

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

The North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group organised our first public event in early July, when all North Marston residents were invited to drop in to our Open House at the Village Hall to answer just 3 questions:

1. What do you like best about living here?
2. What are your biggest concerns at the moment and for the future?
3. What progress and changes would you like to see in the future?

Over 70 residents from all around the parish responded to the invitation, despite the attractions of a lovely morning, the World Cup, and Wimbledon, and took the opportunity to talk to members of the Group, to discuss matters amongst themselves over coffee and cakes, and to write their considered answers on the notes and boards in the Hall.

These answers have provided the Steering Group with a wealth of information that gives us a real insight into how North Marston sees itself in 2018, at the beginning of the Plan. We are currently analysing and collating the different responses so that we can use them to shape our thoughts as we devise a much more detailed questionnaire to be circulated in the autumn.

We hope that as many individual residents as possible will complete this Autumn Questionnaire, which we intend to make available over a number of different platforms. It will be the cornerstone of the information we have about parish life and the North Marston community, and it will be the springboard for the Neighbourhood Plan itself.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a Parish Council initiative, and it is intended to provide a blueprint for the future of land use and the community in North Marston for the next 15 to 20 years. It can tackle a wide range of subjects, including conservation of the local environment and parish heritage, the expansion of community facilities, improvements in infrastructure, and the nature, size, and design of any housing development, and it is most important that the final Plan reflects the opinions of the parish as expressed to the Steering Group.

We will need to have the thoughts and opinions of the whole community in order to produce a viable, evidence-based Plan that will have real influence, impact, and validity.

The production of the Plan is expected to take between 2 and 4 years to complete, and responsibility for writing the Plan on behalf of the Parish Council has been passed to the NMNP Steering Group of volunteer residents. BUT EVERY RESIDENT, from 9 to 99, has a role to play if we are to produce a successful Plan. The more opinions and views we have to work with, the more representative and valuable the Plan will be.

Importantly, too, the Plan will have legal weight in planning decisions after its acceptance by a majority of residents in a parish referendum, as it will become an additional document for consideration alongside the local AVDC development plan in matters concerning North Marston.

The Neighbourhood Plan is everyone's chance to help in shaping the advance of North Marston, and to contribute to a thriving and flourishing outlook for the parish and its residents. With YOUR help North Marston can continue to invest properly in its heritage, its community, its environment, and, vitally, its future. Don't be left out!

If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website. Visit www.northmarston.org and look under Neighbourhood Plan. The minutes of our meetings are also published in the Parish Magazine, and on the Parish Council noticeboard.

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Thank you again to all those who contributed to our Open House in July – we have now analysed the answers. A full breakdown of the results can be found in the Neighbourhood Plan section of the village website - but to summarise.....

On the positive side, contributors identified very strongly with the sense of community in North Marston, were very happy to be living in a small and friendly village, appreciated the countryside and environment around, and valued all the local facilities, especially the shop, school, pub, and church.

However, on the other hand, strong concerns were expressed about the potential dangers of unsuitable development, the volume and speed of traffic through the village, the public transport bus service, and the limitations of the existing local infrastructure services.

Our analysis of answers from the Open House has helped us enormously in preparing our next step, a Parish Questionnaire that we aim to circulate around the parish in November.

This initial questionnaire is a very important part of the whole Neighbourhood Plan process because it will give the Steering Group a comprehensive framework of residents' opinions. These opinions will form the basis for our consideration of the ways in which the village and parish wish to move forward, and then for our formulation of recommendations and policies for the development of North Marston over the years to 2033.

It is, therefore, vital that we receive as many completed questionnaires as possible if the Plan is to be a true reflection of how the community would like North Marston to develop. Without a large number of residents' responses, the final Plan will carry much less weight with those outside bodies who will also be considering the future of the village.

The questionnaire will be detailed, and will take some time to complete, but we hope that your considered answers will be a true reflection of what your thoughts and feelings about North Marston really are. All answers will be anonymous, and will be treated in strict confidence by the Steering Group.

To be a real reflection of each resident's opinions, the questionnaire needs to be answered by an individual, and not by a household. If – as we would very much welcome – every member of a household wishes to contribute their own questionnaire, then we will be delighted to receive and read through every one of them. We hope, too, that we will receive responses from across every age group in the parish, both young and old alike. The appropriate future of North Marston concerns every one of us, after all.

Further information about the distribution, availability, timing, and completion of the questionnaire will appear around the village in early November.

