

Old Basing & Lychpit Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan Update

Meeting Notes 17th January 2024

Present: Cllrs David Whiter, Peter Bloyce, Roger Doust, Francesca Maritan, Charlie Butfoy, Sheena Grassi, Kate Tuck, and Kate Hope (Deputy Clerk).

1 Apologies: Cllrs Murray Campbell.

2 Funding & Expenditure

Costs to Date

£3162.90 spent so far. £7655.10 remaining.

Grant for Design Code

DW reported that a Grant is not required for Design Code work and that instead, the Parish Council can apply for designated support from a qualified Consultant which the Government fund and appoint.

3 Consultant – ET Planning

Local Gap Report?

MC, PB and Cllr Renwick met with WWA (Consultants appointed to work on a rebuttal to the draft Local Plan Update) to discuss an appropriate response to the recent Regulation 18 announcement for the Update (due to commence on 22nd January 2024). WWA have recommended that the Parish Council proceeds with a Local Gap Report and puts pressure on the Borough Council to extend the proposed Valued Landscape in the draft Update. WWA have been asked to liaise with ET Planning and ES Landscape Planning to prepare a response. The Working Group agreed that this is a very positive step.

The rest of the meeting largely covered Local Plan Update matters, but there was still overlap with the Neighbourhood Plan Update work. KT spoke to BDBC regarding the Valued Landscape supporting documents; a Consultant worked on this, but KT feels that the suggestion that local residents “appreciate and value the landscape” to a reasonable degree was falling short of the true opinion of our residents (the response to the first Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire was that 90% were in support of protecting the surrounding landscape – we will soon know what the numbers are for the latest questionnaire responses, but anticipate them to be very similar). KT highlighted her concern that the current Neighbourhood Plan refers to ‘and other views’ in the Iconic Views section and that listing EVERY Iconic View would be more appropriate if we wish to push back against future development effectively – other Parish Councils include views ‘like a rash’ across their parish areas. FM offered the support of her husband and his photography equipment and expertise to illustrate more Iconic Views.

It was agreed that the Iconic Views section in the updated Neighbourhood Plan should be more wide-reaching (having focussed on the Loddon Valley in the current Plan) and that views of Basingstoke Town Centre from Basing Common, as well as from the Crabtree Plantation to the Hackwood Estate and down Huish Lane should not be forgotten whilst focussing on the East of the Parish. The proposal for the wording of the Iconic Views section should also incorporate other areas than just the Loddon Valley. FM will look at suitable wording. **FM**

CB will help with effective inclusion of the area under threat of a motorway service area. **CB**

Design Code

All were in agreement that the Parish Council should proceed with a new Design Code, providing there is no additional cost to the Parish Council for this additional work.

Next Meeting with ET Planning in early February 2024.

4 Publicity & Communications

Questionnaire

492 questionnaires have been received. This is more than a 15% response rate and more than were received for the first Neighbourhood Plan work.

Analysis of Responses

Responses are being received. Analysis will be needed. DW has drafted response analysis sheets and will circulate and instruct further in late January.

Final document production, pictures

The first draft will be ready for circulation next week (coordinated by FM) and will be sent to the Consultants for their comments and review.

5 Rewriting 2018 Neighbourhood Plan

PB is preparing a finalised version of the census analysis and will leave gaps and annotate accordingly where information is not yet available. **PB**

Any references to the Local Plan should be made to the draft Local Plan Update and not the current document, now that Regulation 18 has been agreed. KT agreed to submit her section to FM by Friday so that it can be incorporated into the first draft for the Consultants. They will then review for a fortnight and meet with the Parish Council in early February 2024.

6 Evidence Log

FM

7 Next Meetings

Working Group – 21st February 2024 @ 11.00am, 20th March 2024 @ 11.00am.

ET Planning – TBC – early February