

RUFFORTH with KNAPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

APPENDIX III

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - RUFFORTH with KNAPTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At all stages of the Plan process to date residents have been fully consulted.

OCT 2014 Public meeting in Community Hall to discuss the City of York Draft Local Plan 2014. In particular, concerns over Harewood Whin expansion and Travellers' site were expressed. In discussion, the idea of producing a Neighbourhood Plan was floated.

DEC 2014 / JAN 2015 Discussions with Parish Council ref potential of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish.

JAN 2015 Residents meeting held. Neighbourhood Plans explained and stressed that Plan must represent views of whole community and must promote some change. Unanimous support was given.

MAY 2015 Application to City of York Council for Designated Area Status followed by statutory consultation process. No objections raised and designation confirmed in JULY 2015.

JUNE 2015 Questionnaire (see Appendix IV) circulated to all 427 households in the Parish and achieved a 73% response rate. Letters sent to landowners and businesses in Parish (see below).

SEPT 2015 Results of Questionnaire analysed and report circulated to all households (see Appendix V).

NOV 2015 Residents meeting to discuss proposed policies related to Harewood Whin (subsequently embodied in the Plan). Overwhelming majority (by show of hands) in support.

FEB 2016 Follow up letter sent to Landowners (see below).

AUG 2016 Drop in meeting held in Institute to consult on proposed housing allocations. Response forms were issued and 36 response received, 34 in favour.

In addition to the above specifics a monthly report has been produced for the Parish Council and regular updates have been emailed to residents who have provided their email addresses and indicated a desire to be kept informed.

Letter to Landowners – July 2015

5 Church Farm Close
Rufforth
YO23 3RL

July 2015

Dear

You will have heard from City of York Council regarding our application to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Rufforth with Knapton. We are now able to confirm that we have been granted Designated Area status for this purpose and are embarking on the process of producing the plan.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding the future development and growth of an area. It must represent the views of the whole community not just those volunteers involved in the process. To inform us and to form the basis of the Plan a questionnaire has gone out to all households in the Parish seeking views on such matters as facilities, amenities and future potential developments. We are currently analysing the results.

As a landowner in the Parish we would very much like to hear your views. Do you have an opinion on the amenities and infrastructure in the area and do you have any plans or ideas for your land which you wish to be considered in our deliberations? We would be happy to have your thoughts on as wide a range of issues as you consider appropriate.

We would be grateful if you would reply in writing but alternatively if you would prefer to meet to discuss matters in person we would be delighted to do so.

This is a real opportunity for all of us, landowners, businesses and residents to help shape the future of our local area. We do hope you will participate fully and help us to achieve that objective

Yours sincerely,



Peter Rollings
Chairman

Tel: 01904 738704

Email: peterrollings@btinternet.com

Follow-up Letter to Landowners – February 2016 Dear

Rufforth with Knapton Neighbourhood Plan.

You may recall that we wrote to you a few months ago informing you that we were embarking on the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Rufforth with Knapton. Having canvassed the views of residents, businesses, and landowners we are now working on the detail of the Plan.

Recognising the national and local requirement for housing there is support for a structured plan for some limited small scale residential development within the village “envelopes”. We have identified certain key principles in assessing the desirability of potential projects and their eventual inclusion in our Plan i.e.: -

- The Green Belt surrounding the villages and particularly separating both villages from the City of York must be maintained.
- Any development must be small scale in size and in keeping with existing residential development.
- Priority will be given to homes of 2 to 3 bedrooms suitable for families and people wishing to downsize.
- Suitable traffic access is a major consideration. In Rufforth access onto the B1224 is a concern and in the main existing roads or cul-de-sacs should be utilised, providing such roads meet appropriate safety standards.

Whilst a Neighbourhood Plan is not the final arbiter of planning decisions once adopted it does form part of the statutory local development plan for the area and planning applications will be determined in accordance with its policies.

We obviously have a considerable amount of work to do to arrive at that stage and our Plan will be subject to a lengthy consultation process. However if you do have a site or project which meets the above criteria and you would like included in our deliberations we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Of course, it may not be possible to include all potential sites in the eventual Plan so each project will be assessed on its desirability and viability against the Plan policies.

Peter Rollings

Chairman Rufforth with Knapton Neighbourhood Planning Group

5, Church farm Close, Rufforth, York, YO23 3RL peterrollings@btinternet.com

01904 738704

Letter to Business – July 2015

5 Church Farm Close
Rufforth
YO23 3RL

July 2015

Dear

You will have heard from City of York Council regarding our application to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Rufforth with Knapton. We are now able to confirm that we have been granted Designated Area status for this purpose and are embarking on the process of producing the plan.

A neighbourhood Plan is a community-led framework for guiding the future development and growth of an area. It must represent the views of the whole community not just those volunteers involved in the process. To inform us and to form the basis of the Plan a questionnaire has gone out to all households in the Parish seeking views on such matters as facilities, amenities and future potential developments. We are currently analysing the results

As a business in the Parish we would very much like to hear your views. In considering your long term strategic plans for your business are there issues with facilities or infrastructure that you would like to see addressed and do your plans involve any potential future development which you would like us to consider in our deliberations? We would be happy to have your thoughts on as wide a range of issues as you consider appropriate.

We would be grateful if you would reply in writing but alternatively if you would prefer to meet to discuss matters in person we would be delighted to do so.

This is a real opportunity for all of us, landowners, businesses and residents to help shape the future of our local area. We do hope you will participate fully and help us to achieve that objective.

Yours sincerely,



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