



Planning Policy Team

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Neighbourhood Development Plan Area Designation

15th July 2016

Following an application from Ruishton & Thornfalcon Parish Council and subsequent statutory consultation on the body's relevance to make the application and the appropriateness of the proposed designation for a Ruishton & Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Plan; Taunton Deane Borough Council as the Planning Authority approves the designation as detailed below.

Relevant Bodies

Under Section 61F (authorisation to act in relation to neighbourhood areas) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, the Parish Council is a 'relevant body' for the purpose of producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan and are therefore qualified to do so. The Council therefore has no ruling to make in this matter.

Neighbourhood Plan Area

Under Section 61G (meaning of "neighbourhood area") the Local Authority has considered the proposed designation. The proposed Neighbourhood Area follows the Parish boundaries, and is likely to include a small area of a future strategic employment site. The principle of the employment site was set out in the TDBC Core Strategy and the Council intends bringing the Strategic Employment site forward through the Local Development Order (LDO) process.

The Neighbourhood Plan must be in conformity with the strategic development plan document (adopted Core Strategy). It is the Council's view that there therefore should be no conflict between the neighbourhood plan and the Core Strategy. An LDO grants planning permission and is likely to be adopted ahead of a neighbourhood plan there therefore there should be no conflict between it and the neighbourhood plan.

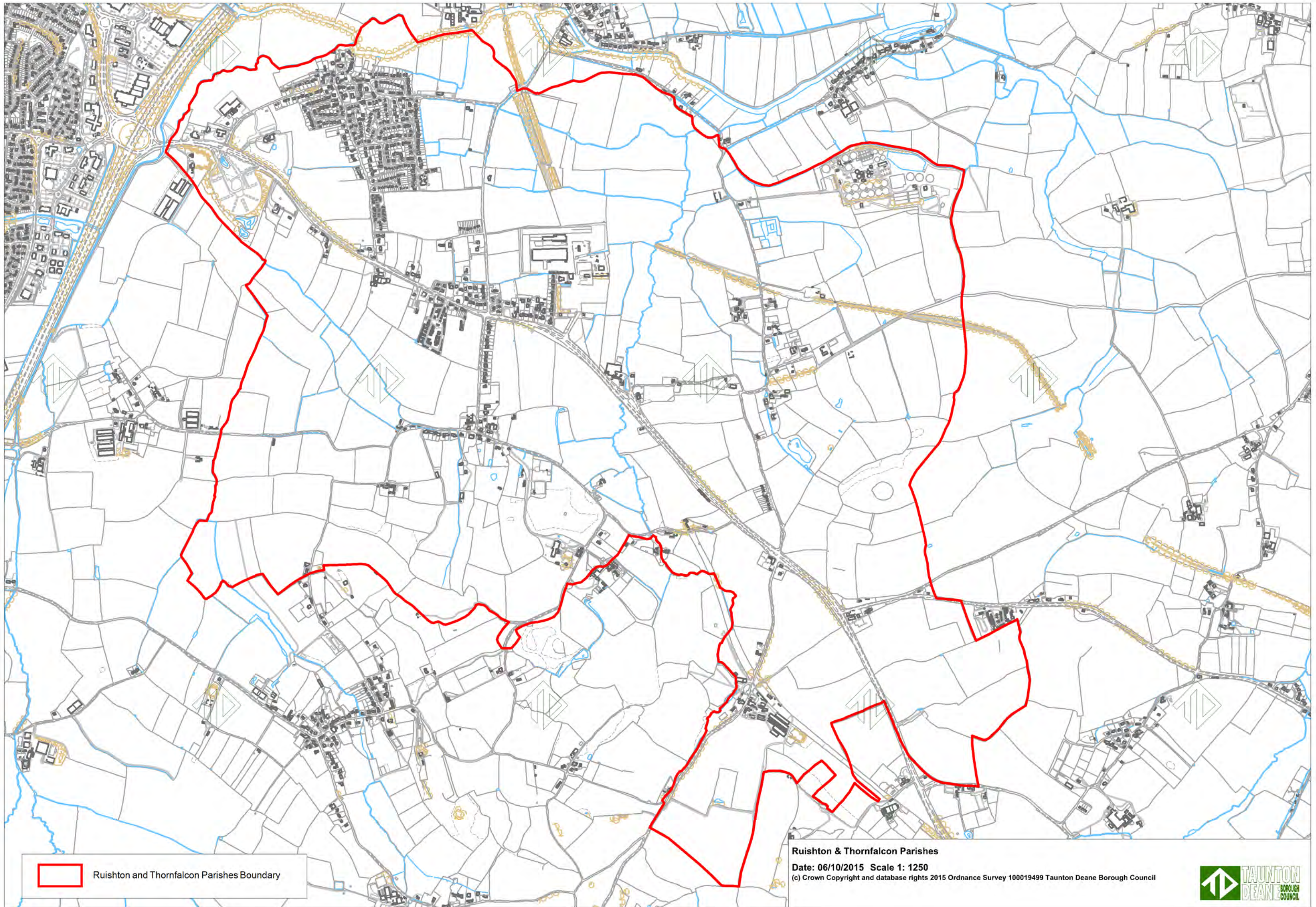
In addition, no objections to the proposed area were received.


