Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Report for Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council Nov 2022

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 18 October 2022 to discuss progress.

Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council have approved expenditure for a part time administrator to support the Steering Group. The advert is live in the community.

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

Graham Bridgman sits on the steering group representing WBC.

Officers at West Berkshire Council have shared the contact details between neighbouring NP steering groups. Mortimer NP is taking action to contact other groups with the intention of sharing any best practice.

Neighbourhood Plan 2017-2026 revision (Reserved Land MOR006)

Allocation of 1ha of land for additional social amenity (educational and medical) within the 2017-2026 plan continues to be reviewed with the intention of extending the timeframe for delivery of the policy.

Engagement with stakeholders continues to finalise the specific requirements for the policy revision. Engagement with the community is planned for November at the Community workshops.

Neighbourhood Plan 2027-2036

The Mortimer Neighbourhood Plan will be updated to align with the next West Berkshire Council Local Plan. Early community engagement has established that the community are supportive of an update.

Consultants Bluestone are supporting the steering group to hold x3 community engagement workshops on the 16, 26 and 27 November. The workshops have been widely advertised within the community throughout October and early November. The intention is to share the initial consultation analysis back with the community, and to explore the emerging key themes in more depth. The Steering Group are developing engagement materials for the events.