

ES&BG Neighbourhood Plan Steering Team Meeting

1800 Tuesday 7th February 2023 [7th February 2023](#) ([Web view](#))

Present by Zoom: Marian Dain; Charles Gillow; Paul Debenham; John Dain (reporter)

Apologies: Tony Greener; Gill Lock; Simon Willson;

Agenda

- Agree record of last meeting (21st December 2022 (Web view))
- Review Examiners Report (Final Examiners Report (Web view)) recommending progression of Submission of the Plan to referendum subject to a set of minor modifications.
- Agree recommendation on progression for the PC as Qualifying Body at their meeting on 8th February 2023
- Discuss/agree actions to close out the role of the SG and hand over final steps to the PC
 - Documentation/records (John)
 - Finances (Charles/Parish Clerk (Sarah)
 - Other
- Any other business
- SG disbandment.

Status/Decisions/Actions

1. Record of meeting on 21st December agreed – has been put up on NP pages of parish website
2. Examiners Report
 - Welcomed overall conclusion that subject to some minor modifications, the report recommends that the plan meets basic Conditions and should go to referendum
 - Disappointment that ESBG16 (Zero Carbon Housing) has to be completely emasculated despite the precedent of the Ivers examination. Desire that a formal protest (to our MP) is made that the NP rules prevent us being aspirational on such an important topic simply because government legislation (as opposed to rhetoric) is not yet in place. (Marian to follow up)
 - Need a clear message to community that the vision/objectives that were co-created with residents are fulfilled within the plan as far as Basic Conditions allow and that we have a robust plan for development of the parish. Last step is their support at referendum.
 - One question to clarify with B&D BC. Plan dates are 2021-2039 which we have interpreted as based on the date we started – is this correct or should it now be 2023-2039 reflecting date of adoption. (Marian to follow up)
 - We formally recommend to PC that they should ask B&D BC to proceed to referendum with the plan modified to meet the examiners recommended changes. This goes to the PC on 8th February 2023 (Action Marian)
 - Once the PC agrees, they should communicate this step to residents.
3. Referendum
 - Date of Examiner's report issuance triggers the next steps.
 - B&D BC have up to 5 weeks to agree that the plan goes to referendum. It is very unlikely this will not happen but we have no control over timing. Marian to lobby our councillor John Izett to help secure as rapid a decision as possible.

- Once the decision is made, the referendum has to take place within 56 working days and requires 28 working days notice. This notice can only be given with the referendum version of the plan completed (we aim to have this done by ~10th February with the main limitation being completion of minor changes to the maps).
 - It appears B&D BC Electoral Services do not want to combine with the Local Elections on 4th May 2023 (as has been done previously for other NPs)
 - We hope to receive a target referendum date from B&D BC shortly.
 - Recent experience (East Woodhay/Ashford Hill & Headley) is the gap between Examiners report & referendum is around 3-3.5 months.
 - PC will need to organise publicity for the referendum perhaps including a leaflet drop (summarising the plan benefits) and using up the last of the coasters.
4. Close out of SG role/activity
- Agreement that there is no role for the SG going forward and that the PC as Qualifying Body should complete the last steps
 - Documentation will be compiled for the record and handed over. OneDrive/OneNote store will be sustained until referendum is complete and then archived.
 - Charles will finalise the accounts with Sarah (Parish Clerk) so a final account can be given to the PC and Locality – some VAT recovery and possibly some final expenses from o-h are outstanding. Target is for this report to go to March PC meeting.
 - Marian will liaise with Beth to keep the Facebook page active until referendum is completed.
 - Marian to determine what happens to other paraphernalia (tabards, pull up signs)
5. No other Business
6. SG is now formally disbanded with thanks from Marian on behalf of the PC for all the work/support.
7. Meeting closed