Therefore the Council designates the Neighbourhood Plan Area as the whole of the Parish of Ruishton & Thornfalcon.

The rationale for designating the area as proposed is consistent with the Council's approach in other Neighbourhood Plan Areas where strategic development sites are located.

In accordance with Regulation 7 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 Taunton Deane Borough Council is publicising its decision on the designation of the Neighbourhood Area.

If you have any questions in relation to this please contact the Policy Team either via; e-mail to talkingtomorrows@tauntondeane.gov.uk, telephone 01823 356484, or in writing to Policy Team, Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton, TA1 1EU



 Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parishes Boundary

Ruishton & Thornfalcon Parishes
Date: 06/10/2015 Scale 1: 1250
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Our Ref: AR/ LDF/NeighbourhoodPlanning/Ruishton&ThornfalconApplication

28 May 2016

Notice of Consultation

Under Section 61F&G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Section 2 Regulation 5 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012; an application has been received from the joint Ruishton & Thornfalcon Parish Council to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the area defined on the attached map.

Relevant Body

A Parish Council is a 'relevant body' under Section 61F&G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, if they are the town or parish council and the area proposed consists of or includes the whole or any part of the area of that council. The joint Ruishton & Thornfalcon Parish Council is therefore qualified to undertake a neighbourhood plan for the area set out in their application.

Neighbourhood Plan Area

The proposed Neighbourhood Area is the entirety of the parishes of Ruishton and Thornfalcon, shown on the attached map. TDBC would like to hear from any interested parties as to the appropriateness of the area proposed.

In accordance with Regulation 6 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 Taunton Deane Borough Council is publicising the details to bring the area application to the attention of people who live, work or carry out business in the area to which the application relates. Comments can be made on the application within the six week consultation period.

Representations on this application must be restricted to:

- a) If the organisation or body is a relevant body to make the application;
- b) The appropriateness of the proposed designation of the Neighbourhood Area.

Please submit comments in writing using this proforma and return it either;

via e-mail to talkingtomorrowstauntondeane@tauntondeane.gov.uk or
post to Policy Team, Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton, TA1 1EU

Representations must be received by **Friday 8th July 2016**



<u>For official use only:</u>	
Reference	_____
Received	_____
Acknowledged	_____

Representations proforma for application to Taunton Deane Borough Council from Ruishton & Thornfalcon Parish Council to designate a Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Q1. Is the organisation or body a relevant body to make the application in accordance with the Regulations?

Yes No

If no please provide details

Q2. Is the boundary of the proposed designation of the Neighbourhood Area appropriate and in accordance with the Regulations?

Yes No

If no please provide details

Representations on this application must be restricted to:

- a) If the organisation or body is a relevant body to make the application;
- b) The appropriateness of the proposed designation of the Neighbourhood Area.

