LONGRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DECISION STATEMENT (REGULATION 18(2))

Summary
1. Following an independent examination undertaken by written representations, Ribble Valley Borough Council now confirms that the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan will proceed to a Neighbourhood Planning Referendum.

2. This decision statement will be available on the Borough Council’s web site and at the Council Offices. The Decision Statement will also be available in LONGRIDGE Library, BERRY LANE and is available for inspection during normal opening hours.

Background
3. On 26th September 2013, Ribble Valley Borough Council formally designated the area shown at Appendix 1 as the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Area.

4. Following the submission of the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan to RIBBLE VALLEY Council the plan was publicised and representations were invited. The publicity period ended on 28th March 2018.

5. The Council appointed an independent Examiner, Nigel McGurk BSc (Hons), MCD,MBA,MRTPI to examine whether the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions as set out in Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and whether the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a referendum.

6. The Examiner’s Report recommended a number of modifications so that the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan is able to comply with the ‘basic conditions’ and other relevant statutory provisions, and that the draft plan as modified can be submitted for referendum.

7. The Examiner’s Report published in OCTOBER 2018 concludes by stating:
“I recommend to Ribble Valley Borough Council that, subject to the modifications proposed, the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan, should proceed to a referendum”

Recommendations, Decisions and Reasons
8. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 18 requires the local planning authority to outline what action to take in response to the recommendations of an examiner made in a report under paragraph 10 of Schedule 4a to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as applied by Section 38A and 38B of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).

9. Having considered the recommendations made by the Examiner in his report, and the reasons for them at the meeting of the Council’s Planning and Development Committee of 29th November 2018 (Minute 506 refers), RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH Council has agreed to accept the modifications made to the draft plan under paragraph 12(6) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in response to the Examiner’s recommendations/modifications and amend the plan accordingly, and is satisfied that the plan meets the Basic Conditions set out in legislation.

10. To meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 a referendum which poses the question, ‘Do you want RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH Council to use the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Plan to help it decide planning applications in the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Area?’ will be held in the area formally designated as the LONGRIDGE Neighbourhood Area.

11. The date on which the referendum will take place is Thursday 14 FEBRUARY 2019.

Appendix 1 Plan of designated area