

Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Bi-monthly Progress Note to Abbots Langley Parish Council – Report Thirteen – 1st May 2018

The Neighbourhood Planning Group last met on Thursday 26th April 2018. Their next meeting is planned for 7pm on Thursday 28th June 2018. As the Chair has been abroad on holiday for 5 weeks in February/March 2018 and then another family holiday for one week after Easter, little progress has been made on the Neighbourhood Plan since the last report.

Work is continuing on:

Phase 4 'Public Engagement and Consultation'

Phase 5 'Building the Evidence Base'

Phase 6 'Identify the key Themes, Aims, Vision, Options.'

Phase 7 'Write the Neighbourhood Plan – Policies'

1. Outline structure of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and its Appendices

At the last meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Group, The Chair circulated a Draft Structure for the proposed Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan. When comments have been received from the Group about the proposed Structure, material will be written for the initial Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan. The intention is to prepare this material by the next meeting of the Planning Group on 28th June 2018.

2. Housing Policies. – Press Announcement that five Local Districts are cooperating on Housing Development Requirements in their Local Plans to meet Government Targets.

The press announcement on 16th March 2018 in the Watford Observer, is a major change for local housing policies in the area. It is unclear whether this will result in no demand for development of housing on the Metropolitan Green Belt land within the Parish of Abbots Langley. Until further information on this District Planning policy is explained, the Housing Policy for the Parish should remain as explained in Parish Council's response to the Three Rivers District Local Plan – in September 2017.

3. Housing Policies. – Report back on seminar on "Community Led Housing."

Attended by Cllr Brenda Kersey and Jon Tankard on 20th February 2018. Seminar on 'Community-Led Housing' organised by CDA Herts 'to help local parish councils to unlock the barriers to providing affordable housing for current and future generations.' Brenda said that the development of just four houses is interesting but probably not applicable to address the housing needs in Abbots Langley. It was valuable to learn about the process.

4. Ongoing Work from our Consultants using the Government Grant.

Alison Eardley's 30-page report on 'Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan – Parish Profile' was circulated to the Planning Group for comment. Cllr Brenda Kersey is arranging for the Parish Office to print some copies for circulation to the Planning Group. We will be making a further application for our remaining Government Grant money during May 2018. We can apply for up to £4450. Part of this grant can be used for developing pages for the Neighbourhood Plan web site which is to be incorporated into the Abbots Langley Parish website.

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