With major national infrastructure developments such as the route of the Oxford – Cambridge Expressway, and HS2, likely to have a potentially unwelcome impact upon the parish, and with changes to local planning procedures also on the horizon, a viable, robust, and evidence-based Neighbourhood Plan for North Marston is even more important now than it was 6 months ago. Please make sure your voice is heard by completing the Parish Questionnaire, and by contributing to Steering Group events over the next 12 – 18 months as we begin writing the plan.

If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website. We also have a Facebook page (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan). The minutes of our meetings are published in the Parish Magazine, and on the Parish Council noticeboard

NMNP STEERING GROUP

NOTICE OF PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE

As you may know, North Marston is producing an official Neighbourhood Plan that will reflect how the current residents and stakeholders in the village and the surrounding parish area wish to see the neighbourhood thrive and develop over the years to 2033. The Plan is expected to take between 2-4 years to complete.

The Steering Group writing the plan will be undertaking our first parish-wide exercise later in November with the distribution of a Parish Questionnaire which we hope as many residents as possible will complete.

This questionnaire is a very important part of the Neighbourhood Plan process, as it will provide us with a framework and basis for our consideration of the ways in which North Marston should move forward.

The facts, opinions, and ideas that we discover when analysing responses to the questionnaire will inform many of the policies and strategies that we will eventually suggest for the parish's future.

The questionnaire will be detailed, and it will cover many different aspects of parish life and current concerns. **It will need to be answered by an individual**, and not by a household, to be a real reflection of each resident's opinions. If every member of a household wishes to contribute their own questionnaire, then we will be delighted to receive and read through every one of them. We will make it as easy as we can to access copies of the Questionnaire both online and on paper.

All answers will be anonymous, and will be treated in strict confidence.

We hope that we will receive responses from across every age group in the parish, both young and old alike. Without a large number of differing residents' responses, the final Plan will carry much less weight with those outside bodies who will also be considering the future of the village, and the appropriate future of North Marston concerns every resident, after all.

Please complete the Questionnaire if it is at all possible, and encourage everyone you know in the parish to complete it as well - you will be helping to secure the future of North Marston as a wonderful place to live and work.

We look forward to reading all your thoughts, opinions, and ideas.

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE DISTRIBUTION, AVAILABILITY, TIMING, AND COMPLETION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE WILL APPEAR AROUND THE VILLAGE DURING NOVEMBER – JUST LOOK OUT FOR THE NOTICES.

December 2018

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE

**Last date for completion is
December 5th 2018**

Please take the time to fill in the questionnaire if you can –
you'll be helping us to do our best to secure the future of
North Marston as a wonderful place to live and work

Easy-to-complete online version can be found at

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/North_Marston

Type this address into your browser or visit the link on our
Facebook page

Open until 11.45pm on December 5th

Extra paper copies available to download from the village council
website

Completed paper questionnaires should be returned to the box in
the Village Shop by 7pm on December 5th, if not collected by a
member of the group beforehand

**With all the changes recently announced, it's more
important than ever that North Marston has a clear,
accepted, and practical plan for the future –
you can help make that happen**

Village council website: www.northmarston.org
Group Facebook page: @northmarstonneighbourhoodplan

January 2019

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

A VERY BIG THANK YOU

to everyone who took the time and trouble to complete
our Parish Questionnaire

We have collected the grand total of

166 REPLIES

all full of very welcome comments, opinions, and ideas
which will assist us enormously in our planning.

We will now take a few weeks to carefully go through all the replies in
order to collate, organise, and analyse all the information.

When we've finished, we'll publish a complete analysis of our findings,
and hold an

OPEN MEETING EARLY IN THE SPRING

at which everyone will have the opportunity to comment on and discuss
all the results.

In the meantime, we wish every one of you

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering
Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website.
We also have a Facebook page (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan)
which is updated with our news.*

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

PROGRESS UPDATE

Thank you once again to everyone who took the time and trouble to complete the Parish Questionnaire at the end of last year – you have supplied the Steering Group with a wealth of information, thoughts, and opinions which will be invaluable to our consideration of suggested policies for the future of North Marston.

The Group has finished extracting all the raw data from each of the returned questionnaires, and we are now analysing and formatting each of the individual question responses to prepare a summary presentation of the results.

We will make this summary available on the village website for everyone to see, and we hope that it will be published soon after Easter.

**The Steering Group will make a public presentation of the results
at the**

ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING ON 14 MAY 2019

**when we will be able to discuss the analysis, listen to everyone's
comments, and answer any questions.**

Please attend if you can

At the same meeting the Group will also be outlining the important next steps we need to undertake to prepare our suggested policies, and, in particular, the consultations we will need to have with stakeholders and groups in the parish, in order to help us ensure that the finished Plan has the support of the North Marston community. Don't be left out!!

