

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

Present: David Wakefield, Caroline Wakefield, Neal Steeper, Rachel Robson (Consultant), Stefan Priest, Martin Philips, Keith Purvis, Peter Pilsbury, Mike Edwards, Christine Edwards,

Apologies: Linda Walker, Billie-Jean Poole; Michael Poole; Anne Edgar

Character Assessment of NP Area:

It was agreed that the draft document put together by Rachel, incorporating data gathered by the group, was “a good read”, capturing the essence and over all feeling about the area.

Neal's introduction to the history and development of Brackenfield has been added. **Mike agreed to add a paragraph about the Roman period.**

There are some corrections and minor amendments to be made, some of which have already been forwarded to Rachel. **Rachel requested that the group forward any further suggestions for amendments to her, to assist with revision of the draft.**

Natural Environment Chapter:

Ryecroft House is now shown on the map as Brackenfield Lodge. The adjoining field is an example of old-established “ridge and furrow” cultivation, of which there are probably more within the Parish. There was some discussion about the use of the term “fossilised strips” in this context and whether the term “selions” would be more accurate (being an open strip of land or small fields for growing, from the French “sillon” or “ridge furrow”).

Mike has looked at the LIDAR surveys of the area but there is very limited coverage, mainly focusing on Ogston Hall. It was suggested that a drone survey of parts of the area might be helpful, especially if infra red, uv studies and 3-D modeling of the area could be produced **Mike will seek a quote from Sumo Services** who do archaeological studies work for several universities.

Ancient hedgerows and specific, significant trees need to be highlighted and mapped with supporting photographs. **Rachel requested that the group send her details of trees and hedges they think should be included.** Examples include: Oak, Ash and Beech trees on Butterfield Lane and Lime trees in the Church Yard. If certain trees are deemed suitable for a Tree Preservation Order, this could be highlighted in the Plan.

The area is notable for the number of bird species that have been sighted in the woodlands and hedgerows as well as on the reservoir (162 over the period of one year). **Neal will ask someone at Ogston Bird Club if they can write a brief summary about the habitats within the area to be included in the Natural Environment Chapter.**

Rather than calling the central area “The Green”, it may be more accurate to refer to it as Brackenfield Historical Centre, thereby including Miller's Lane, Church Lane, the Victorian quarter and part of Butterfield Lane. It may be possible to designate this as a Historical Character Area. **Rachel will seek advice from Historic England.**

There was some discussion about the land associated with Road Nook Farm, on the Eastern side of Brackenfield Lane. This area is of historical significance because of the “ridge and furrow” layout and remains of the orchard, walled garden and site of the old bowling green formerly belonging to this Grade 2 listed house (previously Wessington Manor).

Peter has a tithe map for the village dated 1841, which shows that most of the fields were named.

Work has been started on describing a list of Non Designated Heritage Assets to be included in the Environment Chapter. Further information is needed concerning the drove roads which link old routes through the area. Crich Heritage Group and Matlock History Group may be able to help as they share an interest.

Emphasis should be placed on the significance of the Victorian area of the village including the church and church yard, which are frequently visited.

Any evidence from the time when the reservoir was constructed that describes features that remain would be useful. David has sent a photograph of Ogston Hall and Ford House before the valley was flooded and Mike sent an account from a local resident of before and after the reservoir.

The construction of roadside walling on Cold Harbour Lane and Miller's Lane is of interest as they are both sunken lanes with the same kind of stone and building style.

The wall along Ogston New Road was constructed using stone from the mill and cottages which were dismantled prior to the reservoir valley being flooded.

Lindway Lane is of significance because of the ponds and bird life they attract.

There is a large heronry to the West of Ogston New Road, near the former Turbutt picnic site.

Dark Lane, at the end of Quarry Lane, is a Roman road.

Views into the Parish should be emphasised e.g. from the Higham ridge and Rykneld Street and from High Oredish.

Water courses through the village are important such as Winny Brook and its tributary crossing Butterfield Lane, leading into ponds in the fields of Broomhill Farm. **Stefan and Mike will discuss with John P.**

Next steps:

Rachel will continue to work on policies and the Housing Chapter.

Work needs to be done on identifying current footpaths and gaps which could support future connectivity – possible permissive paths. **(Peter and Christine will explore.)**

Regarding public transport, it is unlikely in the current climate that any aspirational policies to work with the local authority to improve services would bear fruit. It may be more realistic to emphasise the lack of transport.

There needs to be a brief chapter on each of the following:

- local businesses (e.g.farming, the Plough Inn, dog grooming, cattery, working from home) **Martin will make a start on this.**
- tourism (small scale; caravans,fishing, bird watching, cycling, riding, walking, sailing) – what is here and what would be comfortable in the setting.
- Community facilities (church hall and church)

If necessary, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust would do a study of the area for a fee.

Once the Landscape draft is completed, a Consultant Landscape Specialist could be engaged to check it over. To be discussed.

Dates of meetings (at The Plough Inn):

Tuesday 10 April at 6pm

Tuesday 15 May at 6pm