

Althorne Parish Council
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Tim Parton
Senior Planning Policy Officer
Maldon District Council
Princes Road,
Maldon,
Essex, CM9 5DL



September 11, 2014

Dear Mr Parton, **Althorne Neighbourhood Plan.**

Further to our recent telephone conversation, please be advised that :-
Althorne Parish Council wishes to apply for designation as a neighbourhood area for the purposes of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Althorne Parish Council is the relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act being the parish council for the entire area applied for.'

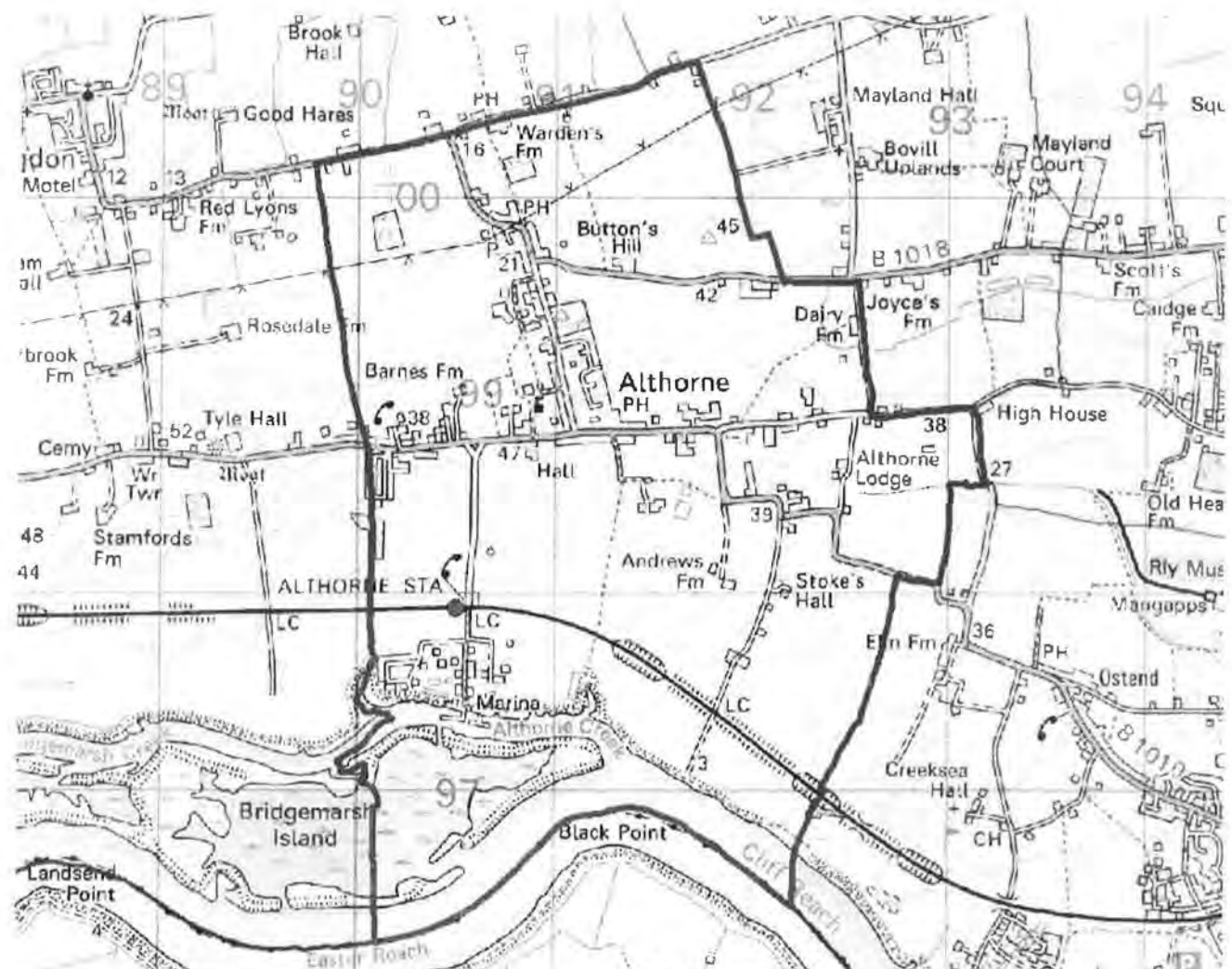
Please find attached, as requested, a copy of a map showing the parish boundary marked in red.

I note that a Neighbourhood Plan cannot be considered valid unless it is compliant with the Maldon District Council Local Development Plan. I understand that this is in the process of validation by a planning inspector and may, or may not, be published towards the close of 2014. I also assume that a parish Neighbourhood Plan cannot be considered compliant with the LDP until the Rural Allocation for housing requirement is published in 2016.

Never the less, I consider that it important that the parish at least embarks on an evaluation of the NP process, given that it is the location of a "New Town" promoted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by a group of local architects led by Mr. Geoffrey Vale. I understand Althorne is the subject of a submission to the LDP consultation process by a local landowner's agent, Capita plc, for a development of 150 dwellings on land adjacent to Althorne Station. I am also aware of two local planning applications seeking to exploit Recommendation 45 in the National Planning Policy Framework: re MDC's nominal failure to provide a 5 year land bank and a spurious presumption thereunder to permit Sustainable Development.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Burgess
Chairman



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