If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website. We also have a Facebook page (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan)

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE UPDATE

LAST DATE FOR COMPLETION: DECEMBER 5 2018

NORTH MARSTON PARISH
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE
NOVEMBER 2018

Dear North Marston Resident

As you may know, the Steering Group is producing an official Neighbourhood Plan for North Marston that will reflect how the current residents and stakeholders in the village and the surrounding parish area wish to see the neighbourhood thrive and develop over the years to 2033. We expect the writing of the Plan to take between 2-4 years to complete.

This questionnaire is a very important part of the process, as it will provide us with a framework and basis for our consideration of the ways in which we move forward, just as the valuable responses we received from residents at our Open House in July have already helped us enormously in preparing the contents of this questionnaire.

The facts, opinions, and ideas that we discover when analysing your responses to this questionnaire will inform many of the policies and strategies that we will eventually suggest for North Marston's future.

We look forward to reading all your thoughts, opinions, and ideas.

NMNP Steering Group

If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website. We also have a Facebook page (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan).
The condensed minutes of our meetings are published in the Parish Magazine, with full minutes on the Parish Council website.
A brief introduction explaining the Neighbourhood Plan process can be found at the end of the questionnaire.

FIND AN EASY-TO-COMplete ONLINE VERSION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE AT:
www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/North_Marston

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The Steering Group are in the final stages of analysing and formatting each of the individual question responses to prepare a detailed summary of the results.

We will make this summary available on the village website for everyone to access as soon as it has been completed and agreed.

The Group will also be presenting the results at the

ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING ON 14 MAY 2019

when we will be able to discuss the analysis,
listen to everyone's comments, and answer any questions.

At the same meeting the Group will be outlining the important next steps we will be undertaking to prepare our policies for consideration, and, in particular, the consultations we will need to have with stakeholders and groups in the parish, to help us ensure that the finished Plan has the support of the North Marston community.

PLEASE ATTEND IF YOU CAN!!

If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website. We also have a Facebook page (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan)

May 2019

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan

The Steering Group will be presenting a summary of the responses to our comprehensive Parish Questionnaire at the

ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING ON 14 MAY 2019

when we will be able to discuss the summary,
listen to everyone's comments, and answer any questions.

PLEASE ATTEND IF YOU CAN

At the same meeting the Group will also be outlining the important next steps we need to undertake in order to prepare our policies for consideration, and, in particular, the consultations we hope to have with stakeholders, groups, and societies in the parish to help us ensure that the finished Plan has the support of the North Marston community.

Many of the developments and plans recently announced at a national level could well have a potential impact on the future of the village, its heritage, and its environment, so it is more important than ever that North Marston develops a clear, accepted, and practical Neighbourhood Plan for that future.

Make sure that your voice is heard!

After the Village Meeting the anonymous raw data from all of the Parish Questionnaire responses, together with a presentation of our complete analysis of all the results, and a copy of the Group's presentation to the meeting, will be available on the village council website.

If you would like to learn more about the work of the NMNP Steering Group, then you can find out about us on the village council website. We also have a Facebook page (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan)

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

Following our presentation at the Village Meeting, a concise summary of the Parish Questionnaire results can now be found on the Neighbourhood Plan section of the village council website (www.northmarston.org).

In the same section we have also placed a fully detailed document, which shows all the anonymous raw data received relating each question, and was the foundation for our analysis of the results. We are still working on an easy-to-read presentation of the complete analysis, and we hope to have this uploaded to the website before the end of June.

The Steering Group will now begin the long process of preparing the Plan for publication.

Using the results of the Questionnaire as a basis for progress, the first stage will be to develop the structure of the final written Plan, while setting out aims and objectives, and drafting suggested strategies for each section of the Plan in detail to present to the Parish Council and residents.

As we are doing this, we hope to have meetings over the next few months with as many clubs, societies, organisations, and other stakeholders within the parish as possible, in order to consult about relevant aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan, and to discuss the advancement of the plan itself.

We are particularly keen to meet with all organisations whose involvement is with younger members of the community so that we can be sure to have input from all age groups in the final Plan.

The Steering Group is always happy to welcome new members. If you would like to learn more about our work and assist us with this very important community project, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com)

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Steering Group has completed much of the evidence-gathering phase of the Neighbourhood Plan, and is now moving on to the initial stages of writing the Plan itself, which we intend to complete during 2020.

