

LOCAL PLAN & FNPR: SOME ISSUES.

This paper outline some of the current planning issues that will directly or indirectly affect the preparation of our revised FNP. The Parish Council is asked to consider the Options and decide which one it prefers.

OPTION 1. To continue along the usual lines.

DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS:

1. During the long delay in revising the Local Plan, the preferred applicants have either withdrawn or encountered unforeseen difficulties.
2. This means we would need to have another call for sites with standard review form, for the assessment of each site – a costly process in terms of time and money.
3. Locality, who offer technical advice on environmental impact and especially on how far these meet the remaining European Directives, operate on an annual basis and the Government have not yet indicated if they will continue with funding.
4. The restrictions on availability at Apuldram WWTW would currently limit us to very small sites.
5. The amount of building in previous years in Fishbourne has led to existing roads operating at full capacity - a fact conveniently ignored when disregarding the cumulative effect of traffic from neighbouring developments along the A259 and the Chichester Ring Road
6. All this hard work could be swept aside by the further planning regulations and the changes in Local Government structure – both of which are timetabled for the end of the year at the same time as the Local Plan hopes to be completed.

OPTION 2. To play the long game.

Playing the long game should be the result of careful consideration and definitely not the result of drifting. The great advantage of this approach is that it very considerably reduces the potential waste of volunteers' time (see 6 above) .

This approach could also give us time to research issue more fully and to produce evidence-based . The time would enable us to benefit from training and sharing of experience

OPTION 3: Withdraw from the Neighbourhood Plan process.

Despite Government encouragement, Neighbourhood Plans are not part of the statutory structure of local government. However, there are strong reasons to have a Neighbourhood Plan, including the larger share of CIL infrastructure funding.

The following outline of the Local and Neighbourhood Plan stages may be of interest to colleagues who have not have previous experience of this part of our role.

Key stages of a Neighbourhood Plan

Stage	Key Tasks to be considered
One – how to engage in Neighbourhood Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider whether a Neighbourhood Plan is the most appropriate way for the community to get involved in the planning of the local area• Get the community on board• Establish a Neighbourhood Plan Team• Consider the financial implications• Produce a programme/ timetable for developing the Neighbourhood Plan• Draw up a list of those to be consulted with• Develop a communication strategy to carry out the consultation
Two – Designating your Neighbourhood Plan Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Define the Neighbourhood Plan Area and submit an application and map of the area to Chichester District Council• Give details of the Neighbourhood Plan proposals to Chichester District Council• Chichester District Council publish the application on their website for a minimum of six weeks
Three – “What you want to achieve” (vision and objectives).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gather available evidence from Chichester District Council and other relevant information• Draft vision and objectives• Check for conformity with National and Council policy• Consult the community on draft visions and objectives• Develop Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report
Four – “How you achieve it”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop policies• Develop an implementation plan• Check for conformity with National and Council policy• Amend draft Neighbourhood Plan in response to consultation and finalise

(developing the plan).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult the community and stakeholders on the draft Neighbourhood Plan • Carry out Sustainability Appraisal on the draft Neighbourhood Plan • Submit draft Neighbourhood Plan proposal to Chichester District Council • Chichester District Council publish and consult draft Neighbourhood Plan with community and stakeholders for a minimum of six weeks
Five – independent examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of an independent examiner and submission of the Neighbourhood Plan • Examination • Independent Examiner’s report published on Chichester District Council’s website and decision statement sent to the parish council and anyone who has previously made a representation • Chichester District Council considers Independent Examiner’s report.
Six – referendum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of recommendations from examination • Chichester District Council co-ordinates a local referendum
Seven – adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the referendum indicates a majority community support (more than 50% of the turnout which must be at least 21 people), the Neighbourhood Plan is adopted by Chichester District Council and has the same weight as other planning policy for the district