

Neighbourhood Plan Progress Report 13th May 2020

Making of Neighbourhood Plan

The Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan was considered by the South Ham's District Council's Full Council meeting held by way of a video conference on 23rd April 2020. Councillors were very supportive of the Plan with Cllr Pearce, the Leader of the Council congratulating Bigbury Parish Council in being able to produce such good plan, particularly bearing in mind the size of the parish.

Cllr Bernard Taylor recommended that the Plan be adopted and was also very complimentary about the Plan.

Cllr Julian Brazil said that he had read though the Plan and supported its contents but pointed out that there was a small error in the Plan. He said that in one of the objectives (top of page 10) reference was made to 'village development boundaries' instead of a 'village settlement boundaries' as used elsewhere in the Plan and in the policies. He thought this might result in some confusion or misinterpretation of the policies of the plan if it was not corrected.

Cllr Pearce said that this was a very minor error and could be rectified by a minor amendment following the adoption of the plan. This had been done in other similar cases.

The Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan was recommended for approval and this was seconded with all Councillors agreeing to its adoption. As such the Plan was made (ie adopted) and is now a statutory plan with full legal force.

Following the meeting Cllr Valerie Scott contacted all the Parish Councillors and Members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to inform them of this error and to ask if they had any objections to this minor amendment being made. All of the Parish Councillors and Steering Group members agreed to this change.

Cllr Scott then wrote to Duncan Smith at SHDC recommending this amendment and this was agreed. The Plan has now been revised and further 20 hard copies of the Plan have been prepared. The amendment is however very small ie the reference to 'village development boundaries' in the first housing objective at the top of page 10 has now been changed to read 'village settlement boundaries'.

A copy of the revised Final Bigbury Neighbourhood Plan is now included on the community website and this has also been reported in Bigbury Drums.

Community-led Housing Scheme

The Section 106 Agreement for the community-led (primarily affordable) housing scheme at St Ann's Chapel has now been completed and sent to all parties for final agreement and signature.

SHDC have been advised that the Parish Council would like SHDC to take responsibility for the maintenance of the open space and landscaping for this development.

A Local Lettings Policy, which will also be used in relation to the purchase of the discount housing has been prepared and this forms part of the Section 106 Agreement. A copy of this is attached.

SHDC has also now agreed funding for the proposed development.

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