



Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan created

On 1 February the Parish Council agreed to create a Neighbourhood Plan for Woolpit, and have drawn up Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Volunteers for the Steering Group met on 2 February to discuss the next steps, which are:

- to identify the stakeholders and key partners
- to make contact with them

It is important that we do this in order to ensure that when the Steering Group is formed in March, its memberships will be as representative as possible of all the groups in our community.

Meanwhile the Parish Council will submit an application to designate a Neighbourhood Plan area to Mid Suffolk District Council. This will define the geographical limits of our plan.

How everyone can help

We want to raise awareness about the Neighbourhood Plan, and increase the level of interest in Woolpit. There are lots of ways to do this which everyone can help with, for example:

- publicity, eg posters
- events, eg coffee mornings
- a newsletter (distributed to all in the village)

and you probably can think of others.

Lots of people have volunteered to help. As each opportunity offers, we will be sending out the call! If you would like to be a part of this, and have not already joined, please contact

Richard Mawhood puffin.cix@gmail.com
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Proposed housing developments

Lots of us are very concerned about possible developments already in the pipeline. There are probably four of these at the moment:

- off Green Road
- off Old Stowmarket Road
- on the old allotments site off Rags Lane
- on glebe land between Lady's Well and Old Stowmarket Road

Artisan-PPS are the promoters of the Green Road development. They have drawn up a new scheme, with significant changes from the one that was circulated and exhibited last September. They should be holding a new exhibition very soon, and intend to proceed to a planning application not long after that.

The Old Stowmarket Road development is being promoted by Pigeon Investment Management. After their exhibition in January we were told that they hoped to submit a planning application around the end of February or in early March.

You will have noticed heavy machinery clearing the old allotment site. Persimmon Homes are the firm involved. No other information available at present.

The sale of glebe land was rumoured; there are likely to be complications as a large part of it lies within the conservation area covering the centre of Woolpit. As a result a proposal for this site is likely to take some time to emerge.

Remember that our Neighbourhood Plan cannot stop new building in Woolpit, if it is already allocated in Mid Suffolk's plans. But when it is completed, it will let our community have more influence in shaping the future development, regeneration and conservation of our neighbourhood.

Keep in touch at www.woolpit.org/WNP!