**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

**NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th MARCH 2025**

**Attendees:**  Cllr Ciarán Beary

Cllr Julie Cook

Cllr Vishal Gupta ***(attending virtually)***

Cllr Wendy Matthews

Cllr Peter Stanhope

Cllr Graham Young

Leigh Tugwood – Iver Heath Residents Association

Oliver Kruas – Iver Village Residents Association

Carol Gibson – Colne Valley ***(attending virtually)***

Shaun Fishenden – Clerk & RFO

Steph Bennett – Consultant

**ITEM 1: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS ROUND THE TABLE**

***436/24*** Members present were asked to introduce themselves.

**ITEM 2: APOLOGIES**

***437/24*** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Sarah Hutchins.

**ITEM 3: PROCESS**

* ***S Bennett to introduce the process for making changes to our Neighbourhood Plan***
* ***To consider undertaking an initial consultation with a specific engagement of resident’s associations and their networks, and via general council communication channels to the community***
* ***To consider and agree the questions to be asked (see draft questions attached)***

***438/24*** Steph introduced that the Neighbourhood Plan V2 is not just a review nor completely starting afresh. It is an opportunity to address any fundamental issues with the existing Plan and tighten up where the existing Plan has not been adequately acknowledged by Bucks Planning.

It is the Planning Inspector who will determine whether a referendum on the updated plan is needed.

Steph suggested the initial consultation is carried out through the Residents Associations rather than the Parish Council, in order to comply with the pre-election period.

It was confirmed:

* Iver Village Residents Association had already held polls in the past and could review this data to assess the provenance and also to compare it to the list of questions set out by Steph.
* Separate online surveys can be set up for each RA by the office, these may be slightly amended to suit each RA depending on individual needs.
* The Steering Group can then review data collected in May once the pre-election period has expired.

The Clerk & RFO had notified Buckinghamshire Council of the Council’s updating of the Neighbourhood Plan, and a meeting was to be held with the relevant officer at Bucks. The paperwork for designating the Neighbourhood Plan area can then be obtained. And discussions on the Habitat Regulation Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment can take place.

The Central Government funding for an affordable housing needs survey is available from July 2025.

**ITEM 4: INITIAL EVIDENCE GATHERING**

* ***Group to consider what the priorities are from the list of issues raised at the previous meeting***
* ***To agree actions and responsibilities for undertaking the evidence gathering for those initial priorities***
* ***Clerk & RFO to introduce the arrangement for the collation of evidence for Phase 2***

***439/24*** It was agreed the Residents Associations would complete the consultation between now and May 2025.

The office would set up a depository area for the Steering Group to collate information, reports and evidence as part of the work on Neighbourhood Plan V2.

**ITEM 5: DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

***440/24*** The next meeting is being held on Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 7pm in the Parish Hub.

***The meeting closed at 8:14pm***