

Badwell Ash & Long Thurlow Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) Brief for September 2022 Meeting

NHP Sept 22 Update

1. **NHP/BAPC Meeting** - Following the July 2022 Parish Council Meeting, the next action was to arrange a meeting with the Mid Suffolk Neighbourhood Planning Officer. The NHP meeting was held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 16th August 2022, attendees were the Mid Suffolk Neighbourhood Planning Officer and the Mid Suffolk Strategic Planning Policy Officer, the PC Chair and Vice Chair. The meeting covered the basics of Neighbourhood Planning, the seven-stage NHP Planning process; the mandatory requirements in that process such as Community Engagement, a Community Referendum and at the start of this journey the questions needing to be considered and addressed. The process typically takes two years to work through.

1.1 The Neighbourhood Planning Officer (NPO) offered to provide a Neighbourhood Plan Community presentation on an agreed date and set out the Planning framework documents within which all planning policies are set out:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)– updated July 2021, **[publishing.service.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/96321/nppf-2021.pdf)**
- Joint Local Level Plan(JLP) for Babergh & Mid Suffolk 2020 – 2037 which is in two parts, part 1 covers published Maps of agreed Parish boundaries, pages 334/335 for BA/LT and part 2 is Housing allocations for each Parish/Village these are included on the parish maps shown as LA or LS numbers.

1.2 The NHP cannot be used to stop growth or promote less development than the Joint Local Plan and must take account of National Policy (NPPF) and contribute towards sustainable development. NHP is a regulatory process for which the 7 Key Stages are set out below in Table 1 on page 2.

Table 1– NHP Seven Stage Process and Questions

Stage	Detail	Questions	Actions Required
1. Designation of Neighbourhood Area	Defines the NHP boundary application can only be approved by MSDC as the qualifying body	What will the BA/LT Boundary include/not include	Answer question of which Parishes included in NHP? Submit application form to qualifying body MSDC
2. Preparation of draft NHP	This stage requires a considerable amount of research, community engagement and effort by the Neighbourhood Planning Group	What technical help do we need? Do we need a planning consultant? What research methods do we use? How will it be funded?	Set up Neighbourhood Planning Group Apply for Locality Grant up to £10k, not provided by MSDC and only on a cost incurred basis Planning Consultant? Engage with Community/Public of BA/LT
3. Pre-Submission & Consultation	Parish Council consults on its draft plan for six weeks. District Council responds to consultation	How do we get the feedback ? What methods do we use?	NHP Planning Group, Tech help, Planning consultant, community feedback
4. Submission of NHP under Reg 15	MSDC checks NHP is legally compliant and undertakes formal consultation for six weeks.		Parish Council, Planning Group, planning consultant
5. Independent Examination under Reg 17	This is funded by MSDC and the Independent Examiner will consider whether the plan meets the basic conditions	MSDC advise there is a list of Independent examiners	Parish Council, Planning Group Can be accepted, accepted with modifications or rejected
6. Referendum under Reg 18	Organised and funded by District Council. At least 28 working days notice required	What voting method to be used?	Other Parishes have called a public meeting and vote which needs to be 50% plus 1 to be adopted Community/Public of BA/LT
7. Making Adoption of the NHP by District Council Regulations 19 & 20	If the referendum is successful then the plan is formally becomes part of the Councils development framework and will be used for decision making purposes	If the referendum rejects the NHP the process has to start again	

2. **Funding** - MSDC website has a Grant Funding page which explains what funding is available to groups undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan. Basic grant is up to £10k which has criteria set out in the guidance notes. This includes an Expression of Interest (EOI) form which is submitted as a first step followed by an application form for an NHP (website allows 30 days for this to be completed).

2.1 The funding is available on the Locality Website which is separate from MSDC an applying for funding is based on an incurred expenditure basis, for example if you employ a Planning Consultant the money required for that is via this funding line. MSDC does fund the work required at stages 5 & 6 in the Neighbourhood Planning Process.

3. **NHP Note** - The Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) should have strategic conformity with the JLP and should set out a positive vision for how the area can developed in ways that meet identified local needs. It can be for a single Parish or a group of Parishes working together and should include policies, which concern specific areas of land. This should include identifying sites for new housing.

