

## **Bi-monthly Progress Report for Abbots Langley Parish Council Report Thirty-three - 1st September 2021**

### **Progress on the Public Version of the Neighbourhood Plan**

The Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan (Consultative Draft- Version 2) was updated in July and made public on the Abbots Langley Parish Council website. This included a revised set of Policy Maps in Chapter 15 showing the selected sites as published in the Three Rivers District Local Plan.

### **Public Exhibitions in the Parish**

Two Public Exhibitions of the Neighbourhood Plan took place during July and August 2021. These events were promoted in an article written for the July edition of Abbots News and on local Facebook sites including Abbots Matters. The first exhibition was held at the Henderson Hub from 12<sup>th</sup> July to 13<sup>th</sup> August. The second exhibition was held at the Village Hall in Bedmond on selected days in the month of August. A 'Neighbourhood Plan' stand has been booked at the Autumn Fest event in School Mead on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Copies of the ten exhibits used at the exhibitions are published on the Parish website in the Neighbourhood Plan Section - Documents.

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

The AECOM Consultancy Project are completing their report and the Steering Group are expecting the Draft Report for comment in early September 2021.

### **Local Plan Regulation 18 – Public Consultation on the Preferred Policy Options and Sites for Potential Allocation - 11 June 2021 to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2021.**

As noted in the Bi-monthly Report 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021, the Steering Group expected the Parish Council to discuss and respond to Three Rivers District Council with regard to the policies, proposals and choice of sites affecting the Parish of Abbots Langley, as published in June 2021 for the new Local Plan.

To refine the policies and proposals set out in the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan, the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group intended to take note of the answers submitted to the District Council by the Parish Council in response to:

- Part 1: Preferred Policy Options
- Part 2: Sites for Potential Allocation

When the ALNP Steering Committee Chair attended the Planning and Highways Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021, he was surprised and disappointed to learn that the Parish Council did not prepare or submit any response on TRDC Local Plan. He was told the Chair of the Planning and Highways Committee did prepare and submit

personal response before the closing deadline, but no time had been set aside for the Parish Council to discuss this matter and make a response.

The Neighbourhood Planning Steering Committee prepared a 23-page report on all the original sites put forward for possible development by landowners and asked for comments in December 2018. No comments were received. To remain silent on these important matters twenty months later appears to be a neglect of duties as representatives of the local communities. Major housing developments on local land within the Metropolitan Greenbelt is a major concern of local residents. Residents were encouraged by TRDC to participate in the consultation programme. At least three local residents' groups commissioned professional planners to represent their interests and raised local funds to pay for this work.

As I have explained to the Parish Council before, it will be difficult to complete the work on the Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Plan this year if the Parish Council does not comment in writing on the 22 policies in the Draft Plan and the Policy Maps showing development sites in Chapter 15 of the Draft Plan – Consultative Draft Version 2.

Peter Warman,  
Chair, Abbots Langley Neighbourhood Planning Team.  
[Peter@Warmanconsult.co.uk](mailto:Peter@Warmanconsult.co.uk)