

Calverton Neighbourhood Plan

Information for Voters

Referendum: 30 November 2017

About this document

On 30 November 2017, there will be a referendum on a neighbourhood development plan for Calverton. This booklet explains more about the referendum that is going to take place and how you can be involved in it. 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 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 Gedling Borough Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Calverton to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

How do I vote in the Referendum?

You vote 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 than 50% of votes cast are for 'Yes' then Gedling Borough Council will use the Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in Calverton. The Neighbourhood Plan will then become part of the adopted Development Plan for the area.

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.

Who can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood plans are prepared by the community, led by town or parish councils, or neighbourhood planning forums. In this case, the Calverton Neighbourhood Plan was prepared by Calverton Parish Council.

Why do we need Neighbourhood Plans and other Development Plans?

Most new buildings, major changes to existing buildings or major changes to the local environment (including building work, engineering work and mining work) need consent - known as planning permission. Without a planning system everyone could construct buildings or use land in any way they wanted, no matter what effect this would have on other people who live and work in their area.

Planning involves making decisions about the future of our towns, villages and countryside and considering the future sustainable needs of communities. Decisions on planning applications are based on national planning policy guidance, any local plans and any relevant neighbourhood plan. Together local plans and neighbourhood plans make up what is known collectively as the development plan.

The local planning authority is responsible for deciding whether a development in its area - anything from an extension on a house to a new shopping centre - should go ahead, using national planning policy and the development plan policies for guidance. Within Gedling Borough, the local planning authority is Gedling Borough Council.

If the Calverton Neighbourhood Plan passes the referendum vote then it will become part of the development plan for Gedling Borough. It will then be used by Gedling Borough Council, along with other development plan documents including the Gedling Borough Replacement Local Plan and the Aligned Core Strategy, for making decisions on planning applications within Calverton.

Neighbourhood Planning in Calverton

The Referendum area is identified on the enclosed map. The Referendum area is identical to the area which has been designated as the Calverton Neighbourhood Plan area.

Who is the Planning Authority?

Gedling Borough Council is the lead authority for neighbourhood planning matters in the area, including Neighbourhood Planning Referendums.

Referendum expenses

Expenses can be incurred by an individual or body during the period of the Referendum for referendum purposes.

The Referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Referendum is £2,699.30. The number of persons entitled to vote in the Referendum, by reference to which the expenses limit is calculated is 5,717.

Specified documents

A copy of the specified documents, listed below, may be inspected online at www.gedling.gov.uk/elections or paper copies are available at

- Gedling Borough Council, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6LU. Opening hours Monday to Thursday 8.45 am to 5.15pm and Friday 8.45 am to 4.45 pm.
- Calverton Library, St Wilfrids Square, Nottingham NG14 6FP. Opening hours Monday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm – 6.00 pm, Wednesday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm – 7 pm, Friday 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm and Saturday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm.
- Calverton Parish Council, Council Room, Main Street, Calverton, Nottingham NG14 6FG. Opening hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm.

The specified documents are the:

- Calverton Draft Neighbourhood 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; and
- A statement that sets out general information about Town and Country Planning including neighbourhood planning and the Referendum (this document).

Can I vote?

You can vote in the Referendum if you live in the Calverton Parish Council area and you are registered to vote in local council elections and you are 18 years of age or over on 30 November 2017. You have to be registered to vote by Tuesday 14 November 2017 to vote in the Referendum. You can check if you are registered to vote by calling our Helpline on 0115 901 3917. All registered electors will be sent a poll card for this referendum.

The Referendum will be conducted based on procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections.

Ways of voting

There are three ways of voting:

In person on 30 November 2017:

- It is easy and a member of staff will always help if you are not sure what to do.
- In Calverton, there are 2 polling stations. You will need to go to the one mentioned on your poll card
- Please note that your usual polling station may have changed from the last time there was an election so please check your poll card carefully
- If you do not receive your poll card, you can contact our Helpline on 0115 901 3917 or email us on elections@gedling.gov.uk to find out where your polling station is.
- Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.

By post:

- If you have a postal voting arrangement in place already, you will receive a poll card confirming this.
- If you wish to vote by post and do not yet have a postal vote you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 15 November 2017 to:

Elections Office, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6LU.

You should receive your postal vote about a week before polling day. If it doesn't arrive in time, you can ask for a replacement up to 5pm on Thursday 30 November 2017 by contacting our Helpline on 0115 901 3917.

By proxy:

- If you have a proxy voting arrangement in place already, you will receive a poll card confirming this
- If you can't get to the polling station and don't wish to vote by post, you may be able to vote by proxy. This means allowing somebody that you trust to vote on your behalf.
- To vote by proxy, you will need to complete an application form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by 5pm on Wednesday 22 November 2017 at this address:

Elections Office, Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6LU.

- 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 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 online at www.yourvotematters.co.uk or from our Helpline on 0115 901 3917 or by emailing elections@gedling.gov.uk.

Am I registered to vote?

If you are not registered, you won't be able to vote. You can check if you are registered by calling our Helpline on 0115 901 3917 or by emailing elections@gedling.gov.uk.


If you are not registered to vote, you will need to apply by Tuesday 14 November 2017. You can apply on line at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Alternatively you will need to complete a voter registration form and send it to the Electoral Registration Officer to arrive by Tuesday 14 November. Please contact us for how to do this.

How to find out more:

- Further general information on neighbourhood planning is available at <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/>
- You can find specific documents on the Calverton Neighbourhood Plan at: www.gedling.gov.uk/calvertonplan



 Calverton Parish
 Gedling Borough Boundary