

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MEETING – 18 NOVEMBER 2024

Attendance:

Richard Clarke (RC); Patricia Stuart-Mogg (PSM) – Wansford Parish Council Councillors
Gavin Elsey (GE) – Peterborough City Council Councillor
John Bradshaw (JB) and Geoff Dunkley (GD) – Wittering Parish Council
Mike Bradshaw (MB) – Stibbington cum Sibson Parish Council
Yana Clipsham (YC) – Thornhaugh Parish Council
and 6 Residents

All those who attended the meeting introduced themselves and were welcomed to the meeting.

PSM – Informed that the objective of the meeting was to engage with Wansford residents and neighbouring Parish Councils to establish the need to produce either a Neighbourhood Development Plan or a Neighbourhood Development Order.

Neighbourhood Plan - A Neighbourhood Development Plan, or Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for short, is a planning policy document which sets planning policies for a specific local area, which can even straddle more than one local planning authority area. Once adopted, a NP becomes part of the suite of planning documents the City Council Planning authority will use alongside its local plan when making decisions on planning applications. The policies within a NP must be related to development or the use of land in the area.

Neighbourhood Development Order - A Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO) is effectively produced in the same way as a neighbourhood plan and follows the same process. However, it would apply to specific sites and specific types of development or land uses.

During general discussion it was recognised that dialogue is ongoing between neighbouring Parish Councils exploring working together to protect mutual interests. It was considered that developing a NP would be more beneficial than an NDO. It was important to engage and fully consult with residents as the NP or NDO is prepared by and on behalf of the community. It was acknowledged that presently both [Peterborough City Council](#) and [Huntingdon District Council](#) are actively consulting on their Local Plans which propose significant new potential development sites. For instance, Wansford could be impacted by a proposed site off Old Leicester Road (Seeds Field) and three sites in Huntingdon: Sibson Garden Community; Chesterton Garden Village and Land West of A1 (North of Peterborough Motorway Services).

RC – Observed that important infrastructure would be required in Wansford, especially to protect the listed Wansford Old Bridge. It was noted that the programmed A47 works and realignment of the A1 would also require added consideration.

GE – Emphasised the importance of a NP and for its production to be community-led. Engagement with residents is vital to ensure the community is on board and to garner the skills for producing a Plan and its policies. It is anticipated the time frame for developing a NP is between 2 to 3 years. It is likely the Peterborough Local Plan could be adopted before the Wansford NP is developed. However, if an application is submitted to the City Council notifying that a Designated Neighbourhood Forum has been established and is developing a NP, then this will be taken into consideration during the consultation process of the Peterborough Local Plan.

Site 5011 (Seeds Field) has come forward within the phase-1 of 'Call for Sites', and will be considered by the City Council. Historically, the City Council has rejected this particular site. However, the potential for extending the development zones of any location within the Peterborough district perimeter to meet Peterborough's required housing target has to be considered.

Following general discussion, it was considered that the priority is to conduct a survey among Wansford residents, to establish a Wansford Designated Neighbourhood Forum to produce a NP. Neighbouring Parish Councils which are already engaging in this exercise with their residents offered to share their survey forms which could be used for Wansford. It was agreed that with support from residents, this urgent first step would be progressed.

All present were thanked for attending the meeting which closed at 7pm.