

Neighbourhood Planning Group - January 2022

The NPG met on the 10th of January, and began to plan its work leading up to village referendum on the plan in 2023. The work of the group will predominantly lie within the next six or seven months, by which time a first draft plan will be produced for community consultation, and then a pre-submission version drawn up. The rest of the year will involve a formal consultation process resulting in drawing up a final plan and documents which will be submitted to MDDC. This will undergo examination, probably in March, and go to village referendum at the same time as the elections in May 2023.

At the start of our meeting we reviewed our arrangements for a meeting about the Jubilee weekend on the 19th Jan. The purpose of this is to see whether an organising committee will emerge.

There are limits on the way in which Neighbourhood Plan can approach issues. but we have a list of issues we will use to ensure that our proposed Plan meets, so far as possible, what villagers have told us are of concern to them. These broadly fall into Pathways and Cycleways; Traffic; Village Centre; and Protection and Enhancement of Green Spaces. Housing and Employment are also key areas we will cover.

At our last meeting we did an exercise with pens and a printed map begin to link the issues raised with the reality of the village layout. With major input from Jason we intend to move this onto an electronic base by the 28th January – and meet again on the 31st. This will then lead us into more specific evidence -based gathering, including topic-based local studies, in February and March.

We intend to hold three topic-based open meetings in the Village Hall Club Room. Traffic on the 3rd February; Pathways and Cycleways on the 3rd March and Housing on the 31st March. We have also revived the idea of having a lunch meeting with business leaders in Willand. At

In March we will begin to develop a clear shape for our evidence, beginning with an evidenced description of Willand's history and culture - and a vision of what we feel villagers want to be the character of Willand going forward. This will lead to a more specific evidenced description of what villagers find good about Willand, and then future hopes to be consolidated into proposals within the formal Neighbourhood Planning Process.

We intend to have a display of our proposals over the Jubilee first weekend of June with the opportunity for further local response and feedback.

As part of our wider accountability we will be posting all our evidence and records onto the Paish Council web-site.