

4. MNP – Post consultation

a. Preparation of submission draft & supporting documentation

Members were advised that various other documents are being produced alongside the plan. These include the SEA Environmental Assessment, Basic Conditions Report, Consultation Statement and the NCC proposals map.

b. New funding

David English advised members that more funding is available from April 2015 from Locality. Up to £8000 is available per plan for general support. An additional £6000 is available for parishes working together for plan preparation work.

The PPG group are looking at using Mick Wood to design and print the plan document and it was agreed to apply for funding to cover this cost.

Members were also informed that a pre-submission health check is to be carried out on the draft plan before it is submitted to NCC to ensure it meets basic conditions. Funding will also be sought to cover the cost of an external examiner however, if this is unsuccessful NCC will cover this cost.

It was noted that after submission to NCC, no further funding can be applied for.

It was agreed that David English liaise with Morpeth Town Council regarding funding applications.

David English also advised members that once the plan has been submitted to NCC, it will, along with all the supporting documentation, be checked that it complies with legal requirements. Then NCC will formally publicise the proposed plan and any further comments received will be passed to the examiner.

Also, once the decision has been made to run a referendum, elected members and officers involved in the work of the neighbourhood plan cannot recommend, publicise or express an opinion on how to vote. They can only raise awareness of the plan.

c. MNP Project Plan and possible timescale

Councillor Ashmore circulated a project plan timetable which included changes regarding the pre-submission check.

Members were advised that they are still working towards an adoption date of October 2015.

A further updated timetable will be circulated this week.

d. Suggested meeting with senior NCC Planning Officers

It was agreed that Councillor J Tebbutt will arrange a meeting with Karen Ledger, Geoff Paul, Jo-anne Garrick and Mark Ketley to make them aware of the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan in planning decisions.

Councillors J Tebbutt, Best, Ashmore and Woodard will attend.

5. **Resources and Support**

a. Update on SEA

Members were informed that the SEA Environmental Report and the Habitats Regulations Assessment Update are now available to view on the neighbourhood plan website.

These two reports have also been sent to NCC, Environment Agency, English Heritage and Northumbrian Water.

6. **NCC Update**

David English advised that work with the Core Strategy was progressing.

Thanks were given to David English and David Rowlinson for all their help and support.

7. **Any other Business / Date of next Meeting**

Cllr David Cowans – Chair of the Heritage Group raised concerns regarding how issues associated with the Heritage listings and the proposal to increase the Conservation Area was being addressed.

Several meetings with NCC and English Heritage have taken place regarding this issue and it has been proposed that either a consultant

could be brought in to investigate this issue or a more amateur approach be taken using a tried and tested proforma.

It was also suggested that funding could be sought. Councillor Cowans emphasised the importance of not forgetting this issue.

The date of the next meeting is Monday 13th April 2015 at 3pm.