

Bi-monthly Progress Report for Abbots Langley Parish Council Report Thirty - 1st March 2021

The Neighbourhood Planning Group has not met in the last two months because of the measures in place for Covid-19.

Progress on the Public Version of the Neighbourhood Plan

The current Working Draft of the Neighbourhood Plan was circulated to members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and all Parish Councillors at the beginning of February 2021. During February and March questions and any comments on the Working Draft are welcome and should be submitted to the Chair of the Working Group, Peter Warman. A checklist has been prepared of all the key tasks that need to be completed before the Public Version of the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan can be placed on the Parish Web Site. The intention is to complete this work by the end of March 2021.

On-going Programme for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Once the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan (ALNP) has been published on the Parish Web site, various initiatives can be taken to inform local residents and employers of its availability and encourage their responses. These will include the following:

April and May 2021

- Prepare an eight-page leaflet that summaries the contents of the ALNP. Invite comments from the public. Promote the availability of the ALNP and invite people to participate in Focus Groups, initially via Zoom Groups and later at Exhibitions sites.
- Encourage more public comments on the ALNP Commonplace web site.
- Conduct six Zoom Community Focus Groups with residents living in each of the fourteen settlements within the Parish.
- Prepare the maps for the Neighbourhood Plan and check their accuracy with on-site audits.
- Additional photography at selected key sites referred to in the ALNP.

June and July 2021

- If the sites, selected for possible development by TRDC new Local Plan, are published, then the ALNP can be updated and a response prepared for submission to TRDC.
- The Working Draft of ALNP will be updated based on the feedback received from the Community.

August

- Complete the AECOM Technical Study and integrate their key recommendations into the ALNP Working Draft. Take on-board the results and recommendations of this Study which has reviewed and evaluated features of the fourteen Parish communities that are valuable and distinctive. Also review their recommendations on Building Design, Heritage and Settlement Planning.

September and October

- Hold up to three exhibitions and meetings at three locations within the Parish to explain the ALNP and invite discussion and comments.
- Prepare the final Draft of the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan, ready for submission to the Three Rivers District Council.
- Prepare all the other associated documents and Appendices that are required for submission with the ALNP.
- Finalise the content of the Data Base associated with the ALNP.

November

- Seek approval from Abbots Langley Parish Council to send the ALNP and associated material to Three Rivers District Council.

AECOM Project to identify distinctive and valued features of each local community

The Technical Project is being conducted by the AECOM Consultancy and paid for by National Government. The initial meeting with their team was held on 26th February. The purpose of the Project is to identify which features of the fourteen communities in the Parish are particularly valuable and distinctive, adding real character in defining each area. Such features may include particular buildings, green spaces, natural features and views/vistas. These could include community/public buildings, valued shopping facilities, listed buildings and walks/access to the surrounding countryside, etc.

Material from the project (in the form of photographs and text) can be used by the Neighbourhood Planning Team as they stage local exhibitions and conduct Focus Groups to establish the views and priorities of each community.

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