



Markfield Parish Council

NPlan Sub Committee (Working Group)

Meeting : 20th June 2023 at the Community Library

**Present ; Cllr Lucy Norris, Cllr Margaret Bowler,(MPC Vice Chair) Cllr Barrie Gannon ,
Cllr Stuart Taylor (MPC)Chair ,Mrs A Cook, Mr R Quinney, Mr I Springthorpe.**

Apologies; Cllr David Sprason, Colin Wilkinson (Planning Consultant), Tony Lockley.

1.0 Purpose of the Meeting

- To elect a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and correctly form the Group as a sub Committee of the MPC
- To determine progress to date , evaluate the current position as at June 2023 and agree a way forward to concluding the refresh of the NPlan

2.0 Cllr Bowler outlined that the MPC felt that progress had stagnated with the Refresh of the NP despite the looming end date of Sept 2023 for refresh . It was accepted that we would not meet that date but it was felt that progress should be continued at a pace.

Cllr Bowler emphasised the need to get the NPlan ready for examination and offered her service to take it through examination as she had with the original plan , albeit she could not commit to attending every meeting .

3.0 Cllr Bowler shared that she had had a long conversation with the Planning Consultant (Colin Wilkinson) .

- Colin had expected that HBBC would have the Local Plan in place by now, they have not .
- The expected HBBC Local Plan now extends to 2042, the NP must cover the same period as there is no 5 year Land Supply identified currently .
- There is a chance that the Sec of State will announce an extension for NP from 3 years (currently) to 5 years, it was resolved that we could not hesitate in the hope of that announcement .



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- Our expectation should be to Refresh our NPlan from Regulation 14 .
- Our relationship with HBBC planning and HBBC Policy Team is critical to our success, Cllr Bowler shared contact details for Daisy Sheilds at HBBC, our contact
- Whilst the Locality Grant (Funding for the refresh of the NP) has not yet been released to Parish Councils, our Consultant Colin, has agreed to continue with the work and support of the Group. Cllr Bowler did inform the Group that in the event of the Locality Grant being awarded , the MPC would have to underwrite the Consultant costs .
- Colin urged the Group to determine a clear direction of travel towards the September deadline for the NP

4.0 At this juncture the Group proceed to elect Officers

Cllr Lucy Norris volunteered to Chair the Group , it was resolved that a Vice Chair and Treasurer were not required at this stage . Cllr Stuart Taylor volunteered to act as Secretary to the Group and take the necessary minutes and notes .

Members were at this point assured that now the Committee was properly formed it would be afforded the cover of the MPC insurances etc whilst sitting .

5.0 At this point the Group registered the key objectives necessary to progress the NP through the refresh process;

- A Timeline program with key dates and milestones needs to be produced to monitor progress against expectations , Cllr Taylor, Norris and Bowler to confer on that and progress .
- Cllr Bowler from Colin Wilkinson conversation proceeded to prioritise focus on ;
 - No of houses
 - Protected views and greenspace
 - Heritage (Cllr Gannon had made progress on this)
 - Confirmed housing allocation
 - Land source as determined by HBBC
 - Site Selection Process
 - Avoid going beyond Regulation 14



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5.0 Next Steps

- Cllr Norris urged all members to go through the existing NP in detail and identify all or any elements or items they deemed need to be included in the refreshto be discussed at the next meeting.
- Cllr Norris to set up a meeting , or Zoom meeting with Daisy Shields (HBBC) to determine exactly what support and assistance is on offer and at what point does it become effective Resolved to report back to the Group
- Cllr Bowler suggested the Group write to our MP Luke Evans to urge release of the Locality Grant from Central Government.
- Land source information to be circulated (members urged to treat as Confidential)
- Members to consider how they will rank the Land Source sites
- Members reminded to consider any Declarations of Interest if Land Source is adjacent to , or directly affects there own address.

6.0 Next Meeting ;

Cllr Norris to review the content of the session, and consider the date and time for the next meeting ... members to be advised accordingly.