**Neighbourhood Plan Report** October 10th, 2019

The Neighbourhood Plan will be presented to the Cherwell Executive on November 4th for a decision as to whether they agree to make it part of the planning policy in this area – “to be made”.

For our part we need to be thinking of the following:

* how to refresh the minds of those involved in the village meeting in 2015/16
* how to initiate newcomers to the village to the Plan, what it means and why it is important
* how to work with the School Field Action Group so they feel supported even though they are disappointed that the Examiner was not prepared to fully protect the field with the status of ‘passive recreation area’.
* whether we should apply for a further grant to cover the cost of printing some hard copies of the Plan (some areas recommend one copy per household)
* what are the cost implications of the development plan in the 2020-2021 budget.

**Recommendations**

1. Once a referendum date is set, plan a village meeting with the purpose of updating people on the Plan, the policies and our ‘deliverable’ over the next few years. (This will require a development plan which fleshes out the one at the end of the document)
2. A concerted effort to meet newcomers (the past three years). Yasemin has helpfully created a list which she will add to as she remembers more. Perhaps a knock on the door with a copy of the plan and an invitation to a Newcomers event (other societies could have some literature there as well) which discusses the reasons for a plan, the evidence we used and a focus on the policies of the plan. This would be a useful overview of the key values of the village as expressed through the plan.
3. The PC will no doubt appreciate a full explanation of the situation regarding the Schoolfield. The Examiner’s Notes can be rather dense and pick up from pages in the original document. I will create an A4 of his decision and its impact on future housing. It will be important for Councillors to understand fully his comments especially if they are having discussions with residents who are very concerned about housing on the field. We might consider a letter to residents of Westlands Avenue or a meeting with them.
4. Grant – I recommend that we apply for a further grant. We did not spend all of the initial grant and returned the remainder. It was made clear at the time that we would be allowed to apply again once our expenses began to increase. Knowing this might help us decide on our strategy regarding hard copies. (We had a grant for just under £5,000. Cost of Plan per copy was @ £25.) The grant paid for large banners (we’ll want one for the Referendum), booklets, and other publicity including flyers.
5. Final thought – we might consider a flyer that gives an overview of our policies. (Costed and put into a grant request)

Diane Bohm October 10th, 2019