

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

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Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.



WHAT IS A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN?

- Localism Act 2011 (Neighbourhood Planning Regs).
- Gives local community a say in future development.
- Detailed policies for development and use of land.
- Becomes part of statutory Local Development Plan.
- Usually promoted by Parish/Town Councils.
- Must conform to higher level planning policies.
- Should guide development – Not stop it!
- Housing sites can be controversial!

THE PROCESS

- Have to follow a statutory process.
- Involve “RCAN” – Rural Community Action Notts.
- Set up a Steering Committee.
- Agree the Designated Area.
- Involve the Community.
- Agree a “vision” and “objectives”.
- Consider applying for a Government financial grant.
- Consider appointing a specialist planning consultant.
- Meet landowners and housing developers.

THE PROCESS

- Prepare Draft Neighbourhood Plan.
- Statutory public consultation (Reg 14).
- Parish/Town Council “sign off” final draft.
- Borough Council check plan and invite comments.
- Independent examination.
- If approved – Referendum – Simple majority.
- Formal adoption by Borough Council.
- Becomes part of Local Development Plan.
- Used in the appraisal of planning applications.

RADCLIFFE – LESSONS LEARNED -1.

- Need real commitment by Parish/Town Council.
- Follow a guide eg, – CPRE “Guide to Neighbourhood Planning”.
- Need committed leader of Steering Group.
- Need varied skills on Steering Group – age, gender, etc.
- Need good Borough Council mentor.
- Get “RCAN” involved early.
- Realise it can be a long and costly process (3 years +).
- Why does the Council want a Neighbourhood Plan?
- A strategic or detailed plan?
- Is a Sustainability Appraisal required?

LESSONS LEARNED - 2.

- A work plan and timetable are essential.
- Prepare a “tight brief” if using a consultant.
- Not an easy task to apply for government grant.
- Only 6 months to spend grant.
- Existing Community Plan is a great aid.
- Put Neighbourhood Plan on Parish/Town website.
- Engage and consult with landowners, businesses, etc
- Keep good records.

- Thank you – any questions?