

Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan

Bi-monthly Progress Note to Abbots Langley Parish Council – Report Five – 27th December 2016

The Neighbourhood Planning Group did not meet during November and December. Peter was on holiday in the latter half of November. Their next meeting is planned for 26th January 2017.

Work is continuing on:

- Phase 4 'Public Engagement and Consultation'
- Phase 5 'Building the Evidence Base'

Following Tim's suggestion to have an external 'Health Check' of the NP work, a number of the team met with Alison Eardley (Neighbourhood Planning Freelance Consultant) on 1st November. A written project brief was sent to Alison on 14th November and a 24-page proposal received on 5th December. A decision on this two-phase proposal will be made in mid-January following a meeting with Tim on 11th January. Part of the first phase is to apply for Government funding which can cover Alison's costs, if successful.

Regarding the Public Engagement, Peter gave an 'update' talk at the Abbots Langley Forum meeting on 3rd November and a talk to the Environmental Forum (TRDC) on 9th November. Articles about the Neighbourhood Plan (NP), were published on 4th November and 4th January in 'My Abbots.' In December this magazine distributed the NP Leaflets to about 75% of households (6633 households) in the Parish. 'Third of a page' adverts are being published in the December, January and February issues of 'My Abbots.' All streets in the Parish, not covered by 'My Abbots' catchment area, will receive information about the NP in the New Year.

A database has been compiled of all businesses (approx. 400) in the Parish and other voluntary organisations/societies (approx. 100.) These companies/organisations have been categorised by type and size. Letters and NP leaflets will be posted to all these businesses and organisations for their input of views, comments and participation. In the New Year we hope to follow this up with some Network Events for Businesses and meet with Local Resident Groups, etc.

At the end of December, we have received 114 comments on the interactive web site (<https://abbotslangley.commonplace.is>), During February, all the information collected from public responses, together with the on-going work from 12 studies 'Building the Evidence Base,' will be analysed. Part of the evidence is derived from using 'Land Insight' software to identify the ownership of the larger plots of land across the parish that is undeveloped land – e.g. classified as agricultural land, open spaces, woods, sports fields, etc.

For the Annual Parish meeting on 1st March 2017, we hope to provide a Public Exhibition of the Main Themes of the Neighbourhood Plan (Phase 6) before the Team start writing the first Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan (Phase 7) in the Spring.

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