

Bi-monthly Progress Report to Abbots Langley Parish Council – Report Twenty-Two – 1st November 2019

The Neighbourhood Planning Group last met on Thursday 26th September 2019 at 7pm. The next meetings are planned for Thursday at 7pm **on 28th November 2019 and 30th January 2020 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 has been read and discussed by members of the Parish Council. Guidance and written comments from some of the Parish Council members have been received. These will be taken into account when preparing the Second Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan. Regarding the ten objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan, some members have requested that greater emphasis be given to supporting and enriching the biodiversity of the Parish, promoting more local food production, protecting existing green spaces and, if there is development, it should mainly focus on meeting local housing needs. No changes were requested in the other objectives. However, a formal notice to approve the First Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan (subject to comments received) by the Parish Council is still awaited.

Further work is required by the Neighbourhood Planning Team to finalise the Second Draft. 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 easier to read and understand.

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

The planned consultation programme can start when the Second Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been published. It is hoped to commence this Consultation Phase (8) of the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan early in 2020. This work should ensure there is widespread publicity for the content of the ALNP amongst local residents and local businesses.

3. Programme for the District Local Plan delayed by seven months

It was announced, in early October 2019, that the promised publications associated with the new Local Plan for Three Rivers District - including the selected sites for new housing and the Independent Green Belt Review, will not be available before May 2020. More technical analysis is required before these proposals can be finalised.

Peter Warman,
Chair,
Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Planning Group,
Tel: 01923 265258. Mobile: 07973 308013

Peter@Warmanconsult.co.uk