

**Decision Maker:** COUNCIL

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

**Title:** PETITIONS

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
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**Chief Officer:** Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

**Ward:** Petts Wood and Knoll

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1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme, if petitioners are dissatisfied with the Council's response to a petition they have submitted they can request that the issue be brought to a meeting of the full Council for consideration, provided that the number of verified signatures exceeds the threshold required (500 signatures, or 1,000 signatures for an e-petition.) The lead petitioner or their nominee can address the Council for up to five minutes.
- 1.2 A petition has been received from the Knoll Residents Association asking the Council to designate part of Petts Wood and Knoll ward as an Area of Special Residential Character (ASRC); further details are set out in section 3 of this report.
- 1.3 This petition was originally submitted to the Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015, but consideration was deferred to this meeting at the request of the lead petitioner.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Council is requested to consider the case made by the petitioners and make recommendations to Development Control Committee and the Executive as necessary for the matter to be considered under the Local Plan process.**

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: Petitions are dealt with in accordance with the Council's agreed Petition Scheme.
  2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council:
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### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
  3. Budget head/performance centre: N/A
  4. Total current budget for this head: N/A
  5. Source of funding: N/A
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### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: This report does not involve an executive decision.
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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

### 3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The Council's Petition Scheme allows for petitioners to present their case to full Council if they are dissatisfied with the Council's response to their petition, provided that the number of verified signatures exceeds the threshold of 500 signatures. The lead petitioner or their nominee can address the Council for up to five minutes. Once Council has considered the matter, it can choose whether to recommend any further action.
- 3.2 A petition was received in August 2015 from the Knoll Residents Association asking the Council to designate part of Petts Wood and Knoll ward as an Area of Special Residential Character. The petition contained in excess of 900 signatures.
- 3.3 The full prayer of the petition is as follows –
- “To safeguard the distinctive character of the Knoll Area (broadly the area bounded by Dale Wood Road, Crofton Lane, Lynwood Grove cutting across to Irvine Way, Broxbourne Road, Chislehurst Road, Orpington High Street continuing into Sevenoaks Road until the railway line) by designating it an Area of Special Residential Character. We, the undersigned, are adult residents of the Knoll and petition the London Borough of Bromley to designate the Knoll area an ASRC.”
- 3.4 Members will recall that at the Council meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015 a petition was submitted requesting the designation of Bull Lane Allotments in Chislehurst as Local Green Space. The Council's response on that occasion was to refer the issue to Development Control Committee and the Executive so that the request could be assessed through the Local Plan process, and a similar approach could be applied in the case of the request from the Knoll Residents Association.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Policy/Financial/legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Petition documents