

# Application for the Designation of a Neighbourhood Area

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 [section 61G]

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 [Regulation 5]

Please note that the information provided on this application form and relevant supporting documents will be published on the Hastings Borough Council website in accordance with our Privacy Policy which can be found here:

<https://www.hastings.gov.uk/privacy/notices/planning-policy/>

Please refer to the Notes below and the other guidance notes provided on our website as incorrect submissions will delay the processing of your application:

<https://www.hastings.gov.uk/planning/policy/neighbourhood/>

## Name of Submitting Body

*For example Neighbourhood forum or Body capable of being a neighbourhood forum*

West St Leonards Forum

Has an Application been made to designate this Neighbourhood Forum?

Yes

If yes, please provide a date of application:

30 August 2023

## Applicant Name

Redacted, Chair of the West St Leonards Forum.

## Applicant Address

Redacted. Within proposed area.

## Applicant Email

Redacted.

## Applicant Phone

Redacted.

## Proposed name of the Neighbourhood Area

West St Leonards

Does the submitting body consider it should also be designated a Business Area?

No

## Extent of the area

*Note 2: You must supply a map to accompany your application. The map must clearly identify the area to be covered by the proposed neighbourhood area and be such that the*

*land concerned can be identified on the Ordnance Survey map. It should be of an appropriate standard scale so that boundaries can be clearly seen (e.g. 1:2500 or 1:1250). Where possible the boundary of the area should follow physical features and should not cut through properties. Please ensure that the boundary line is clearly edged in red and is not of a thickness that obscures any other detail or makes the extent any way ambiguous. The most commonly acceptable base plan is Ordnance Survey mapping. Please visit [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/plan](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/plan) to find your nearest Ordnance Survey partner selling large scale maps for this purpose. Hastings Borough Council are unable to provide a map for you at this stage in the process due to our mapping licence. If you are filling in this form from your smartphone or tablet, and you want to take a picture of your evidence, select the "browse files" link. This will give you the option to take a new photo and upload it to this form.*

Extent has been provided.

Which Ward(s) does the proposed area lie within?

Central St Leonards

Maze Hill

West St Leonards

Does the proposed Neighbourhood Area lie partly within another Local Authority boundary?

No

Please give a statement confirming that the applicant is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act \*

*Note 4: In order to make an application for a neighbourhood area the applicant must be a "relevant body" as defined in section 61G(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, namely, "a parish council or an organisation or body which is, or is capable of being, designated as a neighbourhood forum (on the assumption that, for this purpose, the specified area is designated as a neighbourhood area)".*

*By signing this form you are confirming that the Forum membership meets the requirements as set out in Section 61F(5) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Please note that:*

*1. Evidence that you meet the requirements as set out in Section 61F(5) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 may be required by the Council from time to time and as part of any awarded designation, you shall be required to provide such evidence as the Council may require; and*

*2. If at any time during the Designation period the Council becomes aware that you have either:*

*a. Failed to provide accurate information in your application for Designation; or*

*b. Fail to provide evidence of membership when requested by the Council;*

*c. Fail to comply with any other condition of Designation*

*The Council reserves its rights to revoke such Designation with immediate effect.*

There is no parish council which covers any part of West St Leonards. The constitution has been drafted with the express purpose of promoting and improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the West St Leonards Neighbourhood Area. Membership of the forum is open to individuals who live in the area; individuals who work in the area and individuals who are elected members of Hastings Borough Council.

Please give a statement explaining why it is considered appropriate to designate the area as a neighbourhood area \*

West St Leonards neighbourhood area was approved by Hastings Borough Council on April 6 2023, but in the knowledge that during the consultation residents of Collinswood Drive had asked for their road to be included in the area. Following discussions within West St Leonards Forum and formal approval of the extension of the area by the Forum at its Annual General Meeting on May 17 2023, this application is for the designation of an extended area, with the original area plus Collinswood Drive.

#### Political composition of the area

The bulk of the proposed forum area is the West Saint Leonards Ward but this does not fit the way the community to the east divides and there are some curious kinks in the ward boundaries.

In Maze Hill Ward there is a rectangular foot at the south western corner going over West Hill. The area just north of this to the line of the railway also seems to point towards West Saint Leonards. This includes Essenden Road to Boscobel Road (South) and Welbeck Avenue, Tudor Road, Knoll Rise and Cavendish Avenue.

Most of this area has only recently been added to the proposed area, following representations by some local residents who wanted to be included. A survey of the additional roads was carried out during the summer of 2022 and a substantial majority of those who responded to the survey wished to be included in the designated area.

Following the consultation by Hastings BC the residents of Collinswood Drive asked to be included and this application includes that road.

In Central St Leonards Ward, the western arm, which follows the coast below Maze Hill, also points towards West St Leonards with the natural boundary appearing to be Saint Leonards Church and residents in this area have argued to be included as well as joining the forum.

The consultation has produced some objections from Marina and Boscobel Road residents to those areas being included within the designated area. However our surveys have indicated that there are others within the area who want to be part of the designated area and it is considered that the existing boundaries on the eastern side are appropriate and should not be changed.

#### Details of the Proposed Designated Area

As the description of the area shows, West St Leonards is a triangle formed by the sea to the south, Combe Valley and the original Bulverhythe village to the north and west and the railway line and West Hill to the north and east. Bexhill Road and Harley Shute Road

provide a communications backbone. Combe Valley, Filsham Valley and the seafront are the green and blue lungs between the conurbations of Bexhill and Hastings

The area sits across a line of low cliffs set back from the sea. The cliffs are cut through by the Combe Haven and its tributary rivers, the Asten, and the Pebsham and Hollington Streams (the latter in Filsham Valley). Over the centuries longshore drift has pushed shingle bars and the mouth of Combe Haven to the east resulting in a narrow coastal plain liable to flooding. The plain is contained to the west by higher ground at the original Bulverhythe village and to the east by the West Hill Road cliffs above Grosvenor Crescent.

Has this area been designated a neighbourhood area in the past? \*

Yes  
If Yes, please provide the name of the area \*

West St Leonards  
If Yes, what was the name of the applying body \*

West St Leonards Forum  
If Yes, What was the date of designation?

6 April 2023  
Has the applicant previously applied to designate the area as a neighbourhood area?  
Yes

If yes, please provide the date of the application  
9 January 2023

#### Declaration

*I hereby apply for the area described in this form and on the accompanying map to be designated as a neighbourhood area.*

*By signing this form you are confirming that the membership of the Forum requesting designation of this Neighbourhood Area meets the requirements as set out in Section 61F(5) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 being aware of all the points in Note 4 above.*

*Signature of Authorised Person*

Redacted.

Position within the Relevant Body  
Chair of the West St Leonards Forum

Date  
30 August 2023