

# **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting**

**4<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Great Addington Village Hall**

**7.45 p.m.**

**Present:** Helen Hoier (Chair of GANP), Mike Scott (Chair of GAPC), Colin Wilkinson (Consultant), Sue Cole, Chris Dean, Pam Dean, Liz Harlow, Ron Johnson, David Harlow, Jo Blackburn, Wendy Pidd, Jan Baines, Catherine Baines.

**Apologies:** Elaine Scott (ES - Clerk to GAPC), Charlie Harlow

**Minutes of previous meeting (30<sup>th</sup> November 2022):** Agreed. No comments.

**Declarations of interests relating to the agenda: None**

**Discussion of each group's progress in relation to the consultation event 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 – Where is each group at? What does each group want to ask the community?**

## **1. Community services and facilities**

Discussion and comments included:

- Group to consider what will be displayed on the board at the consultation event;
- Query re. ground source heating for the village and whether this is relevant to the village plan;
- Queries about how much information needs to go on the boards.
- Colin: It's about engagement of the village rather than providing reems of information;
- Does the information gathered at the consultation event inform the questionnaire?
- Colin: We might conclude that a questionnaire is not necessary, but the event might bring up some mixed views that the questionnaire can delve into. The questionnaire should take things forward rather than repeat any information that's already been gathered at the event. Colin will produce the questionnaire, if required;
- Questions raised: How do you marry up the differences between what the village wants and what the council is able to do? It's important to get local views, but you can't do everything the villagers want. What are the expectations of the higher authority?
- Colin: the important thing is to get a good understanding of what the local community wants to see. If a strong view is articulated, then that is helpful for taking a plan forward. The neighbourhood plan sits in a core strategy framework. 3 frameworks that they work within are: the Neighbourhood Plan policy framework, the Core Strategy of the area and the East Northamptonshire Local Plan;
- Query about what cannot be achieved as part of a neighbourhood plan, e.g., maintenance of roads, speeding traffic;
- Colin: The Parish Plan takes on issues such as roads, transport and maintenance, Neighbourhood plan- not perhaps the route for concerns about speeding traffic. The Neighbourhood plan is about planning. Some of the things coming out of the community

feedback will be passed on to other authorities. Make sure feedback isn't lost and that it is passed on to appropriate authority.

- Important: We need to make it clear what we are looking at on the boards. Entry panel to include what a Neighbourhood Plan is.

## **2. Green space and the environment**

Discussion and comments included:

- A question about whether photos of particular areas of interest re. green spaces can be put up at the event;
- Two green spaces were identified in the village as being of interest for potential green spaces: Rushwell Close and the playing fields. Should Rushwell Close should be listed as a green space? Should the playing field? What are the benefits and downfalls of listing areas as a Green Space?
- Suggestion that the footpath at the bottom of the Manor (that which is part of the Queens Green Canopy) could be nominated as a green space. At the moment it is a right of way, but that could be moved;
- Possible question to be placed on the board: What are the spaces important to the local community that are worth preserving? What are the protected views?
- Q. What about future green spaces? Can wishes from the village be included? What would the village like? e.g., a designated village green?
- Are there village shortcomings in terms of green space? Is there not enough green space?
- Comment that the footpath between Great and Little Addington is too narrow to reach the green space in the village. Can the neighbourhood plan influence changes or improvements such as this?
- Colin: It might be an opportunity to improve the footpath if the plan for development was connected. Otherwise, it is important to note but may not be changed as a direct result of the plan;
- It's important to recognise that by identifying a green space you might limit the use of that area in the future e.g. if you protect the playing field as a green space, it might be more difficult to use the space for another purpose (school?);
- Q. for the board – Ask the village to suggest potential green spaces.

## **3. Housing**

**Discussion included:**

- We need to be clear about what we want to do. Big map on the table;
- There are 119 dwellings and 116 houses in the village;
- Give people information about where planning could potentially be and where there has been some type of interest at county level;
- We need to find out what people's views are. What do they think about size of developments? How many houses should we propose?
- Highlight that if you had to say that some development would happen, where you choose to have it and how large the development would be;
- Colin: the village can come up with solutions broadly in line with plans at a higher level. We are given flexibility to find your own path;

- Question of what happens if 60% say no thanks to any housing?
- Colin: if your starting point is that we have to accommodate some housing growth, North Northants Council says we have to accommodate 11 – 20 houses in the next 5 years; How as a local community do we deal with this? There is no point choosing sites that aren't developable. At the consultation event, we are just getting a flavour about sorts of places where development could happen and the types of house the community would like to see;
- Every house has a right of connection to an electric and sewage;
- It may be that we come to the conclusion that the capacity of the village cannot accommodate more building. Other land-owners might come forward wanting their land to be considered;
- We need to hear what the demand for houses is - what type of houses are needed? Smaller accommodation? For younger / older people?
- Colin: developments with fewer than 10 buildings get no contributions to affordable housing.
- For the board: How many houses do people want? We can't say 'none', but if some development had to happen, where? What types of houses do they want to see?

#### **4. Heritage**

Discussion and comments included:

- Details of the listed buildings and history of the buildings – should we put up information about the history? It more about how the village is going to develop and protecting the current character of the village, e.g. protecting certain views.
- There are 9 listed buildings in the village;
- Q. Can you have a protected view of houses for heritage reasons (like view up the village from the pub to the church)?
- Colin – Yes, you can have protected views of things that are important to the heritage and history of the village;
- Pictures and some history could be included as part of the display;
- Q for board- Which views in the village are the important views that we are keen to preserve?
- Stone walls – these could be protected through the Neighbourhood Plan. We can expect that, in the event of damage, walls will be replaced in the original style.

#### **5. Community involvement and sustainability**

Discussion included:

- Agreed posters for the consultation event have gone up around the village;
- Leaflet-drop has been arranged, inviting people to the consultation event/coffee morning;
- Article has gone into the Saints Alive magazine;
- Draft of leaflet to be sent round by Mike and leaflet to be posted through the doors of the village the week before the consultation event.

**Arrangements for the consultation event, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023**

It was agreed that:

- A3 maps to be printed to go on the tables- (ES);
- Each group will have 3 boards, 600mm by 900mm;
- Cake contributions welcome;
- The village hall will be open two hours before the consultation event.

#### **Action points**

- Planning for individual group meetings to focus on what will go on to the boards at the consultation event on 21st January 2023;
- Printing to be sent to Elaine Scott by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January;
- Pens/ posits/ sticky pads etc. to come from ES;
- Each team to take a picture of the feedback that they receive on their boards and send to CB;
- Information for boards should include the questions we need to know the answers to.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 - 7.45 p.m.