

PLYMPTON ST. MARY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM RE-DESIGNATION

Decision Report



1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report considers the application to re-designate the Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood Forum which was submitted to Plymouth City Council under the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 on 22 December 2020 by the Plympton St. Mary Neighbourhood Forum.
- 1.2 The Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood Forum was originally designated on 25 January 2016, neighbourhood forums expire after five years and so this application is to renew/re-designate the Forum after expiring on 25 January 2021.
- 1.3 Although there is a Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood Plan in place which was adopted on 11 June 2019, the Forum remains active and wishes to continue to play the role of a neighbourhood forum.
- 1.4 The application from the Forum is to renew their status as a neighbourhood forum only and does not affect the status of the Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood Plan which remains adopted and part of the local development plan for Plymouth City Council. There is also no proposed changes to the Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood boundary.
- 1.5 The consultation period for the applications ran for a period of 6 weeks and ended on the 22 February 2021. The applications were published on the www.plymouth.gov.uk website in accordance with the Regulations.
- 1.6 A Statutory Notice was placed on the Council's Neighbourhood Planning website and was updated to include all the relevant information.
- 1.7 10 Public Site Notices were displayed around Plympton St. Mary.
- 1.8 No letters of representation with regards to the re-designation application were received.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Pursuant to Section 61F(5) and 61F(7) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 the Council should approve to re-designate the Plympton St. Mary Neighbourhood Forum for the following reasons:
 - a) The Forum aims to continue to use its powers under the Localism Act 2011 to promote and improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area.
 - b) The Forum has at least 21 individual members, membership includes: residents, ward councillors, other community groups, and people working in the area. The membership is drawn from different places in the neighbourhood and different sections of the community and is open to all who have an interest in the area, either as private individuals or as representatives of bodies such as local businesses and community organisations, and other interested parties such as Plympton St Mary Ward Councillors, local service providers and landowners.

- c) Membership is open to all and the Forum's constitution proposes no limits to member numbers. The Forum also seeks to encourage new members to join through community engagement and consultation.
- d) The Forum has a written constitution.
- e) The Forum have confirmed that there are no proposed amendments to the Plympton St Mary neighbourhood boundary which was originally approved on 25 January 2016.
- f) Although the Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood Plan Area has a "made" neighbourhood plan which was led by the Forum, as an active group they still have a role to play by:
 - i. Monitoring the delivery of the Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood Plan's aims, objectives, policies and community actions;
 - ii. Taking an active role as statutory consultees for planning applications;
 - iii. Remaining actively involved in planning within the Plympton St Mary Neighbourhood area and within the wider Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan area as appropriate; and,
 - iv. Retaining the option to exercise other rights as a Forum under the Localism Act.