

SSJ Neighbourhood Plan
Bimonthly Report to SSJ Parish Council
March 2015

1. General

The Evidence Base is largely completed.

The year-long Wildlife Map Study is in progress.

The Workshop organised for Wednesday 28th January was held; Alex Munro (Maroon Planning) attended.

The Consultation and Questionnaire Feedback Event was held in SSJ Village Hall on 14.03.15 – this has been extended via the web-based ballot.

The Neighbourhood Plan Website is still proving problematic.

2. Steering Group

1. There is no change to the Steering Group – but, as always, additional members and support is appreciated.
2. A further two meetings have been held including the Workshop (thirteen in total) – the latest on 8th March.
3. Next meetings:
 - i. with Sherfield on Lodden N Plan (7.30pm Monday 30th March - Chute Pavilion)
 - ii. (provisional) Thursday 30th April (6.30pm – The Old Post Office, SSJ)
4. Further meetings will be monthly but have not yet been fixed.

3. Evidence Base

1. The Neighbourhood Plan Base Summary still requires loading onto the website.
2. The Wildlife Map Study continues – led by Mike Harrison started on 01.01 15.
3. The Evidence Base Toolkit still has some minor gaps.

4. Questionnaire Feedback / Workshop 28th January

1. Response by household was ~ 50%. This is very good.
2. Elder residents dominated the responses. An attempt to generate further response from the younger members of the community was unsuccessful.
3. The results were reviewed at the Workshop held on the 28th January:
 - i. In terms of housing, they showed good correlation with the Housing Needs Survey. In summary, a limited, mixed (ie part social, part market) housing need was identified.
 - ii. Hopes for the future were centred on SSJ remaining a sustainable, independent community in the future.
 - iii. Concerns were dominated by fears of a loss of identity and rural setting (due to coalescence with Basingstoke). The potential loss of the Post Office / Shop also featured heavily.

The format for the Consultation and Feedback Event was agreed.

5. Housing Needs Survey

1. No further action outside the N Plan Questionnaire has been taken.

6. Call for Sites

1. 6 potential sites have been identified – discussions have been held with all interested parties except No.6 Aubrey Place, which is currently in probate and may or may not be available.
2. Sites that exhibited at the Consultation and Feedback Event were:
 - i. 1. Cranesfield (2 sites, 2 options)
 - ii. 2. Bob's Farm
 - iii. 3. Aldermaston Rd (opposite Gales Garage)
 - iv. 4. Hillside

v. 5. Kiln Rd (Late proposal from HCC for Affordable (Social) Housing only.

7. Consultation and (Questionnaire) Feedback Event – 14th March

1. 120 residents attended the Event – which represents a good turnout. Feedback was (almost universally) very strongly positive.
2. The exhibited documents comprised:
 - i. Summary of Questionnaire results - 'Consultation Event 14.03.15 Presentation'
 - ii. the Neighbourhood Plan Draft Report (March 2015 R4)
 - iii. the Call for Sites (08.03.15 R6). This contains the short-list of possible sites; we believe that we need to provide 10-15 houses - which agrees with the Questionnaire response.
 - iv. Map ('Appendix B - Short-Listed Sites') showing the short-listed Possible Development Sites
 - v. Developers outline proposals
 - vi. Wildlife Map Plan Information
 - vii. Housing Needs Survey
3. Attendees were invited to:
 - i. Comment on Draft Key Policies
 - ii. Vote for preferred potential development sites
4. Although attendance was good, it was agreed that we should attempt to reach a greater proportion of the Parish – the event documents have been transferred to the Parish Council / Neighbourhood Plan website. Residents who missed the 14.03.15 Event can register their views by visiting the site and then emailing their comments / vote to the Parish Clerk. A closing date of Friday 17th April 2015 has been set. ***(At the time of writing the web pages installed 18/19th March have disappeared – urgent action is required)***

8. Programme/ Progress

1. There is a further 4 week's slippage to the programme. Based on the May 2014 Timeline (and unless acceleration measures are taken), the Plan is 4 months behind schedule; the Referendum is expected to be held in April 2016.

9. Budget

1. Costs during the period: £712
2. Total Costs to date: £8238 (*£4657 for consultants, £1080 Administrator & general admin £2503*)
3. Further funding may be available and is being pursued.

J Crawley
Chairman

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