

Neighbourhood Plan Planning Meeting

22 October 2014

AGENDA

1 What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area.

A neighbourhood plan is about the use and development of land and may contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving the area or providing new facilities, or location of key sites for specific kinds of development.

It may deal with a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues (such as housing, employment, heritage and transport) or it may focus on one or two issues only. These may be issues that are relevant to the whole neighbourhood or just to part of the neighbourhood. This is for those producing the plan to decide.

2 Do we need one?

Scope of the Plan and the Neighbourhood Area

The scope and complexity of the plan will depend on various factors, including what is already covered in the core strategy, the nature of the area in question (for example economic conditions and expected level of growth) and the community's preferred outcomes.

A plan could be wide-ranging, or deal with one or two issues only. It could be detailed, or simply set general principles for development. The choice is down to the body producing the plan. This will clearly have significant implications in terms of time and cost.

The size of population (including the business community) in the neighbourhood area will similarly be a significant factor with time and cost implications. The lower the population and number of businesses, the lower the likely costs of community engagement.

The decision on whether to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, or to identify the scope and content of the plan, depends to a significant extent on the adequacy of existing local policies contained in the Local Plan (core strategy).

Alternatives to a Neighbourhood Plan

There are alternatives to producing a Neighbourhood Plan. One alternative is to produce an Area Action Plan. This would form part of the Local Plan so would have statutory status. Also, it would avoid the costs to the local authority associated with a local referendum (and the risk of an adverse vote).

However, they are local authority-led rather than being led by a town/parish council or neighbourhood forum and there are different legal steps that may be required. Nonetheless, this could be worth considering.

3 Where did we get to?

Areas Covered. All with 95% support from the results of the Questionnaire

- 1 Settlement Definition
- 2 Landscape
- 3 Heritage Assets
- 4 Housing Provision
- 5 Housing Balance
- 6 Affordable Housing
- 7 Business and Employment Development
- 8 Development of Retail
- 9 Community Facilities and Services
- 10 Visitor Economy
- 11 Transport Considerations
- 12 Education
- 13 Neighbouring Communities

Notes from meeting on March 19

- 1 Core Strategy is dominant
- 2 Main Focus for Key Issues
 - What do we want to achieve?
 - What evidence is there to support a policy?
 - Is this enough?
 - Actions Required
- 3 Possible Components
 1. Settlement Definition - Need maps and photos Q1
 2. Landscape - History/character/blending(?)/photos Q2
 3. Heritage Assets - Centre plus identified sites - local lists - blue plaques e.g cinema Q3
 4. Business and Employment Development - Statistics - traffic and business surveys Q7

5. Retail - Vacancies, promotions, independents, RVBC Population Plan Q8
6. Community - Efficient use of public buildings and playing fields Q9

Updated Key Issues Matrix (produced by our consultant after our second meeting (April 30))

To be discussed for each of the 13 areas

4 RVBC Community Strategy - Seven Core Areas

Local Democracy
Education and the Economy
Housing
Community Safety
Facilities
Health and specifically Older People
Environment

5 Pre-submission Consultation Review

Discussion on Hoylake NP approach

6 Longridge Local Plan 1983-1993

Comparing it with the current potential Neighbourhood Plan

Development Proposals and Policies

Housing
Industry
Shops and Offices
Transport
Education
Environment
Recreation and Leisure

7 Suggestions for Inclusion

Longridge Loop
Technology for Local Democracy
Future Housing Mix
Gym Expansion and Civic Hall Upgrade