

NP Steering Group Report to PC – 15th September 2014

Since the July PC meeting the Steering Group has:

- Completed the usual monthly activities
- Stayed in touch with grant funders.
- Stayed in communication with RBS re Old Sawmills site in Eardisley; they now appear to be willing to work to our criteria within the period of the Plan. Negotiations are in progress now.
- Met and exchanged many emails with HC adviser Gemma Webster, as she completes the newly toughened SEA and HRA reports for us. This is a frustratingly long process.
- Worked with James Latham (HC technician) to complete the maps for the First Draft.
- Written to landowners within or near to the villages, who put their land forward for consideration within the Plan.
- Completed many technical jobs necessary before the Reg 14 Consultation can begin, e.g. designing a reply sheet, posters, etc
- We have still been unable to begin the 6-week consultation on the First Draft of the Plan because the Environment Agency scrutiny of the Eardisley Group policies. We trust we will be able to go ahead with this next step shortly.
- Meanwhile, the Plan is at risk owing to the activities of landowners who are seeking to get planning permission in Eardisley and Winforton, before the Plan is in place.
- The timescale for Plan completion is now late January or early February because we are not allowed to submit the Plan to HC before the Core strategy is in place – expected before Christmas. Once we submit, things should go quickly. Meanwhile, the draft Plan will have become ‘material consideration’ along with the Reg 14 Consultation.