

Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan Committee
Report to Wheatley Parish Council, (copied to Holton P.C.),
for PC meeting, 5 November 2018 **From John Fox, Chairman WNP**

Much of 2018 has been spent in close regular discussions with planners and advisers and in producing the documents listed below which the law (Localism Bill 2011) requires or which help underpin our WNP proposals. There has been a meeting every two or three weeks between planning advisers and committee members. Ricardo Rios has been the main adviser and a trust between 'them and us' has built up. The WNP Website www.wheatleyneighbourhoodplan.co.uk has also been strengthened – please look at our Evidence Base [EB] sections for Oxfordshire County contacts and 2018 Feb and October website comments on the OBU site. and WNP Committee minutes, as well as at our Recent & Updated Publications column for 'Understanding the Number 300' and for Data Protection compliance. Our Plan includes support for the '300' home figure on the old Brookes building site and no further, as well as for 'enhancement' in Wheatley Littleworth, the Bungalow area behind ASDA and a mixed development with green space for 'Ms Tombs Field'. WNP, SODC and contracted specialists have nearly finished producing the following documents, all essential to our Neighbourhood Plan, and the first three as legal requirements.

<u>Document</u>	<u>Responsible</u>
1. Pre-Submission Draft <u>Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan</u>	WNP
2. <u>Statutory Consultation Statement</u>	WNP
3. <u>Basic Conditions Statement</u>	WEST WADDY
4. Appendix, Wheatley Character	WNP
5. Appendix, Sites Selection/Site Options Assessment	WNP
6. Appendix, Environmental Report (Strat. / Envir. Assessment Order, 2017)	AECOM Ltd
7. Appendix, Viability Assessment	SODC
8. Appendix, Conservation Appraisal	SODC
9. Appendix, Design Guide.	SODC

Sadly, but wisely, I cannot forecast a timeline beyond 'soon' ! Once ready, WNP submits Draft Plan to WPC (Qualifying Body) for comment, after submitting it to the same 25 Statutory Bodies we consulted in May-June 2017. If all seems OK, it goes to SODC, which checks 'compliance' with law and policies, national and local. The Draft WNP then goes through 6 weeks Public Consultation, including one Open Day, and an evening session at Primary or Secondary Academy venues. After this last 'listening session', SODC appoints an independent Examiner and notifies the 25 Consultation Bodies accordingly. The Examiner reports to SODC & WPC. SODC publish a report, including the Examiner's advice/findings. With public comment post-Examination, the Examiner's advice and presumed approval in principle, the Electoral Commission holds a Referendum in our community (approx 4,500). A successful result would be a simple majority of those voting. The NP would go on to be 'made' by SODC and take on statutory/legal authority.

The question of continuity from WNP to WPC has been raised by WNP Chairman in open Parish Council over 5 months. It has some agreement in principle, but detail is shelved until the Draft WNP comes to submission. Part of this must include closer involvement of the County Council (a new local OCC Councillor is to be by-elected on 29 November. We need a listener to knock on OCC doors and I was sorry for that to lose Kirsten. Wheatley Infrastructure improvement is urgent to accommodate Strategic Site 10, massively dependent on the village. WNP has the evidence of people's fears and priorities. It has fought for realistic limits at OBU. It has proposed real enhancements for Wheatley. The neglected Infrastructure, its evidence around us, has to be next.

