

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Steering Group Plenary meeting, March 24, 2014, Wraysbury Village Hall

Present: Andrew Davies, Samantha Rayner, Margaret Lenton, Fred Parsons
– From RBWM: Phil Gill (Planning Officer)

Housing and Built Environment

DH presented her paper on Housing for Wraysbury – Horton's is to come.

DH Housing presentation detailed background on Wraysbury as an historical village and how it has grown and been developed over time and now has around 1600 dwellings.

Despite restrictions on building because most of Wraysbury is in a functional flood plain as well as Green Belt, extensive development has occurred including large extensions – all passed through because the then Borough Local Plan did not give sufficient importance to flood risks or Green Belt as now stressed by Nick Boles MP.

The paper highlights the need for housing for our ageing population and the concerns that many small bungalow are being demolished and replaced by 6+ bedroom houses which in some cases is detrimental to neighbouring properties. More level access houses should be made available on previously developed or brownfield land.

Also the cumulative effect of small increases in footprint should be looked at by local planning policy, as the continual addition of concrete both above and below ground which impedes the flow of water and compromises the floodplain's capacity to store water.

Community aspect

ML presented the Community paper which gave a comprehensive description of both villages and their diverse residents profile.

There is a range of leisure facilities and activities which need continued support, while one of the key issues is to co-ordinate the various facilities on offer to make villagers aware and ensure those needing assistance receive it.

A need to have access to open space for leisure. There are a number of lakes and SSIs in our area with some having been places for walking and bird watching for many years. With new private owners we would seek to negotiate continued access as facilities for our villagers to enjoy.

Wraysbury losing its surgery is a major issue. Travelling to Datchet for the surgery especially for those who do not drive, needs to be addressed, while maintaining quality health care for all sections of the community is important.

Better public transport and the issue of buses – and where they run is an important project.

Schools – choice and access and transport to them should be considered

Some questions for the survey might be :

What local services and community facilities are most important to you – and which need improving

What health services and facilities are most important to you locally. Is there sufficient home care for the elderly

