

## BNP CHAIRMANS REPORT – 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022

As outlined in my November Report, we have entered the 6 week consolation phase (Pre -Submission Reg 14) with the closing date for comments on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Several completed comments sent by email and those delivered to the Botley Centre have been received and will form part of the 'Consultation Statement'. The following documentation will also be completed in time for the Submission Proposal:

- A Basic Condition Statement
- A Sustainability Statement
- An Equal Opportunities Statement

(please see outline drafts on next page)

I will be calling a meeting of the BPCNP Committee in January to review all comments received, especially those from EBC.. A detailed report with the Committee's recommendations will be prepared in time for the BPC meeting in February.

Once any changes have been agreed by BPC, the final submission document will be formulated and we will then enter the 'Submission' phase.

This document and its appendices, together with the supporting technical documents, will be submitted to Eastleigh Borough Council for examination (Regulation 15). Eastleigh Borough Council will appoint an independent examiner and undertake a further consultation (Regulation 16).

Following examination and subject to approval from the examiner, Eastleigh will carry out a referendum in the Neighbourhood Area (Botley Parish) and, if the Neighbourhood Plan is agreed by a simple majority of those who vote, the Plan will be "made" by Eastleigh Borough Council and will form part of the Local Plan against which planning applications will be assessed.

Throughout this process, our task will be to advertise as far and as wide as we can, informing the community that this referendum is in progress.

Councillor Stephen Wildin  
Chairman, Botley Parish Neighbourhood Planning Committee.

### **Basic Condition Statement**

Neighbourhood plans must comply with the basic conditions set out in paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) to proceed to referendum. These state that the plan must take due notice of the following items

- Have regard to national policies and advice, such as the National Planning Policy Framework.
- Contribute to the achievement of sustainable development
- Be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan for the area (our Core Strategy and our other development plan documents).
- Be compatible with European obligations and human rights requirements.

### **A Sustainability Statement**

Sustainable development is about ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. It is about considering the long-term environmental, social and economic issues and impacts in an integrated and balanced way. The UK Government has set five guiding principles to achieve the sustainable development purpose. These principles form the basis of this policy in the UK and are as below.

- Living within environmental limits.
- Ensuring a strong, healthy, and just society.
- Building a strong, stable, and sustainable economy.
- Promoting good governance.
- Using sound science responsibly.

### **An Equal Opportunities Statement**

The Council recognises that equality of opportunity is essential to the success of the organisation both in terms of service delivery, our role as an employer and our role as a community leader. The Parishes increasingly diverse community is one of our greatest assets, and all members of our community should have an equal chance to both contribute to and benefit from society.

The Council recognises that to bring about change we must seek to ensure that equality issues are fully included into our work which includes shaping policy and delivering services.

We know we can only achieve our aims and narrow the gap of inequality by working closely with our partners and the community and voluntary sector who work with diverse or vulnerable communities in the Parish.

We will listen to and engage with local people at every opportunity: our plans must be informed by peoples' experiences of living, working, studying, and visiting the Parish.

The Policy should explain the following.

- The Councils commitment to Equality and our legal responsibility on how we will make our services accessible to all.
- The actions we will take to ensure that we are effectively managing equality and diversity.
- How we will monitor and periodically review the policy statement to ensure that it is achieving its objectives.

**NB It is suggested that this statement is considered, and modified if required, by P&R**