

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PROCESS

THE PROCESS

There is formal legal procedure for preparing a neighbourhood plan which the Parish Council must follow, and that is outlined below.

The existing plan contained four policies to provide some new housing, and these have already been implemented, so those old policies will be deleted. There will be a number of new policies, and the plan period will be updated.

The new plan will contain policies for further housing development to meet our share of the need specified for Buckinghamshire. We held a “call for sites” last year, and those which could potentially be included in the plan are described on other displays nearby. (Some other sites which were proposed have been excluded from consideration because they are too distant from the existing settlement boundary.)

The plan will also contain policies for a “green gap” (to keep us separate from Winslow), for “local green spaces” (which have extra protection from development) and for “local heritage assets” (features of historical importance which should be taken into account when planning applications are considered).

The plan will need to satisfy the requirements of the most recent National Planning Policy Framework, but will be able to take account of community views. These views will be taken from the Village Consultation held last October and the response forms collected at this weekend’s Public Exhibition. There will also be a formal consultation as part of the legal procedure before the final plan is submitted to Buckinghamshire Council.

WHAT'S NEXT

The Parish Council approves and publishes a Draft Neighbourhood Plan, and organises a Pre-Submission Consultation. This consultation lasts for six weeks, and anyone can respond to it.

The Parish Council approves the Submission Version of the Neighbourhood Plan, taking account of the consultation responses. This Plan is then submitted to Buckinghamshire Council, together with supporting evidence.

Buckinghamshire Council organises a six-week Publicity Period, and collects the responses.

The Parish Council and Buckinghamshire Council agree on the appointment of an Independent Examiner.

The Examiner considers the Plan, the supporting evidence, and the responses to the Publicity Period. Sometimes (though by no means always) the Examiner will hold a hearing to consider the evidence.

The Examiner prepares a Report, possibly proposing modifications to the Plan to ensure that it complies with the legislation.

A referendum is held, so that voters in the Parish can decide on the Plan. If the vote is in favour, Buckinghamshire Council arrange for the Neighbourhood Plan to be “made”, that is, to come into force.