

MOTCOMBE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2017 to 2027

At the meeting of Cabinet on 10 December 2019, Dorset Council took the decision to make the Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan 2017 to 2027 (as modified) (hereafter referred to as the Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan) part of the development plan for the Motcombe neighbourhood area.

In March 2019, Motcombe Parish Council submitted its draft neighbourhood plan and supporting material to North Dorset District Council.¹ An independent examiner was appointed, and his report was received in July 2019. In summary, the examiner's report concluded that the Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan would meet the basic conditions and other legal requirements, subject to modifications.

The Council held a referendum in Motcombe on 7 November 2019. A majority (79.8%) of those voting in the referendum voted in favour of the plan. No other issues have become known that would suggest that the Council should decline to make the plan.

The area covered by the Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan

The neighbourhood plan area covers the area of Motcombe civil parish only.

What this means for the Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan area

In England, development plans are used to set out the planning policies for the development and use of land. Planning applications are determined by local planning authorities such as Dorset Council. Planning decisions are made in accordance with the adopted development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The neighbourhood plan forms part of the development plan for the Motcombe civil parish, which also includes the adopted North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (adopted 2016) and 'saved' policies from the North Dorset District-wide Local Plan (2003) that remain extant.

The policies in the neighbourhood plan are in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. Therefore, when decisions are being made on development proposals, the policies contained in the Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan will take precedence over the non-strategic policies in the North Dorset Local Plan Part 1 (2016) and the 'saved' extant policies from the North Dorset District-wide Local Plan (2003).

Where to find more information

This decision statement and the adopted Motcombe Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed online at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/motcombe-neighbourhood-plan. The decision statement and plan can also be viewed at South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester DT1 1UZ (8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30am to 4.30pm on Friday).

¹ North Dorset District Council merged with other district councils and the county council, forming Dorset Council on 1 April 2019.