



## **East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Plan (EHNP)**

### **6th Steering Group Meeting, 7:30-9:50pm, 15th November 2016, 12 Main Road**

This meeting was convened to progress the draft policies being prepared by the topic groups and to consider the tenders received for landscape and historic assessments of the parish

#### **1. Attendance and apologies, declarations of interest**

The meeting was attended by Crispin Topping (Chairman) plus Bill Barksfield; Sally Barksfield ; Iain Duff ; Anne Dunsdon ; David Rickeard ; Justine Wood ; Marcus Wood and for MtGG, Andy Barmer (part time).

#### **2. Committee Membership**

Frances Clay has announced her resignation from the Committee, because she has moved away from the village.

The desirability of finding a replacement was discussed. It was concluded that for now, the core group did not need reinforcing, but that additional help would be valuable within the five topic areas.

#### **3. Developments since the last meeting**

The minutes of the 5th SG Meeting held on 26th September 2016 were approved and can be posted on the web site.

The public meeting held on Tuesday 25th October in Hagbourne Village Hall was well attended. A record of the Q&A session has already been posted on the web site.

#### **4. Development of potential policies**

Leaders of the five topic groups have prepared first drafts of policy documents for the Neighbourhood Plan. The process has not proved easy, but has been approached by making an assessment of the survey feedback and how this can be shaped into policies, taking into account the guidance from Tom McCulloch that each policy should be supported by a justification and evidence.

The evidence base is primarily the survey feedback, together with other input on the village and its surroundings, including the 2011 Parish Plan. The justification is more difficult to define, but on David's suggestion some time was spent on writing down what we were trying to do in each section in a few simple words that could then be elaborated on.

It was agreed that more work was needed to produce draft policies that the whole group can agree on and a small group (Crispin, Marcus, Bill and David) will meet on Sunday 20th November to come up with a second draft.

Once we are agreed on a draft, this will be reviewed by Tom McCulloch at CFO before being passed on to David Potter for a more professional drafting.

Crispin suggested that we should, in parallel, have the draft reviewed by a small group of village experts. It was agreed that consultation with the wider public was important, but no resolution was achieved on when and how wide that consultation should be.

The impact of the Didcot Garden Town initiative on the NP was discussed. There was concern about the way the area of influence for the Garden Town had been presented and



that it covered parts of East Hagbourne parish. A public meeting with the Garden Town team is planned in East Hagbourne early December.

The effectiveness of a study purely carried out by an external consultant was discussed. We need to balance some local involvement to add local knowledge, without making a lot of work for ourselves. David will check for local experts on wildlife.

## **5. Other input needed for the NP Report**

David referred to Tom's email of 31st October, which provided a template for the sustainability topics that should be included in the report:

- Biodiversity, fauna and flora
- Population and human health
- Soil- ?
- Water
- Air- ?
- Climate
- Material assets
- Cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage)
- Landscape

Other, social and economic themes should also be covered, e.g.:

- Education
- Traffic and Transport
- Housing
- Communications- ?
- Waste- ?
- Employment- ?

Some of this overlaps with the village and landscape assessments, but other areas rely heavily on census data. The 2011 Census data relates to the parish boundary then existing, before Millbrook was transferred to Didcot, so should not be used. David has clarified with the census office where the information for the new parish boundary can be found and asked CFO to cost preparing a summary report for the new boundary area.

## **6. Tenders for Historic and Landscape Assessments**

Crispin presented two tenders received from consultants recommended by CFO to carry out village character and landscape assessments. One consultant has an extensive track record in this area, but would cost more than our current budget allowance; the second offers a lower cost, but less on-site time. Crispin will discuss the pros and cons again with Tom.

Both consultants included both village and landscape assessments in their quotations. One option to explore is doing the village assessment with local resources using the template available from CFO, following which a decision will be made.

## **7. Next Meeting**

The sub-group will meet on Sunday 20th November and report back to the full group.

Next steps are for agreement to be reached on

- The draft policy documents, so they can be given to CFO for their input.
- Consultant for village and landscape assessments