

NP Steering Group Report to PC – 18th January 2016

1. The external examination is nearly complete. There have been 2 sets of questions from the examiner, the first with 4 requests for information about map details and the second, a further 4 requests for clarification of specific points.
2. The Draft of the examiner's report has been sent to the HC Team for checking. Although the report is still in draft and not for publication, the result is clear. The examiner is recommending a number of small modifications - changes to wordings - in order to ensure that the Plan is clear and consistent.
3. Subject to these modifications being made, she is recommending that the EGNDP goes forward to referendum!
4. Next steps:
 - a. Ann Skippers will finalise her report and it will be put on the Plan website;
 - b. the modifications will be made to the EGNDP and will be checked by the HC Team; the SEA and the HRA will be revised in the light of the modifications by the HC Team; the maps will also be updated; a 'decision statement' sending the Plan for referendum will be signed off at HC and all these documents will be put onto the HC website;
 - c. the date for the referendum will be determined by Electoral Services and election logistics put in motion, possibly in mid-March and at the same time as Staunton-on-Wye;
 - d. the Plan will be printed and delivered to every household in the 3 parishes;
 - e. the referendum will take place;
 - f. the Plan will be made (into law) by HC.
5. Throughout her 33 page report, as well as proposing tweaks to make the words more clear and compliant, Ann Skippers has described the Plan as innovative and exemplary, and has said that some aspects of it should be used as examples for other parishes.
Thanks to the Steering Group and to all the individuals that have helped to achieve this splendid result!
6. By the March PC meeting, there will need to be PC Working Groups set up to research and help deliver the remaining 4 aspects of the Plan. Will PC members who are willing to participate in meetings and have an interest (but no vested interest) in **Housing, Environment, Community Facilities** or **Employment** please put their names forward to the Chairman for membership in one or another of these groups.
7. Good Plans will be noticed within Herefordshire Council. Planning and other sections of HC will be expecting delivery of the Plan by this PC, which is just as impressive as the Plan itself is!
8. The Environment Agency withdrew its objection to the RBS planning application and to the Neighbourhood Plan. The Head Teacher is still waiting for the temporary licence with RBS for parking behind the school.