

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PROJECT

## Newsletter No 10 – October 2021

The work on the Neighbourhood Plan is starting to pick up speed, with regular face-to-face meetings of the Steering Group now taking place, although we are also using Zoom for those members who might find this more convenient as Covid infection rates in Dorset still remain high.

As mentioned in earlier newsletters the plan needs to be undertaken with reference to the national and local planning policy guidelines, both of which are still undergoing review and each will have an impact upon our work and any housing development in the Parish at some future point.

A number of key milestones in the plan are nearing completion and our first round of public consultation activity has now taken place, with two events in each of the four villages. These are summarised below:

- Housing design codes for any future development have been presented through the public consultation events and analysis of the feedback from visitors is quite positive.
- Site assessments of landowner's proposals for development have also now been presented through the public consultation events. Analysis of feedback has indicated that in the case of three out of four sites in the proposals from Fleet, more technical work needs to be undertaken by our specialist advisors [AECOM] to make the impact of the proposals much clearer. They will then be re-presented to the community for consideration at the earliest opportunity. In the case of the one site proposed in Portesham the response rate was seen as being too low for consideration, and to increase the level of responses to make the surveys more representative, we also plan to re-issue it to the community at the earliest opportunity.
- The Green Spaces and Local Landmarks Views have also been presented through the public consultation events. Analysis of feedback has been quite positive.
- The overall attendance at the public consultation events was reasonably good, and more detail on the analysis of the results and feedback will be available in the near future on the Vision for Chesil website. Attendance in Abbotsbury [which only had one development site proposal in Rodden] was disappointing. The events in Langton Herring had the most visitors. Our intention was that any villager could attend any event in any location, and this did happen.

We have also successfully achieved more funding for additional technical support to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment to determine if there might be any adverse impact on the environment from our plan and proposals for development [if any are agreed for inclusion in the plan].

We also plan to have a workshop in November for a wide-ranging discussion on 'affordable housing' to update the housing needs assessment work we undertook in 2019 through our earlier surveys at the start of the project.

We are pleased to welcome Anne Kerins to the Steering Group. Anne was recently co-opted as Parish Councillor for Langton Herring.

We are also seeing an increase in our workload to continue with writing the plan, and if there are members of the community that may be interested in joining the Steering Group in an advisory role, or contributing in some other way, do please get in touch with Derek Troughton, the Chair of the Steering Group. He can be contacted by email at [derek.troughton@vision4chesil.org](mailto:derek.troughton@vision4chesil.org) or by phone on 07802 204771.