

## Bi-monthly Progress Report to Abbots Langley Parish Council – Report Twenty-One – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019

The Neighbourhood Planning Group last met on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7pm. The next meetings are planned for Thursday at 7pm on **26<sup>th</sup> September** and **28<sup>th</sup> November 2019** at the Parish Council Offices

Work is continuing on:

Phase 5 'Building the Evidence Base'

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

Phase 7 'Write the Neighbourhood Plan – Policies'

Phase 8 'Consultation on the Plan. Amend the Plan.'

When the above four phases are complete, the Draft Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to the Three Rivers District Council. If accepted, the Plan will be subject to an External Review.

### **1. First Draft of the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan (ALNP)**

The First Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan requires the approval of the Parish Council so that when the second draft is produced, any guidance and comments from the Parish Council can be taken into account - prior to publishing this second draft on the Parish Web Site for public consultation. The comments received to date have been incorporated in the Second Draft. Further work is required to finalise this Second Draft.

The Chair of the Parish Council Planning Committee has taken on the requirement to review the First Draft and seek the approval of the Parish Council Planning Committee. To produce the second draft, significant time is being given to presenting the written material including improved layout, photographs, maps and diagrams, etc. This is to ensure the public find the document easy to read and understand. Given the time and cost of producing the second draft, this work cannot be justified before receiving, from the Parish Council, their broad approval of the First Draft.

### **2. Providing a local focus for the policies as applied to particular communities**

As part of the planned consultation programme, a work programme and quote has been obtained from our Neighbourhood Planning Consultant to conduct Focus Groups on matters relevant to a local area for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan. These will include Locality Profiles, Policies and Proposals for selected communities. This work can start when the Second Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been published. The Consultation Phase (8) of the Neighbourhood Plan is a formal requirement. This work should ensure there is widespread publicity for the content of the ALNP amongst local residents and local businesses.

As explained in the previous Bi-monthly Progress Report Twenty, given the size of the Parish with 8,500 households, the Parish Council will need to recruit additional volunteers and/or commission suitable consultants to continue this consultation phase of the Neighbourhood Plan.

*(Note: As reported on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, the Chair has reduced his involvement in the work on the Neighbourhood Plan because of his additional responsibilities in the full-time care of his 99-year old mother at his family home.)*

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