4. The NHP start up Questions were discussed and considered at the Sept 2022 Parish Council Meeting and the decisions to be confirmed in the published minutes were made, details below:

4.1 *What will be the boundary for the Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) – Decision Made - The NHP Boundary will include both villages of Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow.*

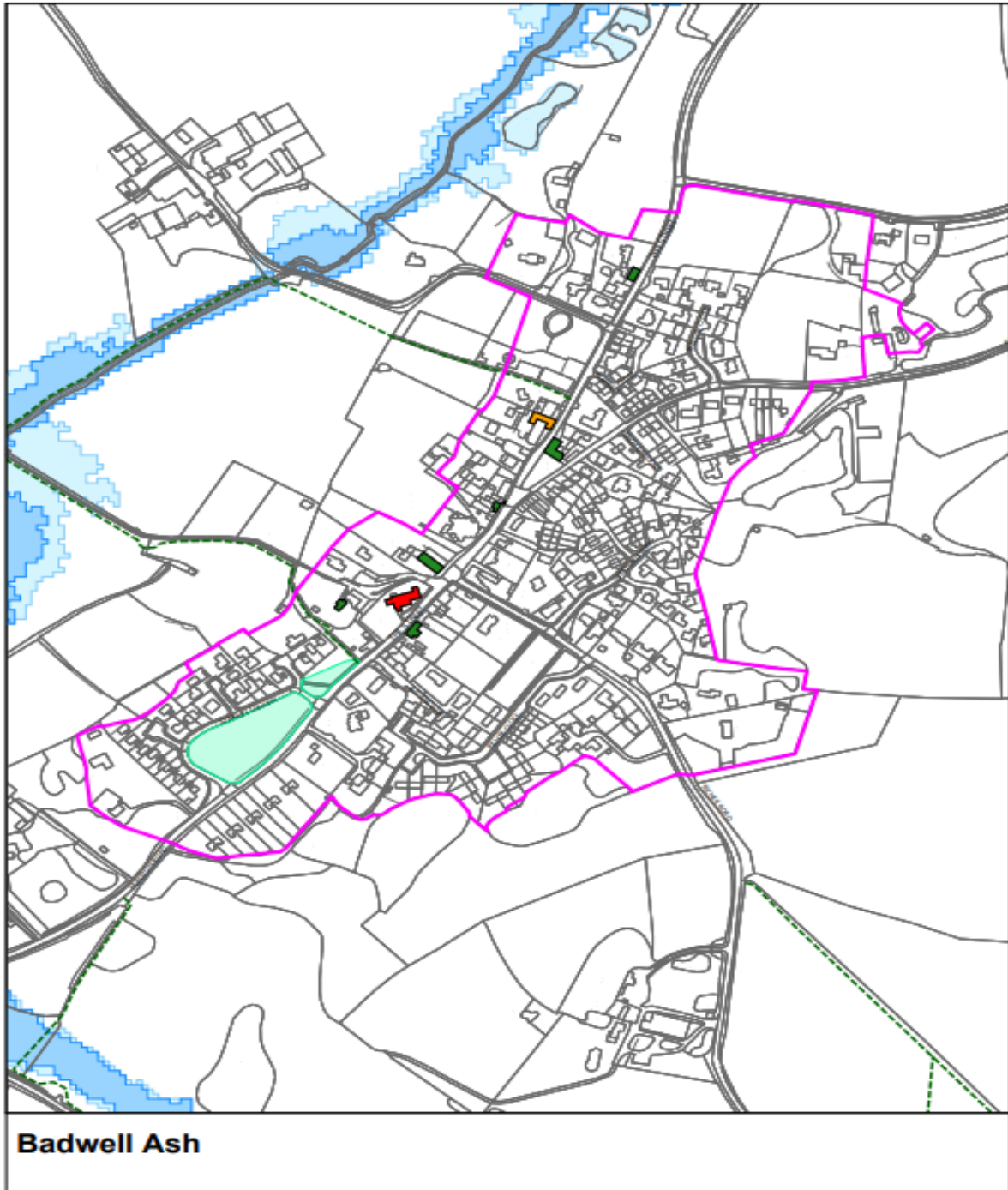
4.2 *Designation of NHP submit boundary application – Template is on the MSDC and for the process to be officially considered, the template has to be completed by the Parish Clerk. Template to be submitted.*

4.3 *A community Presentation by the Mid Suffolk, Neighbourhood Planning Officer to be arranged on an agreed date (45 mins plus questions).*

4.4 *Set up Neighbourhood Plan Planning Group? Representation to include community members. How do we engage with the community? Use of Broadsheet, flyers, questionnaires etc. To be actioned possibly after Presentation at 4.3*

Current boundary maps for Badwell Ash and Long Thurlow Parishes* Taken from the MSDC JLP are shown below on pages 4 & 5

