

Notes from a virtual meeting on Monday 14th September 2020 at 2pm,

HDC and Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan Revision

Present:

Jenny Wood – HDC, Principal Planner in the Policy team (JW)

Daniel Hawes – HDC, Manager for Planning Policy and Economic Development (DH)

Nick Ward – JB Planning Associates, Winchfield NDPR Consultant (NW)

Meyrick Williams – Winchfield Parish Council (MW)

Christine Strudwick – lead for Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan Review (CS)

Everyone introduced themselves and outlined the role they will play in this Plan Review or the expertise they have to offer.

DH enquired why Winchfield was potentially considering a whole new Neighbourhood Plan when minor updates may suffice to bring it into line with the new Local Plan and NPPF. MW briefly explained that since our Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) was ‘made’ in 2017 the HDC Local Plan has been adopted, our neighbouring Parishes (Hook, Dogmersfield, Hartley Wintney and Odiham) now have ‘made’ NPs and there have been changes to the NPPF. It is important that Winchfield’s Plan is in accord with those more recent documents. It is also an opportunity to revisit the Plan objectives to see if they still reflect community wishes given there are new residents in the Parish and the world ‘moves on’.

The WG consist of six residents, two of who are new to Winchfield, two are long standing residents and two were involved with the original NDP so a good cross section to represent the community. We are fortunate that we only have around 700 residents and around 260 houses so we are able to do personal deliveries and visits to engage with our community. Given the restrictions currently in place with Covid-19 this is going to be the principal method of engagement but we shall assess other options too, e.g. local Covid co-ordinators have email lists which, within GDPR guidelines, we might be able to use too.

Our project plan suggests that this work might take 18 – 24 months but we would hope to go to Reg 16 in 15 – 18 months. At this stage we assume that we shall be making changes which will require our Revised Plan to go to Examination.

CS will send the project Plan to DH and JW

MW advised that we will be conducting a review of the existing Landscape Character Assessments and will apply for a Locality grant in due course. DH agreed that the existing District and County Landscape Character Assessments were prepared some time ago and understood why we will want an updated assessment. It was noted that the current NPPF now includes guidance relating to ‘valued landscapes’. NW suggested that a finer grain assessment will be of benefit to all. MW also referred to Policy NBE2 in the adopted local plan.

We briefly talked about whether Winchfield would undertake a housing needs assessment and DH advised that we should talk to Nicola Harpham (HDC Housing Dept). CS said that Action Hampshire might assist us with additional guidance.

JW will send Nicola's email address to CS (winchfieldndp@gmail.com)

JW said that the recent changes to the Permitted Development Rights (PD) are not always clearly understood and DH requested that feedback from the Development Management Team suggested that Policies need to be more user friendly and easier to implement.

We shall be looking at the current settlement boundaries and DH advised that it is within the scope of NDP's to change these but that new policies including settlement boundary changes need to be evidenced and justified. DH confirmed that the mapping services are still available from the HDC home page.

JW encouraged the use of social media for community engagement. DH quoted the 'post-covid' Basingstoke and Deane Council Draft Statement of Community Involvement as a document which may (or may not) be of assistance.

It was agreed that we will engage with HDC on an 'as needed' basis rather than set up a formal meeting schedule.

JW will set up a meeting for late November so that we have one more update session this year.

Meeting closed at 1435.