

HORTON & WRAYSBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Steering Group meeting notes: Thursday, Jan 12, 2017

Held at Wraysbury Village Hall, 10am

SG Members present: Margaret Lenton, Peter Lord, Diana Hughes, Eileen Coogan, Dawn Funnell, Fred Parsons, Janet Crame, Julie Gomme, Lynn Holden.

1. Pre-Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan

The Group discussed the amendments made to the Plan following the meeting with our consultant and to see that they were correct, plus looking at further changes.

Re Section 2 b – Planning Policy. Reminded that we need an updated sentence regarding the Government consultation on possible changes to Green Belt policy in the NPPF which might allow NPs to allocate small scale sites for starter homes.

Need to update when the final version of the NPPF is published soon.

Re Section 2 c – Local Planning Policy. Relates to the Borough Local Plan (BLP). RBWM still consulting on new draft and Wraysbury PC has written to the borough asking for a 2-6 weeks extension to the consultation. With the consultation at a relatively early stage, our NP has to comply with the strategic policies of the current adopted BLP (2003).

Re Section 3 b – Profile of the community today. Discussion held whether to include a line specifically mentioning gypsies & travellers in the population detail section.

JG found it 'strongly offensive' and that it could alienate that part of our community. LH agreed, saying from experience at the school any singling out would not be wanted.

JC emphasised that Horton has felt there should be a reference to gypsies and travellers in the NP that would clarify planning control situations.

FP reminded that the issue is being classed by RBWM as a strategic matter and so something the NP cannot influence. The emerging BLP is covering housing policy in that regard, following Government guidelines. PL suggested that we put in a paragraph saying something like "all housing planning policies are applicable to all members of the community." DF suggested that such a line could be inserted in the Objectives section under Housing.

Group agreed to include such a sentence and JC volunteered to offer up something suitable.

Re Policy BE2 – Heritage Assets: Discussed that it would be advisable to add a descriptive sentence to the properties identified to justify their inclusion as being valued. That could go in Reasoned Justification. *Agreed that group members would prepare a brief description of each to give background reason as to their value.*

2. Plan progression

ML said she would again press for RBWM to make any comments on the NPlan before it is finalised.

The Character Assessment: Updates are still being worked on (LH is co-ordinating).

John Slater said he would write the Basic Conditions Statement, while FP said he would write the Consultation Statement document - which will include the Schedule of Comments & Responses (which PL is preparing). These important documents are to accompany the Submission Version of the Plan.

Timing schedule: All the above work and amendments to the Plan document should aim to be completed by February 16 when the Steering Group next meet to agree these documents. The NPlan should then be ready for the SG to forward a Submission Version of the NPlan to the parish councils for approval before being presented to the local authority (RBWM). Parish councils meet as:
Wraysbury PC on Feb 20 and Horton PC on Feb 21.

SEA query. A delay may occur in submitting if the borough insist on a Strategic Environmental Assessment (which relates to the Coppermill Road site). JS is in negotiation at the moment with the borough over whether this is really necessary.