

## **Progress Report for Wool Parish NDP Steering Group 22.2.22**

At the last meeting of the steering group held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022, it was decided to progress a series of zoom calls with topic/workstream leads to discuss work to date, priorities emerging from the consultation/engagement activities to date. The aim would be to discuss priorities for the NDP based on work so far and to identify particular activities and work that could be undertaken to support the development of NDP policies. A number of themes were identified at the steering group as the basis for the calls:

- Green infrastructure strategy and requirements for new housing development including an indication of how biodiversity net gain can be delivered on site and off site. This might include discussion of the SANG and its relationship to green infrastructure within the parish (such as walking and cycling access to the SANG, creation of wildlife corridors, natural management of flooding, etc.).
- Local Green Spaces designation to protect existing important community green assets.
- Design code for new residential development with sustainable development criteria.
- Village centre policy to protect existing Class E uses (village centre uses that were formally Class A and B1) and to allow the centre(s) to expand to meet the needs of the growing community. The policy should also address permitted development change of use from Class E to Class C3 (dwellings).
- Housing mix policy to ensure that new housing meets the needs of the Wool community (this will require a Housing Needs Assessment).
- Sustainable transport strategy which is an improvement of walking and cycling opportunities linking all parts of the community including Bovington to the centre.
- Community infrastructure policy (protect what is there, identify if there is a shortage of existing capacity and require new development to make new provision).

So far, calls have been held to discuss green infrastructure, housing, community assets/ infrastructure and village centres. A number of workstreams have been suggested (see below) to be taken forward locally with support from me and also by acquiring technical support through Locality.

Calls still need to be organised with topic leads on Design Code/Principles and on sustainable travel networks.

### **Actions on Housing**

It was suggested that a request for technical support from Aecom via Locality should be investigated to acquire a Local Housing Needs Assessment for Wool. This would enable evidence housing needs in Wool Parish to be identified to seek to influence housing type, mix and tenure in future housing developments in the Parish.

### **Actions on Community Assets and Social Infrastructure**

The Parish Council has already written to key organisations to establish and confirm the adequacy of infrastructure and potential new requirements. The NDP should investigate the potential additional requirements on the parish arising from additional development assumed to be funded by 'local' CIL

(for example local library provision) or which are currently not defined or recognised (for example local cemetery space).

### Actions to develop a Green Infrastructure Policy

Task	Owner	Status
1. Call to kickstart work and actions.	Lee	Completed!
2. Identify and map published baseline information.	Lee	Not started
3. Identify local volunteers to participate in the development of the policy.	Chris/Michelle	Not started
4. Organise a meeting with volunteers.	Chris/Michelle	Not started
5. Interpret and assess the baseline information to set the Green Infrastructure network features – ecology, trees, walking & cycling routes etc.	Group	Not started
6. Add further baseline or survey/data information if available (ecology, trees etc)	Group	Not started
7. Add in proposed Local Green Spaces.	LGS lead	Not started
8. Identify what's important to keep and improve.	Group	Not started
9. Identify physical gaps or habitat gaps – can they be filled?	Group	Not started
10. Identify how new development should provide Green Infrastructure to protect and improve green infrastructure in Wool.	Group	Not started
11. Write policy and supporting strategy.	Group/Lee/Chris/Michelle	Not started

### Actions to develop proposals for Local Green Space (LGS)

Task	Owner	Status
1. Create long list of candidates for designation as LGS.	Chris/Michelle	Completed!
2. Identify each one on a plan with a boundary.	Steve?	Not started
3. Seek a volunteer from Green Infrastructure Group to assess sites against criteria	Chris/Michelle	
4. Assess against criteria for designation.	GI Group	Not started
5. Confirm sites which meet criteria for designation.	Lee/Steve	Not started
6. Consult with landowners where LGS proposed on their land.	Chris/Michelle	Not started
7. Confirm whether LGS status is being requested.	Chris/Michelle/Steve	Not started
8. Consider management objectives for each site.	Green Infrastructure Group	
9. Include policy designating sites in NDP, with assessed sites (completed pro formas and OS plan per site.	Lee	Not started

10. Ensure policy addresses potential for development which can secure management objectives for each site.	Lee	Not started
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### Actions to develop a local centres evidence base and policy

A set of actions are provided below to provide information and evidence to support the development of a local centres policy for the NDP.

Task	Owner	Status
1. Call to kickstart work and actions.	Lee	Completed!
2. Identify local volunteers to participate in the development of the policy - Organise a meeting with volunteers	Steve	Not started
3. Pull together baseline information available relating to Wool	Lee	Not Started
4. Undertake a survey of current Class E and other land uses in Wool, focused on local centres (see below)	Group	Not started
5. Consider undertaking a Place Check on the local centres (see below)	Group	Not started
6. Consider requirement for 350sq.m convenience retail floorspace – what kind, where on the allocated sites etc.	Group	Not started
7. Consider the local centre boundaries – are they correct? Is another needed for Bovington?	Group	Not started
8. Consider information needed to support a case for retention of Class E uses in the context of applications – how could this be monitored?	Group/Steve	Not started
9. Link to emerging policies in the NDP on walking, cycling and green infrastructure.	Steve/Lee	Not started
10. Write policy and supporting text.	Steve/Lee	Not started
11. Identify actions outside the NDP Scope	Steve/Lee	
12. Identify priority requirements for improvements of local centres	Group	Not started
13. Identify priority contributions from new development towards meeting policy	Group	Not started

**Place Check** - A Place Check could be undertaken to complement the survey. This is a community-led exercise by which a group of people undertake a walk-through place check of a small defined area, noting in detail specific things about the local environment they like, they don't like, need tackling, want more or less of etc. This can be in relation to the state of buildings and of the built environment – pavements, verges, quality of street furniture, maintenance issues. From it, a long list of items which together form an impression of the built environment can be put together.

Wool Parish Council would then assess on who the required action should fall. This is likely to create a list of desired improvements in the state of streets and verges, of the amount and quality of street furniture, and of shopfronts/buildings (tidying up redundant cables, painting facias, clearing litter if any in Wool!) – some would fall to the Parish outside the NDP, some to others and some could be delivered as contributions or via use of CIL. NDP Policy could demand action when planning applications come forward.

Details on how to proceed with a Place Check and how to write it up to follow if want to proceed with this. Alternatively, if the walkaround events held previously accomplish the same purpose, provided people recorded their thoughts in a format which can be used to create the report and actions, then this data could be used.

### **Next steps**

I will undertake the following in the next few weeks, subject to the Steering Group's instructions:

- Prepare a draft presentation for the event to be held on 14 March. I will share this with the pre-meet on 1<sup>st</sup> March, for review.
- Try to hold calls with the remaining topic leads, subject to their availability.
- Move forward on some of the actions set out above.
- Organise meetings in Wool for 15<sup>th</sup> March (following the event – I will need to stay over) with any topic leads that would like to meet to move things forward.
- Discuss emerging topics with Phillip Reece.

**Lee Searles**  
**Andrea Pellegram Ltd**  
**21.2.22**