

## Blofield Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Minutes from the Blofield Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at The Courthouse.

Apologies received: Rob Christie, Rachel Leggett and Pat Wilson. Others absent George Pickersgill, Miles Green, Yvonne Burton, Amy Smith & Steve Briggs

- 1) Minutes from the previous steering group meeting were approved – no matters arising.
- 2) Broadland District Council are now satisfied that the Blofield Parish Neighbourhood Plan is in a position where it can be placed into the final consultation period. This is expected to conclude around 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Allowing a couple of weeks for getting together the documentation package for examination, the plan should be with an examiner around 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Broadland have confirmed that they could not combine the EU Referendum with a Neighbourhood Plan referendum, so that automatically rules out the June referendum date. Early indications would suggest that the plan would come out of the examination period around mid June, and assuming no further changes are required, the earliest the Blofield referendum could be is in July. A July date pushes us close to the schools finishing for summer holidays, and so we may want to consider a September referendum date to maximise potential voters.

Broadland District Council have also stated that they cannot send out a summary of the Neighbourhood Plan with the polling card, and therefore this is something the Steering Group will need to do.

There is a question around how much actively publicity the Steering Group and Parish Council can achieve once the date of the referendum has been announced. Action for Trish to ascertain what we can / can't do.

After the referendum, the Neighbourhood Plan would go back to a Broadland District Council cabinet meeting to ratify the adoption of the plan into the planning framework.

- 3) Discussion then followed around attempting to categorise the projects and estimate potential costs / benefits of each project.

Each project and where relevant policy, was placed on a grid system, ranging from low cost, short timeframe, to high cost and long time frame.

Discussion entailed around a possible subsequent project involving additional land purchase behind Wyngates to facilitate the creation of a woodland area. It was agreed that the Steering group would focus on the projects listed in the Neighbourhood Plan before investigating further options.

We need to ensure that once adopted, the policies are enforced and monitored. How to do this going forward?

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We need to carry out more work on the projects to produce an analysis of costs / benefits and timeframes.

- 4) A summary of the Neighbourhood Plan will be needed to be produced in readiness for meeting the June deadline for the July distribution of Focal Point, on the assumption that we would have the referendum in September.

It was agreed that the main vehicle for publicising the Neighbourhood Plan would be a flyer, but all other suitable media would also be used – Blog, Social Media etc.

Full plans would be made available in prime locations, such as the Library.