

Neighbourhood Plan

Steering Group Report for Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

May 2024

Governance

A Steering Group and governance regime is in place to oversee progress of the Neighbourhood Plan, reporting to Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council.

The steering group last met on the 16th of April to discuss progress. All steering group meetings and minutes are open to the public and advertised on the SMPC and NP websites.

Engagement continues with the neighbourhood planning team at West Berkshire Council to keep updated on relevant policy and process and to share best practice.

Cllr Nick Carter provides connection to WBC. An administrative assistant is employed to support the Steering Group.

A West Berkshire NP best practice sharing forum is in place, and the Stratfield Mortimer NP steering group actively participates.

Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2026 revision (Reserved Land MOR006)

There is positive feedback from West Berkshire to the pre – application; the application hasn't been put through yet, however it is being worked up by TAF with some urgency.

Neighbourhood Plan 2027-2039

Existing 2017-2026 NP policies have been reviewed by the Steering Group against the analysis of the public consultation, to decide what policies to carry over into the 2027-2039 NP and identify new policies that will need more detailed development.

Reviews have been completed on all Themes, they have all been drafted and formatted.

Content for the New NDP Posters was discussed and agreed. Posters of five of the Themes, together with one for the Reserved Land, were designed and printed to present progress at the Annual Parish Meeting.

A list of consultants has been put together and will be emailed to arrange dates for a short presentation to the SG, to select who does the work and assists with the Policies, Design Codes and the Housing Need Assessment.

Budget 2023/24

2023/24 earmarked budget for the NP steering group	£25,000
Remaining EMR balance for 2023/24	£22,550

Expected activities requiring budget in 2024:

- Consultancy costs for 2026-2039 NP document writing
- Administrative assistant costs
- Locality application
- Design Codes Scope
- Housing Needs Assessment
- Review of Policies