

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING REPORT TO CBPC: 7TH MARCH 2022

1. Neighbourhood Plan Document

As reported last month all our efforts have been directed towards completion of the Neighbourhood Plan Document. This has been a significant effort coordinated by Jo Witherden with contributions from members of the SG. The NPSG reviewed the NP on the 28th February and gave its concurrence. Unfortunately this was delayed by one week because many SG members were affected by the power cuts so the meeting scheduled for the 21st had to be postponed. The NP has now been distributed to CBPC Counsellors for their review prior to the special meeting scheduled for the 14th March. We are hoping that we can trigger the Pre-Consultation process at the end of March assuming that CBPC give their concurrence. However, we are dependent on AECOM for their SEA report (see below).

2. AECOM SEA Work

AECOM are producing an Environmental Report which has 3 main sections as follows:- (a) Summary of SEA Scoping, (b) Consideration of reasonable alternatives and (c) Appraisal of the completed draft version of the NP which they now have. They have committed to completing their work during the w/s 28th March at which point it will need reviewing by NPSG before we can launch the Pre-Consultation process.

3. Affordable Housing Project, Portesham

Following consultation with both the landowners and Magna Housing, a meeting was held on the proposed site on Friday 25th February. Magna expressed their interest in building a number of homes on the site, to be determined, with half being Affordable Homes and half open market housing. The landowners were in full agreement with this proposal and also were keen for this to be a collaborative project, involving Magna, the landowners and the Neighbourhood Plan SG. The action is with Magna Homes to come back with a more detailed proposal over the next 6 weeks or so.

4. Preparation for Pre-Consultation Process

The NPSG having completed the NP work, is now turning its attention to the preparation for the Pre-Consultation process. We will need to hold drop-in public meetings in each village as we did for the Options Consultation process, as well as making the NP widely available for people to examine and study. We will be setting up a Working Group of SG Members to co-ordinate this work.