Please submit comments in writing using this proforma, with additional sheets and evidence as required, and return it either;

via e-mail to talkingtomorrowstauntondeane@tauntondeane.gov.uk or post to Policy Team, Deane House, Belvedere Road, Taunton, TA1 1EU

Representations must be received by **Friday 8th July 2016**

RUISHTON AND THORNFALCON PARISH COUNCIL
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: Mrs H. Bryant MAAT, AILCM
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TA20 3DN
Tel: 01460 234770.
Email: ruishtonpc@gmail.com

Ms Ann Rhodes
Taunton Deane Borough Council
Policy Officer (Planning & Environment)
The Deane House
Belvedere House
Taunton
TA1 1HE

25th April 2016

Dear Ms Rhodes



**APPLICATION FOR THE FORMAL DESIGNATION OF A
NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA**

Further to our previous correspondence I am writing to advise you that the Parishes of Ruishton and Thornfalcon hereby jointly apply for designation as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of producing a neighbourhood plan.

Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parishes (subsequently referred to as 'the parish' and shown on the attached plan) are situated three miles from the county town of Taunton in the Borough of Taunton Deane and County of Somerset. The parish lies to the East of the M5 and South of the River Tone and straddles the A358. The main settlements are Ruishton, Thornfalcon and Henlade. The population of the Ruishton Parish recorded in the 2011 Census was 1,473 and Thornfalcon Parish 119, a total of 1,592 people.

Much of the area lies within the flood-plain of the River Tone and stretches to the foot of the Blackdown Hills. Despite being predominantly agricultural there is considerable biodiversity and historic features such as the bridge and embankment of the old GWR Chard branch railway line and the bridge and embankment of the former Chard Canal. There are two historic churches; St George's (14/15th century) in Ruishton and the Church of the Holy Cross Thornfalcon (14th century). The A358 Park and Ride lies within the parish boundary on the site of a Bronze and Iron Age settlement and a Roman Farm. There are a number of listed buildings including Henlade House and Ruishton House.

The village of Ruishton is the largest settlement and has a pub, school, car sales, and hairdressing salon. Upper Henlade, in the vicinity of the A358, has a number of commercial premises including the Toby Inn, Premier Inn and Woodlands Castle. There is a Post Office and plant nursery as well as the Kijlstra Precast works. The

Mount Somerset Hotel and Spa together with the Plant Centre are in Lower Henlade. The Nags Head Pub is in Thornfalcon. Ruishton Church of England Primary School is located in Ruishton village and serves 172 children of the parish and beyond, as well as providing a children's nursery and after-school club. Ruishton also houses the Village Hall adjoining the Recreation Ground. These facilities are the focus of activity for a number of groups and societies.

The Parish Council (which acts on behalf of both parishes) formally determined to pursue the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan at its meeting of 2nd March 2016 (minute 16/03/10) and has designated a sub-committee to manage the production of the plan. The Parish Council considers that the Neighbourhood Plan process would enable the community to influence the type, quality and location of development proposed within the parish area as well as proposing and prioritising community benefits that will accrue from such development. It will conduct plan preparation in line with legislation and government advice in a participatory manner. It is anticipated that the plan will cover a 20-year period compatible with that to be covered by the Review of the Taunton Deane Core Strategy to be conducted by the Borough Council and in anticipation of the improvements planned to the A358 and M5 junction, during that same period.

The existing Core Strategy for the Borough states "the villages of.....Henlade (and) Ruishton will retain settlement boundaries, as shown on the Proposals Map insets, and have no further allocations made through the Site Allocations and Development Management DPD, but have some scope for small scale proposals within settlement limits." For the rest of the area it states "outside of the settlements identified above, proposals will be treated as being within Open Countryside."

