



Bramham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee March Update

The Parish Council has previously advised that we have to produce a Neighbourhood Plan as a result of the Government's Localism Bill. The purpose will be to define what development we would find acceptable in Bramham (the whole parish, not just the village), what areas and facilities we want to protect, along with the infrastructure needed to support any development. By doing this we will have an opportunity to influence what we want to see, rather than have decisions imposed upon us. Proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan will need to be supported by residents.

To kick off this activity residents were invited to the December Parish Council meeting, volunteers were asked for, and from this a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee was formed consisting of:

Cllr Keith Innocent (Chair), Cllr Val Whitbread (Secretary), Cllr Martin Batt, Cllr Bob Gibson, John Lynch, Ian Mitchell, Neil Ferres, Paul Smith, Iris Smith, John Whitbread. We are also pleased to have the support of Nick Lane-Fox and assistance from Jonathan Turner of Bowcliffe Hall.

The committee is responsible to the Parish Council, and also links to a wider Project Board that covers Boston Spa, Clifford, Thorp Arch, Walton, Barwick in Elmet and Scholes, as well as Bramham. This is chaired by Cllr John Proctor and has a lot of input from the Localism officer for Leeds City Council, Andrew Birkbeck. This gives our Parish Council more support in preparing the Plan, including some savings on costs and preparation of key documents.

Two meetings have been held so far and this is the first of monthly updates to residents. This month we want to give you an outline of what will be happening. Key points are:

- A website will be set up for the Neighbourhood Plan that will link to the Parish Council website. Minutes and other information will be posted on it.
- A logo will be created.
- The Community Conference planned by the Parish Council (date to be confirmed) will be used to give residents information and gather input from residents.
- A survey will be issued to residents to gather their views, the results of this will inform what goes into the Neighbourhood Plan.
- The proposed Neighbourhood Plan will be issued to residents and then all residents on the electoral role will be balloted to assess the level of support.

Timescales and further details on these steps will be confirmed by next month.

If you want to know more or feed in any views please talk to any member of the committee, or e mail Keith Innocent on keith@thomlinsons.co.uk