

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – STEERING GROUP MEETING
THURSDAY 9TH JULY 2015 @ 7.15 PM**

There were approximately 34 members of the public present.

Attendants

- Penny Barry
- Joe Harvey
- Jill Houghton
- Joy Keeley
- Harry Knight
- George Longstaff
- Lee Pound
- Charlotte Randell
- Rob Sussens
- Elisabeth Uggerløse

The Chairman welcomed all those present and said that he believed it was important to explain what the NDP can and cannot do, before starting the meeting, so that those present can understand the process.

He then read from the Neighbourhood Plans Roadmap Guide (copies available at the Parish Council Office), the main points being:

- A Neighbourhood Plan must comply with European and national legislation and must have appropriate regard to national policy and be in general conformity with existing strategic local planning policy.
- It should not promote less development than that identified in the development plan for the local area

He added that the national policy in question was the national Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the local [planning policy was the Stratford on Avon DC Local Development Plan. If the NDP allows for a lower number of houses than those allocated by the LDP, it will be refused and either we would have to start again, or we would have to give up: in either circumstance, Bidford-on-Avon would become vulnerable to developers: not allowing development is simply not an option.

This is what has happened with SDC's plans – the housing figure submitted was too low according to the Planning Inspectorate, who represents the Government, and SDC have had to start again, delaying the approval of the LDP - Core Strategy, leaving the district open to developers.

The number of dwellings allocated to Bidford-on-Avon will be stipulated by SDC: but the NDP can stipulate which sites are considered acceptable; number of dwellings on each site; type of dwelling etc.

The Chairman then allowed a period for questions to be raised:

- What about the infrastructure?
This is something the appropriate local authorities deal with by way of S106 and will be identified in the NDP allowing the Parish Council to put pressure to ensure the required infrastructure is put in place
- What about more industrial area
one of the proposed contingency sites allows for mixed building: part industrial units and part housing
- There are no facilities for children in the village
The Parish Council is drawing up a 3 - 5 year Strategic Plan where amenities will be considered
- 87% of those that replied to the survey said that there should be no more development – why is this not reflected in the Draft Policy document
The Chairman replied that indeed this figure and those concerns were clearly set out on Page 4 of the draft Plan Despite this the Plan was required to comply with any SDC allocation for housing supply through to 2031 as he had explained in his introduction

The Chairman then started the meeting

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been sent by Alan Brooke, Jim Langridge, Neil Pearce and Guy Warner

2. REVIEW OF CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Chairman thanked those members of the Steering Group who had attended and manned the various “roving exhibitions” at :

- The Cottage of Contents, Barton
- Warner’s Budgens
- Broom Village Hall
- Crawford Memorial Hall
- The Jolly Teapot
- C of E, Methodist and St Joseph Churches
- Darby and Joan/Westholme Court

Concern was raised that not everyone had received a copy and that perhaps it would have been better of a copy had been delivered to all households.

The Chairman accepted this could be the case, but the decision had been made by the Steering Group to distribute these at the roving exhibitions, with copies at

Budgens, the library and the Parish Council Office as well as online

3. TIMETABLE

This had fallen behind – and there are no short cuts

However, the Steering Group can catch up if it focuses on turning the draft around with sensible haste. Tasks ahead are:

- Review the response to the public consultation, which should be by the end of next week, and amend draft as required and make responses as widely available as possible: posting online and making hard copies available at the library and Parish Council Office
- Prepare pre-submission document with full graphics and illustrations – **End July**. Distribute a summary document to all householders via The Connection.
- Pre-submission consultation to statutory consultation bodies (Environmental Agency, Natural England, English Heritage, SDC, parish/town councils. Significant landowners, local businesses, trusts, chambers of commerce etc. **Mid-September**.
- Process and make amends
- Parish Council adopts final version
- Prepare supporting documentation
- Submit to SDC with submission statement – **Early October**
- **Submit to examiner** – January 2016
- Receive report/amend/ public and hold referendum **April 2016**

4. COLLATION OF RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION – SIMON PURFIELD (SDC)

Written replies were collected Wednesday evening and should be ready by Friday 17th

5. LEPUS ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Jim and Elisabeth from the Environmental sub group would look at this and see whether anything more than an Environmental Statement is required – this will cut both time and costs.

6. SDC CORE STRATEGY

The Cabinet is meeting on Monday 20th July to consider the new higher numbers and their distribution. Agenda will be available on Friday 10th

7. NEXT STEPS

- Collation of data
- Environmental Report
- Timetable

8. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed this would take place on Wednesday 29th July @ 7.00 pm

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm - Members of the Steering Group were available to answer questions/concerns from residents after the meeting broke up.