

East Hagbourne Neighbourhood Plan



Plan Update

18th May 2017

East Hagbourne Pavilion

Presentation by Crispin Topping

Attending 29 residents

[Please read this in conjunction with Crispin's presentation which can be found at <http://easthagbourneplan.net/mdocs-posts/plan-update-18th-may-2017/?mdocs-cat=>]

Additions to presentation and questions from the floor

(Questions are in italic)

Crispin:

The plan making is approximately 2 months behind schedule. It is a slow process but it is hoped that a second draft will be complete by the end of May.

HELAA has seen multiple sites around the village put forward for consideration. Today we understand that a Planning Application for c75 units has been made for the field adjacent to the village hall.

Potential development between Coscote and Didcot are of concern.

SODC have suggested that a 5 year supply will be achieved by mid 2018.

Justine:

Developments around Didcot are beginning to move forward. For instance Didcot North East and the development near to Tesco's. It is hoped this will help the situation with regard to 5 year supply.

Andy Stock:

What is 'HELAA'? (Crispin gave an explanation and confirmed that it does not represent a mandate to build).

Resident:

Why are there so many developments in and around Didcot? Crispin replied that a cynical view might be that the area has been perceived as expendable and an 'easy target' compared to other areas in the district. The good news, however, is that in SODC's new plan (under preparation) Didcot is not

being asked to deliver any more housing above and beyond the present plan. Instead other areas (such as Thame) are to meet demand.

Resident:

You have said we do not plan to allocate sites as part of the plan. Could we change our minds and do so in the future?

Crispin replied that the plan will likely be updated in 5 years time. At that time, theoretically, we could do so. Also, as much of the background work to the plan has been done the re-draft will not be too much of an arduous task.

Tony Smith (on the subject of potential community projects):

Expanding and moving the village shop will cause issues. The Post Office will not support a kiosk layout in this event. This will create significant issues that would likely make the post office function untenable.

David Rickeard:

The potential community projects is a wish list drawn from consultation. This does not mean the projects are achievable. Having the money may not meet our aspirations.

Resident:

Are SODC involved in this process? Crispin answered that they were. David Rickeard clarified – they're not writing the plan but are advising as to what will be acceptable to a plan inspector.

Resident:

What is the purpose of the referendum? Answer: it is an opportunity for the community to 'sign off' the plan.

Resident:

Is there a minimum threshold for the referendum vote? Answer: We understand that a simple majority is required for it to 'pass'. But we would hope for a high proportion of residents to be in favour of it.

Resident:

After the inspector has reviewed the plan is there then a chance for the community to input further? Answer from Crispin: Probably not. The Steering Group will work to explain what has changed before the plan goes for referendum.

Resident:

Please explain again about future amendments. Crispin: Optionally the plan can be reviewed every five years. In this context simplicity for the initial plan seems sensible.

Resident:

Is there a forum to learn from other villages who have made or are making a plan? Crispin: Yes there is. CFO have acted as a conduit to other villages and plans. There has been a lot of dialogue.

Resident:

When will SODC's new plan be in place? And what about 5 year supply? Crispin replied that the SODC plan should be in place mid 2018 (its now called colloquially "2033".) 5 year supply is based on houses actually being built, not planned. So despite SODC's hope to regain 5 year supply by mid 2018 there is uncertainty.

Resident:

When will our plan be finished? Answer: we hope to have a 'made plan' within 6 months.

Resident:

Can we please extend our thanks to Crispin and his colleagues for all the hard work. The room agreed.