

Eynsham Annual Parish Meeting 26 April 2016

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT – 2015/16

Eynsham futures has been working on the Neighbourhood Plan for nearly 18 months. During that time we have gathered opinion and data from Eynsham people which we are using to prepare a number of development site options and a set of policies which will be used to control all development in Eynsham over the next 15 years.

A summary of the sites and policies is presented on the posters at the meeting, via the Eynsham Parish Council web-site and paper copies of the key documents in Eynsham Library.

Our schedule is to have the Neighbourhood Plan in draft form in June or July 2016 so we can go through the formal review process in the second half of the year with a view to the final village-wide referendum to coincide with the May 2017 elections.

The time-scale is complicated by the rejection of WODC's Local Plan which has been set back at least another year. Our Plan is supposed to fit in with theirs so it is hard to see how we can be ready ahead of them. We do need to have something in place as soon as we can to help fend off developers who are trying to get in quick and get approval for their land when a much better result will be achieved with a properly integrated, larger scheme than can fund the roads and school places to support new developments.

Our current plan is to focus on 'policies' and we may even consider a two-stage process to get something in place on schedule.

To summarise what we see as our mission, we include our 'Statement of Purpose' :



eynsham futures
creating a Neighbourhood Plan for Eynsham

Eynsham's Neighbourhood Plan will shape future development over the next 15 years to meet national, regional and local housing needs in ways that:

- retain the character, style, friendliness and community spirit of Eynsham.
- enhance our community socially, environmentally and economically.
- provide the necessary transport and infrastructure for current and new residents.

The Plan will include policies which

- govern the location, type and style of new buildings and industrial facilities
- keep new traffic off existing village roads and create new walking and cycle routes
- link village and countryside with green spaces and places for play and recreation
- ensure space is available for enough school places for all local children
- identify locations for community services, activities and facilities for all age groups
- ensure there will be space for new and expanding businesses
- preserve and enhance Eynsham's history and heritage

Without a Plan, the village will be threatened by developments which

- are built solely to suit developers' profit, not the needs of new or existing residents
- do not provide the roads, school places and community facilities to support more residents
- consist of 'standard' designs with token provision of green space, footpaths and cycleways
- have no concern for providing homes which local families can afford
- won't provide the types of home which the skilled staff (needed by local businesses) can afford.

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