.

### **3 Decisions and Reasons**

- 3.1 The Head of Regeneration, in consultation with the Council's Cabinet Member for Regeneration has determined that all the recommended modifications set out in the Examiner's Report will be undertaken to ensure that the Plan meets the Basic Conditions.
- 3.2 The Examiner has concluded that, with the specified modifications, the Plan meets the Basic Conditions and other relevant legal requirements. The Council concurs with this view. Therefore, to meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, a referendum which poses the question "*Do you want Bassetlaw District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Blyth to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?*" will be held in the Blyth Neighbourhood Area on 6 May 2021.
- 3.3 The date for the referendum is significantly later than would customarily be the case. This arrangement reflects regulations linked to the Coronavirus Act 2020, which prevent the holding of referendums until 6 May 2021 in order to uphold social distancing protocol. In the interim, the Blyth Neighbourhood Plan will be afforded significant weight in decision making.

19 June 2020

Blyth Neighbourhood Plan



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