

HORTON & WRAYSBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Steering Group meeting notes: Thursday, February 16, 2017

Held at Wraysbury Village Hall, 10am

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

Also present: John Slater, consultant; Robert Paddison (RBWM).

1. Progress summary

JS said that we are now at a position where we have to agree the final points that remain on the Neighbourhood Plan ready to deliver the document to the parish councils (who meet Feb 20 and Feb 21) Councillors will then have time to consider the document and hope that approval can be given at their March meetings. The Plan, which would become the Submitted Version, could then be sent to the royal borough for legal checks before they carry out their own six-week consultation on the Plan. He said he was pleased to say that “we are on the final straight.”

2. Report on latest Government White Paper on housing and the Green Belt

JS explained the position that following the announcement in the White Paper that the Government although having consulted on proposals that would have allowed neighbourhood plans to allocate sites in the Green Belt for starter homes, has decided not to allow that situation. It now proposes only a Local Planning Authority is able to make changes to the Green Belt for housing.

Our draft plan was proposing to allocate a site in the Green Belt in Coppermill Road for starter homes, so now we may need to remove this policy.

Discussion about the role of a neighbourhood plan if government can change its mind on what our NPlan can do. JS said that there are positives as the NPlan still had legal merits which would help the community have a say in development criteria and to promote other community benefits.

RP said that the Coppermill Road site is still in the emerging Borough Local Plan as a suggested option for housing and that the HWNP may still have the opportunity to be involved in what type of housing is built.

**** A proposal to recommend that the policy DG4 (the allocation of housing in Coppermill Road) be removed from the HWNP was agreed by the Steering Group.***

3. Neighbourhood Plan amendments

The Steering Group went through the Plan and made some other amendments as agreed.

JC raised the point about traffic concerns in Horton. With the proposals put forward by RBWM for new housing development off the Colnbrook Road, could there be something in the Plan to have some control over heavy goods vehicles. JS said something like that is in the realm of Highways but the Plan does support actions in traffic management.

4. Screening

JS asked RP if the borough could formally screen the Plan that is going forward to the parish councils to get an opinion as to whether an assessment under the SEA and HRA is required to be made before the Plan can be submitted, as it is one of the Basic Conditions.
