

Throop and Holdenhurst Village Parish Council

Neighbourhood Plan

Report to Parish Council Members

1. Background:

As a Parish Council we identified the importance of having a Neighbourhood Plan and how it would benefit the parish to establish key areas and principles to help guide future actions and developments.

Neighbourhood plans are intended to give local people a direct say in the future development of their area. A neighbourhood plan gives local people the chance to create a planning document that guides and shapes development in their local communities. In turn, this will help to influence what facilities are provided in the area. Parishes with an adopted Neighbourhood Plan will also be entitled to a higher proportion of revenues from the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Neighbourhood plans can help to influence the use and development of land in a specific area. They can establish a vision for the area, include general policies for the development and use of land, and bring forward sites for development.

2. Actions Undertaken:

Two training sessions with DATPC were agreed by the council, to understand what was required to efficiently submit a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish (minute reference 169/22).

The clerk arranged the first session, and for those councillors who were unable to attend, the ability to review the recorded training session afterwards was also arranged. A further session was scheduled, however this has been postponed until further notice.

The initial training session was incredibly valuable, as it helped identify, due to the complexities of producing such a plan, that further consultation will be required before the councillors will be able to get the full value out of the second training session.

Although funding should be available to support the Parish with its development. Further consideration does need to be made around the time commitment involved for the councillors and clerk.

Further to the initial DATPC training and a subsequent informal meeting, it was agreed that we will postpone the next DATPC training session until we have had time to digest and consider the areas of the Neighbourhood Plan that we need to focus on with our limited budget and time councillors can commit to it.

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2. Proposal:

Further consultation is required between the councilors to provide some focus on the areas we wish to cover as part of this Neighborhood Plan. It would be conducive to use the BCP local plan submission to help provide a framework for our own (THVC) Neighbourhood Plan that will work in synergy and aid future consultation with BCP Local Plan.

This will allow us to prioritize our time and resource in the specific areas that we feel will make a meaningful difference to the parish. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will use this data to help shortlist the areas of the Neighbourhood Plan for THVC to put out to Public Consultation.

3. Actions required:

Councillors to decide that embarking on the process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan is worthwhile and beneficial to the Parish.

Appoint a consultant that is competent and able to guide the Council through the process of creating and ultimate submission of the Neighbourhood Plan

Investigate the process for applying for Neighbourhood Plan funding

4. Recommendations:

Councillors to consider the actions/approach outlined above, agree to create a Neighbourhood Plan for Throop and Holdenhurst Parish and resolve to delegate authority to the Village Clerk to:-

4.1 Obtain three quotes for the engagement of a competent Neighbourhood Plan Consultant for agreement at the next Full Council Meeting.

4.2 Investigate the process for the relevant funding that is available for creating a Neighbourhood Plan in readiness for submitting an application after engaging a suitable consultant.