



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN OFFICER'S REPORT

Report to: Broadclyst Parish Council

Date of Meeting: Aug 5th 2019

Agenda item: 19/114iii

Subject: Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan

Purpose of report: to update Council

Recommendation:

- i. that that report be noted
- ii. that recommendations contained within the report be considered and resolved

Financial implications: The preparation of the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan is supported by government Locality grants. Staffing costs are partly being met from parish council budgets and partly from grant fund

Legal implications: Broadclyst Parish Council is a qualifying body¹ and is therefore eligible to write a Neighbourhood Plan. The District Council has a statutory duty to support the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans.

Equalities impact: Not applicable

Risk: The Audit Commission (2001) defines “risk” as an event or action which will adversely affect an organisation’s ability to achieve its objectives, project plans and processes and to successfully execute its strategies. Therefore “risk management” is the process by which risks are **identified, evaluated and controlled**.

Broadclyst Parish Council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage risks, both internal and external, and is therefore committed to the implementation of a risk management strategy in line with the introduction of Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in order to protect the Council from avoidable losses.

The co-operation of all Members and officers is essential to ensure the Council’s resources and service provision are not adversely affected by uncontrolled risk, to ensure the Council does not fail to seize opportunities which benefit the community.

Link to Council Action Plan:

The preparation of Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan supports the Council’s commitment to enabling local

¹ For Neighbourhood Development Orders, the definition of “qualifying body” is in section 61E(6) of the Town And Country Planning, England, Act 1990 (inserted by paragraph 2 of the Localism Act 2011). For the purposes of Neighbourhood Development Plans the definition of “qualifying body” is in section 38A(12) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase 2004 Act (as inserted by paragraph 7 of the Localism Act 2011).

housing delivery; supporting business growth and increased productivity; and community capacity building and engagement.

Risk analysis

A detailed risk analysis has been carried out and is summarised below

Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation Measures
Failure to deliver Neighbourhood Plan	Low	Moderate	Continued budget monitoring
Failure to meet evidenced community need	Low	Moderate/Major	Regular review of progress against community survey results

Key information

Neighbourhood Plans were introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The idea behind localism is that decision making is passed to a more local level, from local government to local communities. There are two main parts to neighbourhood planning: Neighbourhood Plans (NP) and Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDO).

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led planning framework for guiding the future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. It is about the use and development of land and may contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving the area or providing new facilities, or allocating key sites for specific kinds of development. It may deal with a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues (such as housing, employment, heritage and transport) or it may focus on one or two issues only. It is for those producing the plan to decide on its scope and content.

A Neighbourhood Plan will be part of the statutory development plan for the area, if successful at a referendum. This statutory status gives neighbourhood plans more weight than some other local documents, such as parish plans, community plans and village design statements.

A Neighbourhood Plan must meet certain “basic conditions”. These include compliance with European and national legislation, contributing to the achievement of sustainable development, having appropriate regard to national policy and being in general conformity with existing strategic planning policy. It should not promote less development than that identified in the development plan for the area. It can provide for greater growth levels. It can also specify policies and guidance on how new development should be designed, orientated and located. The preparation of neighbourhood plans must include a robust programme of community engagement and have a proportionate evidence base.

Link to Council Action Plan:

The preparation of Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan supports the Council’s commitment to enabling local housing delivery; supporting business growth and increased productivity; and community capacity building and engagement.

REPORT

PROGRESS REPORT

1. NP First Sites Consultation, May/June 2019

The first 6-week Neighbourhood Plan consultation, which comprised roadshows and online consultation, produced quantitative (numerical) results and useful qualitative (non-numerical) responses. Data analysis is underway, with responses from the second consultation being added in October.

Recommendation 1: For Council to note completion of the First Site Consultation on July 9th, 2019.

It is noted that the online consultation only yielded 18% of the results. It was apparent from some of these online responses that consultees had not grasped the complex concept of Neighbourhood Planning, i.e. that it is not aggressive commercial or profit-driven development; it must deliver community benefit; and – crucially – that if a site is not allocated in the NP it is still likely to come forward through the ‘normal’ planning system, without having to provide any benefit for the community or meet Broadclyst Parish’s identified local housing need. Consultees seized the opportunity to make rude, ‘NIMBY’ and anti-strategic development comments, rather than responding to questions in the survey. This is not data we can use and has effectively wasted respondents’ efforts.

In contrast, although it was officer-time heavy, the face-to-face roadshows, with benefit of verbal introduction to and explanation of the Neighbourhood Plan process, yielded useful qualitative data which will be used to inform draft policies. There is an argument to be made for not offering an online consultation for the second tranche, however this must be balanced with the need to be consistent.

Recommendation 2: For Council to discuss the merits/demerits of online consultation and to resolve if to include an online consultation in the autumn as well as the roadshows.

2. NP Second Site Consultation, September/October 2019.

For a variety of reasons, not all sites put forward through the Call for Land were ready in time for the first consultation, so there will be a second tranche of land-use site consultation in the autumn (NB: these are not ‘second best’ or late entries.) Subject to venue availability, the second public consultation will take place during the week of September 30th – October 6th, 2019. Sites will be presented using the same templates, with minor ‘tweaks’ to improve the consultation experience.

Recommendation 3: For Council to note and support the second site consultation.

3. Community Sport Hub:

An aspiration of the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan is land for a Community Sports Hub to be allocated. Potential sites will be presented in the autumn tranche of site consultations, with the community and local sports clubs encouraged to attend the consultation events, consider the

merits/demerits of the sites put forward, and to rank the sites in order of preference. The all-weather facility could provide a playing surface for Hockey, Netball, and Tennis.

Recommendation 4: For Council to note the second consultation will offer options for land use for a sports hub.

This concludes my report to Council

Janvrin Edbrooke

Neighbourhood Plan Officer