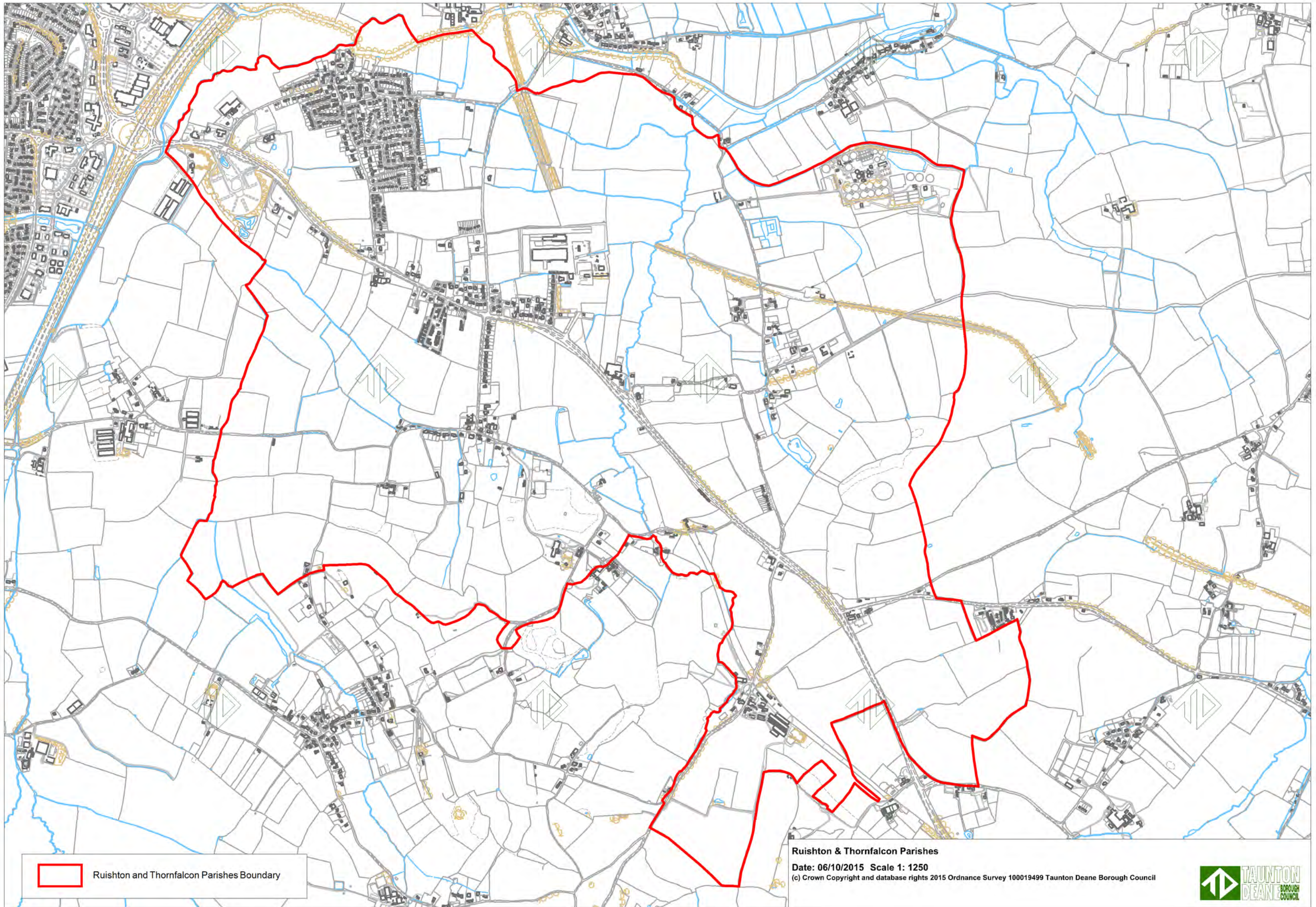
The Core Strategy also indicated locations for investigating the possibility of strategic employment sites which include Junction 25 of the M5. However, the subsequent Site Allocations and Development Management DPD does not include such a site.


The Parish Council anticipates that the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan will take place over a 24-month period, subject to progress on the Core Strategy and A358 proposals.

Yours sincerely



Heather Bryant
Parish Clerk
Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parish Council



 Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parishes Boundary

Ruishton & Thornfalcon Parishes
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