

**BRACKENFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP
AT THE PLOUGH INN, BRACKENFIELD
ON TUESDAY 10 APRIL 2018 AT 6PM**

Present: Linda Walker, Andrew Towlerton (Consultant), Neal Steeper, Christine Edwards, Anne Edgar

Apologies: Billie-Jean Poole, Michael Poole, Stefan Priest, Peter Pilsbury, Martin Philips, Keith Purvis, Mike Edwards

Minutes of the meeting on 6 March 2018: Agreed. No matters arising.

General progress with the Plan:

Andrew confirmed that good progress has been made and the initial draft of the Plan is coming together. The Landscape Character Assessment has largely been completed. The aim is to have a draft Plan ready for the May meeting.

Historic Character Area: Andrew explained that Historic England have developed a new toolkit enabling Neighbourhood Planning groups to establish a Historic Character Area. Given the wealth of historic features in Brackenfield, this could be a good way forward and much of the necessary evidence has been gathered already. The boundary of the area would need to be defined and includes the setting within the landscape as well as buildings. The key criterion for inclusion in the HCA is that there has to be a historic link. All present were in favour of exploring this further. **Andrew will send a link to the Historic England materials.** To be discussed at the next meeting.

Field names are a very important feature of the area and should be emphasised in the Neighbourhood Plan. Peter has a tythe map showing the names. **Christine will ask Peter about copying it or making it available at the next meeting.**

Policy Options – Housing etc:

There was some discussion regarding the direction that the Housing Chapter should take. Andrew will put together some draft housing policies which will form the basis for further informal community consultation.

It is important to identify the few community assets in the area e.g. The Plough Inn; Church; Church Hall; Ogston Reservoir; Sailing Club and footpath network.

Funding update:

The Government have announced funding arrangements for the next three years. The budget is on track and there is a contingency available for possible expenses such as printing hard copies of the final Plan. It was agreed that there is funding available for hire of the Church Hall for NP meetings and this should be booked initially for a block of six meetings. (Invoice to Andrew Towlerton Associates.) **Christine will contact Nigel Rogers re booking.**

Footpaths and possible permissive paths:

Peter and Christine walked round the local footpaths and identified three sections where permissive footpaths would enhance the area in terms of road safety and enjoyment of the landscape. Although not strictly part of the Neighbourhood Plan, this could reflect the Plan's objective of support for sustainable eco-tourism. **The first step is to discuss the idea with land owners.**

Rural Economy Chapter:

It was agreed that the draft Rural Economy Chapter should be circulated to known local businesses with a covering letter explaining how this fits into the Neighbourhood Plan and inviting comments and suggestions. **Christine will get copies and arrange for distribution.**

Back Lane Wessington Planning Decision:

It was noted that the Appeal regarding this proposed development has been rejected.

Mining Maps:

It was agreed that maps showing the areas of unlicensed ganister/mineral extraction in Brackenfield should be included in the appendix of the Neighbourhood Plan. **Andrew will check about permission to reproduce the maps.**

Community Engagement:

The draft Plan should be available for informal consultation in June/July. It was agreed that a stand should be included at the Picnic on the Green on Sunday 15th July. Andrew can supply materials, banners etc. and a gazebo if necessary and is willing to attend. There could be one or two other events e.g. a coffee morning, to give the maximum number of people chance to be involved.

Dates of meetings:

Next meeting: Tuesday 15 May at 6pm **NB: at Brackenfield Church Hall**

Provisional future dates to be confirmed at the next meeting, so please bring your diary.