

WEST DEAN & WEST TYTHERLEY, FRENCHMOOR AND BUCKHOLT PARISH COUNCILS

**NDP UPDATE FOR BOTH PARISHES 17TH MAY 2021**

At this time of the Annual General Meetings 2021 the current and projected status of the Joint NDP is as follows:

- This report will be placed on the NDP and village websites. Updates will follow at key milestones in the process.
- The Regulation 16 draft NDP was issued to TVBC last November 2020 along with the supporting documents. (All can be seen on the website <http://wdwtplan.org.uk/> under The *Consultation (Reg 16)* Tab.
- Between Dec 2020 and April 2021 TVBC and WC have been addressing the need for further screening of the document from an environmental and habitat point of view. A recent court ruling known colloquially as “People over Wind” has, along with COVID restrictions, affected the process to be followed. [You can find the background on the internet].
- The Steering Group, on behalf of the PCs, has expressed concern over the delay in processing the Reg 16 consultation.
- Following a number of discussions at working level the latest proposed next steps by the local authorities is best summarised in an e-mail from the **Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer TVBC**.

*“ I understand the communities frustrations over the delays but with the work that we are undertaking at the moment, this will ensure that the plan meets the basic conditions and so that the plan will be robust and deliver the communities aspirations when it’s ‘made’ and comes into effect.*

*At the meeting that we had with Wiltshire Council (early May) it was decided that each authority would produce an Appropriate Assessment (AA) for their respective area. Both reports will then be passed on to the examiner for consideration in the examination. There will of course continue to be joint working on this, with both councils giving feedback on each other’s reports before they are formally consulted on with Natural England (NE).*

*We discussed the next steps and I have put these in a table below for you to share with both Parish Councils. Please note that this is heavily caveated as much will depend on any issues that might arise, how quickly documents can be turned around and the availability of examiners. I too would like the process to proceed as quickly as practicable and will be doing my utmost to help with this. The text in **bold** in the notes column denotes where the steering group will need to carry out a task.*

*I will of course keep you in the loop with the progress on the AA and will be in touch about the date for the commencement of the Regulation 16 consultation on the plan*

## 2021 Plan of Action on Road to Referendum

Date	Event	Notes
<b>Week commencing 17 May</b>	Meeting WC and TVBC ecologists	Meeting to give comments and feedback on AA. Finalise the reports
<b>End of May for 5 weeks until early July</b>	Consult with the respective contacts at NE on each AA	To be carried out in tandem with the Regulation 16 consultation
<b>Mid-June for 6 weeks until end of July</b>	Reg 16 consultation	To be carried out in tandem with the AA consultation
<b>Early July</b>	Appoint examiner	This can be done before the end of the consultation. The Parish Councils will be given a <b>choice of available examiners CV's to appoint one for the examination.</b> All costs for examination covered by TVBC
<b>August</b>	Collation of Consultation responses and associated paperwork for the examination.	TVBC to collate the consultation responses to the examiner. A copy will also be provided to the steering group for awareness of the issues raised. <b>It is best practice if these are considered by the steering group with a response, in anticipation of any questions that the examiner may have.</b> Availability of examiners in August is likely to be limited, and I am on leave for the last two weeks in August.
<b>September to end October</b>	The Examination	The commencement date will depend on the availability of examiners. The examination usually takes 8 weeks without a hearing, but will depend on the issues raised
Date	Event	Notes

<b>September</b>	Questions from the examiner	There may be questions that the examiner will need a response to. This could require a response from the steering group and the Borough Council. <b>These usually need to be turned around within 2 weeks</b>
<b>October</b>	Draft examiners 'fact check' report	This will be given to the Steering group and TVBC and WC to check for factual inaccuracies. <b>There is usually a 2 week turn around for this.</b>
<b>October to November</b>	Changes to the NP in line with the examiner's report recommendations	<b>The steering group will need to make the changes to the plan as outlined in the final report.</b> This work can commence once the draft report is received to speed up the process.  The timeline of the process going forward will depend on how quickly this can be produced. Only when this 'Referendum Version' of the plan is complete will the date for the referendum be set.
<b>End October / early November</b>	Final examiners report issued.	Published on the TVBC website with a <b>DECISION STATEMENT. [Key document with powers]</b>
<b>December</b>	Referendum	A referendum must be held within 56 days of the <b>Decision Statement</b> . However, an <b>information statement</b> must be published 28 days before the referendum date and the notice of referendum has to be published 25 days before the date. The costs of the referendum are covered by the Borough Council

- The remaining NDP funds (held by WTPC) should cover our costs. Most of the costs for consultation and Referendum are covered by TVBC/WC.
- It has been made clear to the local councils that as we unlock from COVID 19 restrictions (still fluid) and when the government pushes ahead with its bold plan (see Queen's speech) for building and planning for the future, emphasis may change and we will have to monitor carefully to ensure our NDP is relevant for the foreseeable future.
- TVBC (supported by WC) have reassured the chairman of the SG that they still very much want to produce a robust document that works for the local people in the community.
- The jury remains out on whether this will be achieved. The developers must not be allowed to develop housing that is inappropriate. Our rural community must grow to be sustainable but not at the expense of the environment in which we live.

NOTE: Direct any queries to [consultation@wdwtplan.co.uk](mailto:consultation@wdwtplan.co.uk) and we will answer your questions.

Alan Bannister

Chairman of the NDP Steering Group