

Village News September 2015

Weston on the Green Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council has decided to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan which will then form part of Cherwell District Council's Local Plan 2011 - 2031. It is hoped to complete the plan-making exercise by June 2016 after which it will be examined by the Council and an appointed examiner before a village referendum can take place.

It is intended to be a holistic parish plan which addresses not only the need for development over the coming years but harnesses and structures that development to ensure that the parish benefits as a result. It is about protecting our historic and environmental assets for future generations and improving the quality of life for all who live and work in the Parish.

The plan-making exercise is formulated around three village consultation events specifically for you to make your views known. The first village event will be held on 17th and 22nd October. This is an opportunity for you to discuss the aspirations and concerns of the village.

For updates on the progress of developing the Neighbourhood Plan, please visit our website at:

www.xxxxxxxx

There will also be updates in each Village News.

Steering Group

A group of volunteers have formed the Steering Group to facilitate the development of the Neighbourhood Plan. It meets the second Thursday of every month at 7.30 pm in the village hall and these meetings are open to the village.

The group consists of:

Diane Bohm (Chair)
Roger Evans (Vice Chair)
Eric Bohm (Treasurer)
Susan Daenke
Bob Hessian
Guy Holland
Norman Machin
Yasemin Olcay
Alex Reid

There are four sub-groups, each led by a member of the Steering Group:

- Community Engagement (Alex Reid)
- Village form and character (Guy Holland)
- Social and economic make-up (Susan Daenke)
- Transportation and highways (Bob Hessian)

The sub-groups consist of volunteers from the village who expressed a wish to help with collating the Neighbourhood Plan.

Volunteers' Code of Conduct

Everyone on the Steering Group has signed a declaration of interest form and a code of conduct (below).

1. Transparency: open meetings, disclosure of interests.
2. Respect: No factions or personal criticism, we are all here doing this on a voluntary basis and everyone deserves respect for that.
3. Commitment: It will take a large number of us to share the work. Anyone taking on a task, no matter how small will need to do it on time because everyone else will be depending on it.
4. Efficiency: we should respect the time given by volunteers by running an efficient planning process and holding effective meetings.
5. Fun: this should be a fulfilling and enjoyable exercise. We have an opportunity to plan the future of our village, so let's enjoy it!

Questionnaire

We have delivered a questionnaire to every house and business in the parish boundary of WOTG. If you haven't received one through your letterbox, please let Alex Reid (350835) know and she will get one to you.

Village Events

There will be 3 village events held throughout the process, in October 2015, February 2016 and May 2016. These are consultation events where the views and ideas of the villagers are gathered and the information used to help write the village plan.

October Meeting: Ideas and Aspirations

This will be held on 17th Oct at 10.30 am and 21st Oct at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

There will be an exhibition on the information the steering group has already gathered and a workshop to discuss the following:

- Village form and character
- Social and economic make-up
- Transportation and highways

February Meeting: Neighbourhood Plan Ideas

This will be held on 6th Feb at 10.30 am and 10th Feb at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

There will be an exhibition and workshops to review the ideas the steering group has put forward and to get feedback from the community.

May Meeting: Draft Neighbourhood Plan

This will be held on 7th May at 10.30 am and 11th May at 7.30 pm, in the village hall.

There will be an exhibition and workshops to seek comments from the community on the drafted Neighbourhood Plan.