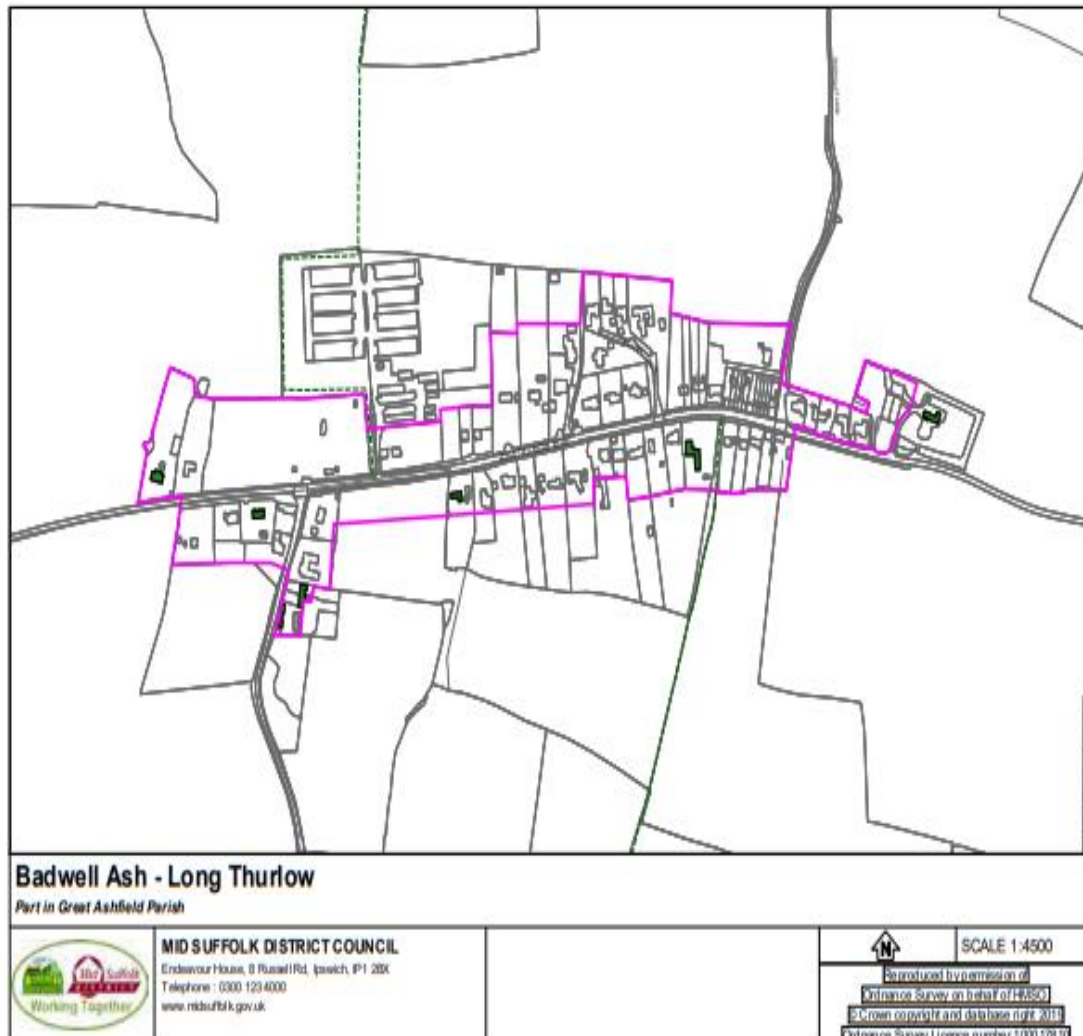
MSDC JLP Badwell Ash Boundary Map



Badwell Ash (Hinterland) Badwell Ash is located approximately 4km east of the A1088 and is identified as a Hinterland Village. Long Thurlow is classified separately as a Hamlet Village. The settlement consists of primarily linear 20th century residential development along The Street with a small number of dispersed individual listed buildings. The landscape in Badwell Ash and the immediate surrounding area is characterised as Ancient Plateau Claylands. LS01

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MSDC JLP Long Thurlow Boundary Map



Long Thurlow (Hamlet) Located approximately 13km north of Stowmarket, Long Thurlow is classified as a Hamlet Village, within the parish of Badwell Ash. There are a number of Grade II listed buildings within the settlement including listed buildings at the entrances to the settlement from the south, east and west homes, community facilities or protecting green space.