

## Neighbourhood Plan update: 28th May 2021

Lots could be said about the Neighbourhood Plan... But, tonight I don't propose to talk about it for long. Just a few words on what happens next.

We launched the process in 2017 - over four years ago - and we have now reached the Draft Plan stage. As most of you will know, it is currently subject to full Consultation.

The Consultation process started on 10th May, and runs until 21st June.

*[Quick update: We've now received 141 responses.]*

So, what happens after that?

First of all, we will capture all of the responses received from our residents.

Meanwhile, we will be taking note of any issues arising from the emergence of the SWDP Review process.

We will also take note of any responses from our "statutory consultees". These include the City and County Councils, neighbouring Parish Councils, Historic England and Natural England, as well as many other organisations which have a legitimate interest in the future of the parish.

*[As a quick aside: Whittington PC have responded with a nicely worded and supportive comment.]*

Finally, we will also take note of the owners of any land which may be affected by any of the proposals within our NP. For our NP, this relates particularly to those areas which we wish to have designated as "Local Green Space" and - in one case - as a Nature Reserve.

We will then assess all of this feedback, to decide whether we need to make changes to the Draft Plan. In making that judgement, we will be guided by our Planning Consultant and also working closely with the relevant Planning Officers at the City Council.

By early October, we should be in a position to submit the final version of the NP to the City Council. At that stage, they will undertake a further round of consultation, this time on our Final NP document. We currently expect that to occur during November/December of this year.

At the end of that process, the NP is subject to a formal Inspection by an independent Planning expert - probably in early 2022. Following the inspection, if necessary, we may need to make some adjustments to the NP, in accordance with the Inspector's wishes.

All being well, in the early spring of 2022, our NP should then be subject to a Referendum. A simple majority will determine whether the NP is accepted or rejected by residents. At that stage, the City Council will formally adopt (or "make") the NP, and from then on it will form an integral part of the SWDP.

What will this mean? That the NP will be an important factor to be taken into account when any application for development within the parish is under consideration by the City Council's Planning Committee, in the future.

Any questions?