

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Update

December 2023

The Steering Group (SG) held its first meeting on 9 October. Draft minutes are attached to this report.

Since then the SG has met twice with major items for discussion being information about Grant funding, how to make the best use of a consultant, and terms of reference.

The membership of the group was expanded as per the discussions at the first meeting. With reps from both Village Halls and Scout groups being invited. At this stage, IH Village Hall and IH Scouts have declined the invitation to join.

A MS word version of the final NHP has not been located. So efforts have made to convert the pdf version on the website.

The Terms of Reference from the previous NHP Committee have been reviewed and need to change. Work has commenced on preparing a draft TOR for consideration by the SG and then submitting to Parish Council.

Discussion regarding how to make best use of a consulting resource identified the expertise and desire within the SG for stakeholder engagement to be undertaken by the SG. Additionally, the expertise in Programme and Project Management was identified. The SG considers that the best use of a resource at this stage is to engage for specific pieces of work, rather than engaging for the delivery of a final NHP v2.

The initial pieces of work that a consultant could assist with include (no priority order):

1. View of opportunities for improvement in the existing plan that do not trigger a referendum
2. Broad scope of opportunities that could be included in the NHPv2, drawing on a high level listing of possibilities
3. Reality check regarding how much weight and protection further work on a NHP will provide to the local community, in light of some recent planning decisions.

The next meeting of the SG will be in January – date to be finalised

Cllr J Cook

Chair, NHP Steering Group

16 Dec 2023