

# HORTON & WRAYSBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## Steering Group meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2015

**Present:** Andrew Davies (chair), Diana Hughes, Margaret Lenton, Peter Lord & Fred Parsons.  
(Apologies: Julie Gomme)

**Also present:** Phil Gill (RBWM), Brian Whiteley (Planning Aid England).

- 1. Minutes of Last Meeting (April 21):** Agreed – no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
- 2. Progress Update:** Following the council elections, Horton parish council has appointed David Roberts and Eileen Coogan as members of the Steering Group. They replace Samantha and Colin Rayner. *FP to make contact with them as to establish what information they need to be brought up to date.*
- 3. Character Assessment:** BW presented the updated character assessment as compiled by planning consultant Darren Carroll, from evidence gathered by two volunteer planners and input from Steering Group members. It has been divided into seven distinct areas of different character covering both parishes.  
BW said this is a core assessment and asked that the Steering Group members take it away to look at where any additions / amendments might be necessary – one suggestion being the flood protection area in Friary Road. Also there are spaces for more pictures to illustrate the areas. He said it is important that significant characteristics are not overlooked. Also that local views are important to portray, so pictures / diagrams showing distinct vistas of key areas could be produced (e.g. regarding Wraysbury High Street, The Green or Horton Church).  
BW said that we should aim for amendments and pictures to be brought to the next meeting for group discussion.  
The Character Assessment when completed would be an appendix to support the design and character policies progressed within the Neighbourhood Plan, and help to ensure that development proposals are designed in a manner that is complementary to the surrounding area.  
\* AD said that the Group is “exceptionally grateful to BW for getting qualified people to do this assessment, and would he pass on our special thanks to Darren Carroll. This has saved us a great deal of time.”
- 4. Topic Groups Objectives & Policy ideas:** BW said the Topic Groups need to formulate their suggested Objectives and produce some Policy ideas for each by the next meeting.

This is the next stage in formulating the plan and once the group have identified a set of outline policy proposals we can look to appoint a consultant to advise on writing the draft plan and detailed policies – using the new funding programme announced in February by Locality. BW to provide AD & FP with possible consultant support details.

Following the elections, it was confirmed that the Topic Group leaders be:

Built Environment: Diana Hughes - Community / Environment: Margaret Lenton –

Business: Andrew Davies - Transport & Travel: Fred Parsons.

It was noted that the Topic Group leaders will need to bolster their teams as further work is needed to produce the draft plan.

BW said that once the policies are set down, the group could look at what background evidence there is to support them and to see if any further evidence gathering is needed.

Noted also that it may be important to gather more views and comments from younger residents, especially young families etc. ML said she was in touch with the Scouts and Guides and youth groups.

Also it was felt to refer to any LHR expansion and how that may affect the Neighbourhood Plan – eg housing, transport. This could be part of the Appendix.

**5. Article 4 Directions:** It was noted that PG had forwarded to the Steering Group several Article 4 directions covering the two parishes.

The oldest one here dates from 1952 and covers both parishes in whole; it requires prior planning approval for any proposal for siting caravans or other "moveable structures". The second from 1982 deals with The Embankment area and covers several issues including maximum fencing heights and access roads. There are five others that we now have on file.

**6. Public rights of way:** PG had forwarded a plan that the borough has of the official rights of way.

FP said that the Colne Valley Park had produced a map that includes other paths not on the RBWM map but which make it a circular walk. Those were permitted paths, but these do need to be confirmed. Meeting heard that any other permitted path requests to landowners should be made by individual groups, not the council. Having walks on our green space areas was found to be important to residents and could be a project in the Plan. Rights of way and paths should be included in the Appendix.

**7. Flood zones:** A map showing flood zones from the EA needs to be confirmed. DH / PL to ask for a new updated map.