

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE TETSWORTH NDP REVIEW STEERING GROUP

at 7 pm on 15th April 2024

at 26 Silver St, Tetsworth

Attendees:

John Gilbert (JG)
Chris Thompson (CT)
Simon Wilson (SW)

Apologies:

Paul Carr (PC)

1. Minutes of the NDP Steering Group Meeting held on 19th February 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th February were approved. They will be posted on the Tetsworth Parish Council website by PC.

2. Possible Additional Policies

There was a general discussion around additional policies that could be included in the NDP based, primarily a 'Sustainment and Improvement of Community Infrastructure' as seen in the NDP's of local Neighbourhoods. Also, the Environmental policies could specifically reference the importance of rural landscape and agricultural diversity challenged by clustering of large scale solar farms in the area. If adoption of such changes were deemed to be 'significant policy changes beyond original framework', the revised NDP might become subject to the full consultation/examination/referendum procedures. The SG decided to consider additional policies in due course.

3. Evidence Base Review

2021 Census data. Though the available Census data excludes 20 settlements within the Neighbourhood Area but outside the Village Boundary, it was agreed that the 2021 Census data was a good as we need.

Revised Documents. The SG reviewed the draft updated documents:

- Sustainability Review – approved.
- Character Assessment - to be revised in the light of the 2021 Census data (as above).
- Housing Analysis – JG to revise the document on behalf of PC.
- Consultation Statement – needs updating in due course.
- Basic Conditions Statement – Candidate for consultant support. O'Neill Homer resuming NDP support services.

The SG agreed to use the term 'Settlement Boundary' rather than 'Footprint' as in the current NDP.

4. **Ongoing External Planning Issues**

NPPF Revisions. Development land supply changes had been implemented in January 2024.

Joint Local Plan 2041. SODC/VoWH currently expecting new Local Plan to be adopted in late 2025.

Although likely to be unsuccessful, Homes England were still pressing for the development of Chalgrove Airfield.

Appeal over HIF (Housing Infrastructure Fund) refusal by OCC Planning Committee runs until May. Decision on Inspector's report will be taken by Government minister. Rejection of appeal could have significant effect on viability of current strategic development sites.

5. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 3rd June at 19:00hrs at 26 Silver Street.

Afternote: The June meeting has been postponed until July at a date to be agreed a few days before the July TPC meeting.