

HEANTON PUNCHARDON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH CLERK: MALCOLM MEASURES HPPC8@LIVE.CO.UK

Graham Townsend
Strategic Development & Planning
North Devon Council
Lynton House
Commercial Road
Barnstaple
N Devon EX31 1DG

7 November 2016

Dear Mr Townsend

APPLICATION FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA DESIGNATION

Under the legislation as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Heanton Punchardon Parish Council wishes to apply for Neighbourhood Area designation in order to begin preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

As required by Regulation 5, this application is accompanied by:

1. A map which identifies the area to which the area application relates;
2. A statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate as a Neighbourhood Area;
3. A statement that the organisation or body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61(G) of the 1990 Act.

1. The Neighbourhood Area is the whole of the Parish of Heanton Punchardon, identified in the attached map, outlined in red. It encompasses the villages of Heanton Punchardon, Wrafton and Chivenor plus the hamlets of West Ashford, Knowlwater, Mainstone, Horridge and parts of Springfield. (It does not include the red-outlined parishes of Ashford, Marwood or Pilton West.)

2. Heanton Punchardon is an ancient parish, one of the 32 parishes of the Braunton Hundred, transferred to Robert de Pont-Chardon from the Royal Manor of Braunton before the Domesday Book of 1089.

The settlement of Wrafton at the foot of Heanton Hill developed from a farming hamlet in the late 19th century owing to the building of Wrafton Station, a stop on the Barnstaple-Ilfracombe line.

Chivenor, an ancient farmstead on the riverbank, developed following the establishment of the Barnstaple grass aerodrome in 1932, the RAF station in 1940 and subsequent Air-Sea Rescue and Royal Marines bases.

St Augustine's Heanton Punchardon is the church of the Chivenor air base and contains a Commonwealth War Graves cemetery.

Owing to its serious topographical and transport limitations, the village of Braunton has expanded south-eastwards towards Wrafton over the years, to the point where only a strip of green land separates Braunton from Wrafton, with a larger strip separating Braunton's

eastern extremity from the north-western slopes of Heanton Hill. Attached as an Appendix below is an Ordnance Survey map of 1805 which shows the relationship between Heanton Punchardon, Wrafton and Chivenor before the arrival of the railway and the eastward expansion of Braunton.

In the current and previous North Devon Local Plan, a single 'town strategy' is established for Braunton & Wrafton. It has been determined that the development of this 'town' will take place predominantly in Wrafton/Chivenor. Heanton Parish wishes to ensure that its integrity, and the integrity of its three main constituent settlements, is preserved in the implementation of that Plan; and that the vital green spaces which separate Heanton, Wrafton and Chivenor are not compromised without consultation with and the full participation of the people of the parish.

We intend to work closely with Braunton in the development of our Plan, and are already in discussions with the Braunton Steering Group.

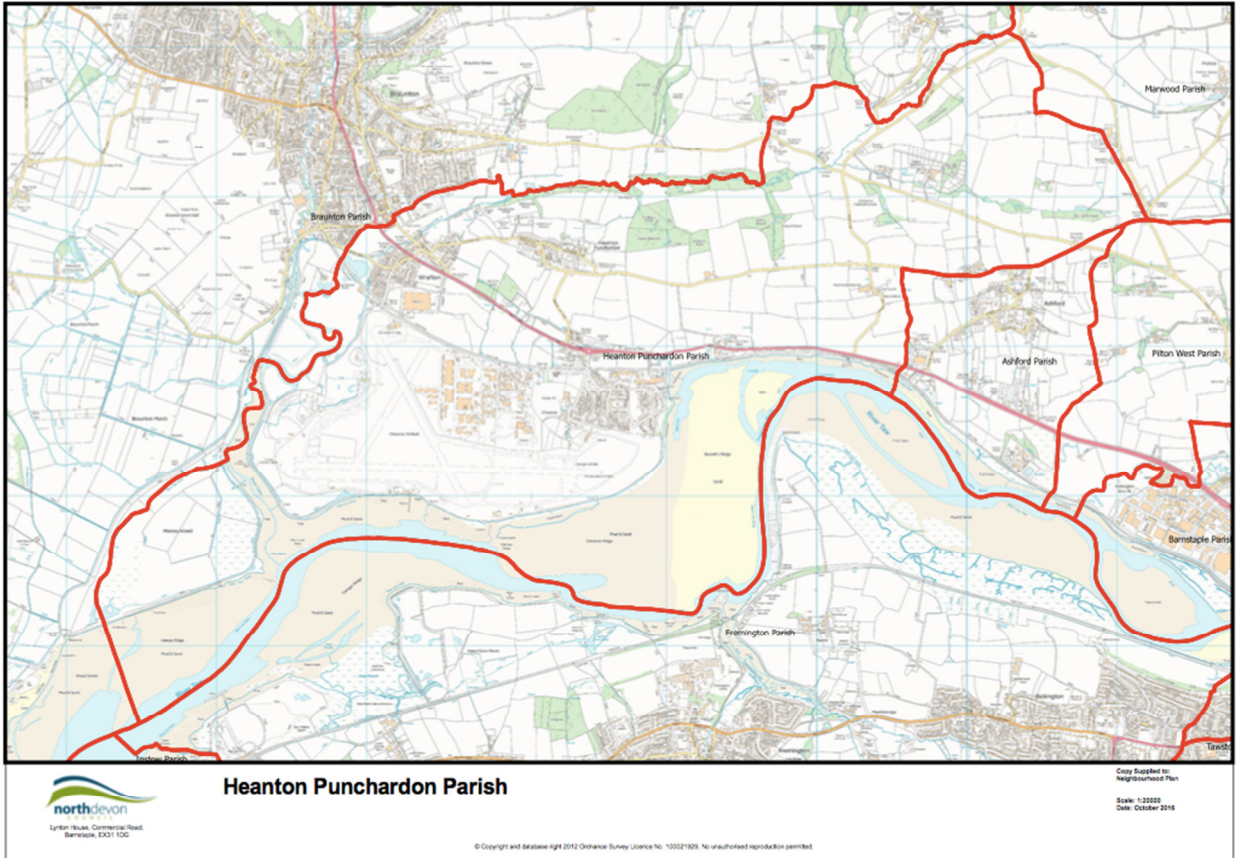
3. Heanton Punchardon Parish Council declares that it is a relevant body for the purposes of Section 61(G) of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by paragraph 2 of Schedule 9 to the Localism Act 2011).

Yours sincerely



Steve Crowther
Vice-Chairman, Heanton Punchardon Parish Council
Eastacombe House, Heanton EX31 4DG

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2

(Parish of) Heanton Punchardon, Ordnance Survey First Series 1805-69. Source: Great Britain Historical GIS Project (2004) University of Portsmouth

