

# **Barrowden and Wakerley Neighbourhood Plan**

## **Report to the Barrowden Parish Council – October 2017**

At the two Business Meetings of the Neighbourhood Plan Group held during September, further progress was made on a number of areas of the Plan

### **Landscape and Character Assessment**

This document, prepared by Chris Barrett, Trine McDonald and Jean Mitchell, is part of the evidence base for the Plan with the objective of reducing the amount of information in the final version of the Plan document. It will be referenced, as appropriate, within the Plan to make sure developers recognise the special character of the area to make sure that future dwellings protect or enhance the two Villages.

Linda Worrall has also created an extensive and fascinating history of Barrowden and Wakerley which will be added to the evidence base and the Group are grateful for her hard work in pulling together the information.

One of the concerns of the Group has been trying to identify within the Villages those areas which should be developed with particular care especially in respect of the archaeology. Through work from Trine McDonald, it has been possible to identify that a large number of the archaeological surveys in Barrowden that are held in the Rutland County Museum and we will be to add the surveys to a map of the Village. The same issue will be followed up with Northamptonshire County Council for Wakerley.

### **Version 2 of the Plan.**

Work has been carried out to slim down the content of the Plan to incorporate the advice from Mike Haybyrne from his report which he provided earlier this year, reduce duplication, clarify the Objectives and Planning Policies and have it ready for professional assistance to write the Pre-Submission version. In particular Policies relating to land use need to be clear and separated from those relating to Community aspirations.

Additionally, a section relating to introducing the Plan has been added with background information, how the plan has developed, the consultation process with residents, and a short portrait of the area.

All the sections have been condensed and tidied up, except the “Conservation and Design” section which will be structured to ensure that the content in the Plan is clear and straightforward and anything that is not required in the Plan will included as evidence in the Landscape and Character Assessment.

### **Invitation to Tender**

A draft Invitation to tender has been prepared with a view to seeking a suitable individual to finalise the Plan in order to make it readable but more importantly meet the aspirations of

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residents while being acceptable during inspection by the Examiner. The timescales are for tenders to be returned by the end of October with a view to approving the Consultant in early November, and subject to the timing of funding to have completed the work by December.

### **Locality Funding**

On receipt of the costs for writing the Pre-Submission of the Plan, a budget for the Pre-Submission launch, printing costs and resident consultation, a request will be made to Locality for the funding to cover the costs. Experience shows that a turnround of 10-14 days for such an application can be achieved..

Draft