

CLP HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT PROJECT TEAM
29th MARCH 2017
MEETING

Our principal objective is that proposals for housing development in the Astons sympathetically accord with the wishes of the villagers as expressed in the Community Led Plan.

Present: Susanna Brunskill, Anna Dillon, Emma Lewins, John Short and Steve White

1. Making planning applications more accessible
 - a. AD confirmed the new website will be ready after 10th April. It will include all planning applications. Decisions will be in the PC minutes. There will be links to both from the website and monthly eNews
 - b. We agreed to ask the PC to encourage villagers to sign-up for SODC planning alerts. AD

2. Conservation Area Management Plan and Character Appraisal
 - a. This initiative cannot begin in earnest until May.
 - b. **However, we noted that SODC's Astons Conservation Area map** is out of date with some house extensions missing and no Tree Protection Orders shown. AD said the Environment Project Team would be taking the tree issue up with SODC. We considered asking householders in the Astons to comment on errors in respect of their houses and land. The map includes buildings of note and open spaces.
 - c. SB/AD will review the Astons' History Group archive for any insights into changes over time.
 - d. The Environment Group will undertake a tree survey, funded by villagers.

3. Astons Constraints Profile
 - a. AD will have more to say in June. Meanwhile, she will distribute maps produced by the Environment Agency showing water and other features.
 - b. We should be aware of the Thames Valley Recording Centre and the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust.
 - c. We noted the Appeal Decision in respect of 170 new homes in East Hagbourne. The inspector rejected the appeal and so the development will not now go ahead.

4. Planning applications review
 - a. As a trial, we agreed to review the next planning application that might have contingent problems of geology and soil, ground water, access, etc. and suggest which questions regarding these matters the PC might ask the developer. If the PC and we believe this is useful, we would make it a standard procedure.

As most planning applications are straightforward, we do not expect to look at more than a small handful each year. ALL

5. SODC Local Plan
 - a. **SODC's draft Local Plan has been made** available for consultation. We agreed to write to the PC with our views on it by 17th April in time for the next PC meeting on 24th April. We agreed to circulate comments between us by 7th April. SW will draft. ALL

6. Affordable housing
 - a. JS spoke to Craig Dansfield of SOHA, who said that SOHA would consider developments of five or more houses in small villages, but not flats.
 - b. We agreed to postpone work on writing a Housing Needs Assessment because of its complexity and cost.

7. Relationship with PC
 - a. Will the PC or CLP provide a protocol about how a project team reports to the PC?

- 8. Dates of next meetings**
Friday 28th April at 14.00
Wednesday 31st May at 15.00
Wednesday 12th July at 15.00