



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN OFFICER'S REPORT

Report to: Broadclyst Parish Council

Date of Meeting: September 5th 2022

Agenda item: 22/055/ii

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 the 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
Covid 19	High	Moderate/ Major	Regular review of MHCLG Covid 19: planning update of changes to the neighbourhood planning process. Adjusting stages of the NP process to be in line with national guidance.

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

NP Update:

1. The EDDC Consultation of the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan closes on September 8th and after this date all responses to this consultation will be available on the EDDC website.
2. Andrew Ashcroft has been appointed as Examiner of the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan. This was the Overview Steering Groups preferred choice. Andrew has a very good national perspective having examined 217 neighbourhood plans (as of August 2022) covering an extensive range of urban and rural neighbourhood areas. This will be the first exam he has done in Devon. He has an extensive range of experience in neighbourhood planning beyond that of an examiner, including that of a former senior local government officer, that of a consultant assisting others to produce their own plans and that of a steering group member of a 'made' plan.

He wrote a synopsis of the Broadclyst NP and commented on the Plan and the supporting documents.

The Plan is a distinctive and very well-written document which provides a clear and compelling vision for the neighbourhood area. In particular, it balances opportunities for sensitive, well-designed development with strong environmental and community aspirations.

The Plan is impressively underpinned by a series of supporting documents. The work on the Character Assessment (2019), the Design Code (2021), the Site Options Assessment (2019) and the Local Green Spaces assessment (2021) in particular is very impressive.

The Plan also takes a very comprehensive approach towards building design technology and towards promoting sustainable forms of travel. This approach will ensure that it addresses the sustainability agenda in general, whilst taking account of local circumstances in particular.

He also provided specific feedback on the policies which specifically address the following issues:

- the promotion of a community sports hub CF1;
- securing distinctive local design D1;
- the allocation of housing sites H1-3; and
- the designation of local green spaces NE6 .

The examination will start on 15th September.

Recommendation: For Council to note the information provided above.
This concludes my report to Council.

Janvrin Edbrooke
Broadclyst Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Officer
30 August 2022