

PROGRESS

- Mick Toogood has resigned as chair and as a member of the Steering Group since he has moved out of the area. Many thanks for Mick's effort and leadership over the past 4-5 years and best wishes for him and his wife in their new location.
- Pre-Submission Consultation process completed on time 1st June. A small number of responses received which will now be reviewed by the steering group. These may result in some minor modifications to the latest pre-submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- The bulk of the response from HBBC, indicated several significant changes which they suggested might need to be incorporated if the Neighbourhood plan is to align with the evolving Borough Local Plan. These changes, all around housing provision, if applied verbatim would impact the current Pre-submission draft as well as being significantly at variance to the existing 'made' Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan March 2019.
Recognising the need to come to a consensus and to be proactive, the SG has developed 5 alternative options to move forward and is now engaging with our Borough Councillors with a view to gaining their support prior to an early meeting with HBBC to agree a mutual way forward.
This is obviously impacting planned timescales which will need to be reassessed shortly!
Further, some very recent central government directives will also need to be considered at this juncture.

FINANCE

- Locality grant for 2021/22 applied for and received. Thanks to Rob Ward for managing this process successfully again.
The application process has now changed and the window for 2021/22 applications is now closed; any additional funding requirement would therefore have to be met by the PC.
- Note - Funding may need to be reviewed after conclusion of discussion with HBBC re housing provision and the future Borough Local Plan which is still under development as a draft before being shared for consultation by HBBC; if so, any increase would require PC approval of course.

NEXT STEPS

- Conduct a meeting with Councillors Kevin Morrel and Jonathan Collett to share our recommendations and to gain their support.
- Meet with HBBC senior Planning management, hopefully with the Rural and NP elected leads, to reach a recommendation on how to move forward; this then to be approved by Sheepy Parish Council
- Re-estimate timescales

NP SG report to PC June'21

John Ward - Chair, Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group