

Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Council

Report for Agenda item 26/68 - 15.4.26

Re Neighbourhood Development Plan Review (NDP)

Further to the discussions at the last meeting of the Parish Council the following actions have been taken:

- Meetings with our consultant and consultations between members of the Working Group
- Further opportunity for Councillors to comment on the final draft
- Design Guide - meetings with AECOM to discuss amendments and agreement to changes
- Design Guide - revised version submitted to Locality and approved final copy received 27th March and accepted on behalf of the Parish Council
- Receipt of revised time line and project plan
- Submission to MHDC for funding

Next steps

- Our consultant is pulling together all comments and suggestions to produce the final draft.
- This will need to come to the May meeting of the Parish Council for formal consideration and adoption.
- Once this is complete it is then submitted with a Modification Statement to MHDC who will then review and request a Screening Assessment from a number of other agencies.
- This will take up to 2 months.
- There then follows a formal period of consultation (minimum of 6 weeks) undertaken by the Parish Council (Regulation 14 Stage)

- The Parish Council has then to respond to any comments and consider whether any amendments (minor or significant) are required and then as necessary submit these and any documents to MHDC (Regulation 15 stage)
- We should allow 2 months for this
- MHDC then assess the draft plan and decides whether it meets the regulatory requirements
- We should allow 1 month for this
- MHDC then conduct their own consultation phase (Regulation 16)
- We should allow 6 weeks for this
- A Neighbourhood Plan Examiner will be appointed during this time by MHDC in consultation with the Parish Council
- Any further responses and complete documentation re previous stages will be provided to the Examiner (Regulation 17)
- We should allow 2 - 3 months for this
- An Examination report will then be published.
- On the assumption the Plan is agreed a referendum on the plan is organised and paid for by MHDC and held on a single day (no minimum turn out requirement and decided by a simple majority)
- We should allow 3 months

Therefore assuming the above the approximate time line at this point in time is as follows

- May 6th PC meeting adoption
- Submission of Modification Statement to MHDC and screening by them - allow 2 months takes us to mid/end of July
- Regulation 14 consultation by Parish Council and response by PC (Regulation 15) - allow 2 months takes us to end of September
- MHDC assessment - allow 1 month takes us to end of October
- MHDC Regulation 16 consultation - allow 6 weeks takes us to mid December

- Appointment of Examiner and submission of plan and evidence - we should allow 2 - 3 months which would take us to end of February/mid March 2027
- Publication of Examiner's report and if positive then organising of a referendum by MHDC - we should allow 3 months means completion date would approximately be June 2027.

NB The above timeline estimate makes some allowance for contingencies but does not allow for the need to make significant changes either as a result of responses and or changes in the wider policy context.

Summary

The Parish Council should be in a position to formally consider the final draft plan at its next meeting.

There will also be an opportunity at the Annual Parish Meeting which precedes the next meeting to update parishioners who are able to attend (in addition to updates on the website and through Footprints).

Prior to the meeting the revised final draft will be circulated to Councillors including the draft forward and introduction.

Councillors are asked to scrutinise and consider the above report.

Richard Burrows
Chair