

TETSWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Report for Annual Parish Meeting

The 10-strong Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has made significant progress in the development of the Plan over the past year. Last summer, the near 50% response to the Village Questionnaire gave us a sound foundation of residents' opinions on how best Tetsworth should develop over the next 15 years. An analysis of the results was displayed at subsequent village events and is available on the Parish Council website.

By last autumn, we had established a sound Vision and Objectives for the village's future and put together an initial draft of the Neighbourhood Plan document. Informal feedback from SODC staff on our first attempt was encouraging, but indicated that we needed to reinforce our evidence base by undertaking a number of additional local assessments. These were completed over the winter months and should help us to make our Plan more robust to challenge or misinterpretation.

To give ourselves, a team of volunteer amateurs, the assurance that we will produce a robust document, we are engaging the services of a professional planning consultant to review and revise our current draft to make it fit for local consultation. Although this stage has taken us a little longer than we had expected, we hope to launch the local consultation within the next couple of months.

Provided that the feedback is generally positive, we will prepare the required supporting statements and deliver what is called the Submitted Version of the Plan to SODC. The remaining stages of the development process will be in their hands. They will manage a wider public consultation, arrange for the independent examination and conduct the local referendum on a final version of the Plan. All of this will take time, but we are still hopeful that the Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made' and adopted before the end of the year.

John Gilbert
Chairman
Tetsworth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

30 April 2018