

Harvington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Chairman's final report - November 2019

'Making' of the Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan was 'made' (adopted) by Wychavon District Council on 18th September 2019. It will remain in effect until 2030, although a revision in a couple of years time will be advisable (see below).

Expenditure and sources of funding

The amount of money spent on the Plan was as follows:

Activity	£
Community surveys	949
Communications with community	3,416
Planning consultant	2,115
Steering group expenses	243
Total	£ 6,723

The sources of funding were:

Source	£
HMG via Locality grant	1,555
HMG via Wychavon District Council (WDC)	3,437
Harvington Parish Council (2015-16 & 2016-17)	1,731
Total	£ 6,723

The total grant available from the WDC for neighbourhood planning is £5,000. £1,563 remains unspent; this could perhaps be spent on the next revision of the Neighbourhood Plan (see below).

Community contribution 'in kind'

A total of 22 members of the community contributed to the working groups and steering group of the plan. The number of hours contributed, and hence the 'value' of the contribution (had it been charged at commercial rates) has been estimated as follows:

Activity	Hours
Residents survey	60
Policy research and formulation (by 5 working groups)	360
Document authoring, revision and proof-reading (500 pages)	750
Steering Group meetings	360
Total hours	1,530
Equivalent 'value' at £20 per hour	£ 30,600

HMG also paid directly for the consultant's report on the selection of a development site. This must have cost in excess of £1,000.

Lessons learned

The chairman has prepared a presentation (NP – hints and tips) giving advice to other villages embarking on a Neighbourhood Plan. This presentation was delivered at a Wychavon District Council event for Parish Councils on 24th October. It is available on the Parish web site.

Future revisions

Neighbourhood Plans need to be kept up-to-date. They need to reflect changes in:

- National planning legislation and advice,
- The South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP),
- Local developments,
- Local attitudes, needs and desires.

The forthcoming revision of the SWDP needs a response. This is currently expected to be 'made' at the end of 2022. A revision of our Neighbourhood Plan in early 2013 is highly recommended. In addition to adapting to the revised SWDP our plan could also usefully:

- Re-propose the open space to the rear of The Steps as a Local Green Space,
- Take account of the progress on the village projects (*Example: our proposed re-instated river crossing and the land we protected for cycling may by then be incorporated into the planned district cycle route from Evesham to Alcester*),
- Take account of developments in sustainable housing standards and in the protection of local bio-diversity. (*We were explicitly constrained in what we were allowed to mandate for new houses. By 2022 national & district developments in response to the climate emergency declared by Parliament in mid 2019 may permit us to set higher standards*).

Christopher Haynes

Chair, Steering Group

9 November 2019