

BROOKTHORPE with WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF INTENT FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To seek the views of parishioners and engage with them in the decision-making process.

The Council is committed to obtaining the opinions of parishioners as part of the democratic process so that the wishes of the community are reflected in the actions that the Council takes on their behalf.

This will be achieved by inviting the public to attend and participate in the Council meetings, publishing policy objectives, and polling parishioners where appropriate.

DEFINING THE COMMUNITY

The Council will engage with all local groups, including the Village Hall Committee, CAMEO, and the Playgroup Committee.

PROVISION FOR INFORMATION TO THE COMMUNITY

The Chairman of the Parish Council will make an annual report at the Annual Parish Meeting. Agendas, minutes of meetings and accounts will be available in line with the Freedom of Information Act as adopted by the Council on 4th February 2003 and revised in 2008. The agendas and minutes will be displayed on the Councils website and noticeboards. Copies of the minutes for the previous Parish Council meeting will be available to the public at Parish Council meetings. Copies of the Annual Statement of Accounts will be displayed on the website and parish notice boards and will also be available at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May each year. The Parish Council will provide a Newsletter to all households in the Parish 10 times a year. The provisional Agenda will be included in each Parish Newsletter along with dates and times of meetings.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Council will involve the community by allowing public involvement and questions to the Council at a time allocated at Parish Council meetings. The Council will also host public meetings, in addition to the monthly Parish Council meetings, in cases where issues of major public significance or contention. The Council will involve the community in the preparation of its Parish Plan.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FORMAL REPRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL

The Council will consider and act upon, as they see appropriate, any representation made to the Council by way of signed written correspondence.

INVOLVEMENT IN PARTNERSHIPS

The Council will endeavor to work in partnership with other agencies for the benefit of the community.

ROLE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Parish Councillors will be available to receive comments and questions from parishioners regarding community issues at their home address so long as the time and subject is appropriate. For example, not after 8 pm.