While we are writing the Plan, we expect to have Open Parish Meetings, as well as meetings with as many clubs, societies, organisations, official bodies, and other stakeholders as possible, in order to consult about relevant aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan, and to discuss the advancement of the plan itself.

Please take every opportunity you can to have your voice heard – everyone's views are important if we are to produce a Plan that genuinely reflects the feelings of North Marston as a whole.

If you would like to assist in writing the Plan, the Steering Group is always happy to welcome new members. To learn more about our work and join us in this very important community project, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnp.sg@gmail.com)

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan

The Steering Group is now in the initial stages of writing the Plan itself, which we are aiming to complete in about 12 months' time. We have finalised a working vision statement that will serve to guide us through the process, and the different chapter headings for the Plan.

We are now moving on to the vital process of setting and agreeing the objectives for each chapter, before the final stage of developing the policies that we anticipate will achieve those objectives.

As both the objectives and policies in the Plan need to be a reflection of the views of North Marston residents, we will be holding a number of Open Parish Meetings during 2020 for everyone to attend and express their views on our progress. Please attend these if you can!

We also hope that we will be able to hold meetings with as many clubs, societies, organisations, official bodies, and other stakeholders as possible over the coming months to consult about relevant matters, and to discuss the advancement of the plan itself.

We are already in consultation with North Marston History Club to prepare some objectives relating to Heritage and Conservation, and, in the near future, we are intending to arrange a meeting of leaders from the many groups working with younger members of the community to work out ways of finding out more about the opinions of the younger people in North Marston.

If you would like to keep up to date with our proceedings, the formal Minutes of our meetings are posted on the Neighbourhood Plan page of the village council website (www.northmarston.org) and we have a Facebook page which is updated with our progress at intervals (@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan)

If you would like to assist in writing the Plan, the Steering Group is always happy to welcome new members. To learn more about our work and join us in this very important community project, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnpdg@gmail.com)

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Steering Group has spent the past few weeks developing the Objectives for the Plan in the areas of community sustainability, heritage, and the green environment, in order to present them to the Parish Council in early 2020.

We will now start to develop Policies to implement these Objectives, as well as starting to consider the Objectives for other sections of the Plan, based, as always, on the guidance provided by last year's questionnaire and our meetings with village organisations.

To provide the Group with even more guidance, and to widen the scope of our evidence, we have been working with representatives from many of the youth organisations in the parish to devise a short set of questions for presentation to younger people. This will help us to discover more about their thoughts and opinions concerning the future of the village, something we are lacking at the moment.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP US WRITE THE PLAN?

We meet once a month, usually in the week before the Parish Council meeting, and each spend a little time between meetings either working alone or with other members of the Group on different aspects of the Plan.

We would very much welcome more new members, so, if you would like to find out more about how we work and what we do, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com)

The formal Minutes of the Steering Group meetings are posted on the Neighbourhood Plan page of the village council website (www.northmarston.org) and we have a Facebook page which is updated with our progress ([@northmarstonneighbourhoodplan](https://www.facebook.com/northmarstonneighbourhoodplan)).

The Steering Group will also be holding Open Parish Meetings during 2020 for everyone to attend and express their views on our progress.

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP US WRITE THE PLAN?

The Steering Group will begin writing the Neighbourhood Plan in early 2020 – why not join the Group and help us to compile a residents' blueprint for North Marston's future to 2033?

We meet once a month, usually in the week before the Parish Council meeting, and each member spends a little time between meetings either working alone or with other members of the Group on different aspects of the Plan.

We would very much welcome more new members, so, if you would like to find out more about how we work and what we do, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com)

NORTH MARSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Unfortunately, the current situation with Covid-19 will delay the production of a Neighbourhood Plan for North Marston.

Our original timetable involved the Steering Group holding consultations with residents over the summer months, and anticipated having the Plan ready for submission to Buckinghamshire Council and other interested parties in early autumn.

However, as we are now unable to hold any public consultations until social distancing restrictions and current shielding arrangements are lifted completely, the consultations with residents are now not likely to take place until the autumn, meaning that the completion of the Plan will itself be delayed by at least 3 months.

We are now hoping that the Steering Group will be able to complete the Plan by the end of 2020, with a final referendum taking place in early summer 2021.

However, in the present uncertain times, not even this can be guaranteed!

Stay safe, everyone.

Michael Lane
Chair, North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan

WHY NOT HELP US TO WRITE THE PLAN?

As soon as the situation allows, the Steering Group will begin to start drafting the North Marston Neighbourhood Plan - so now is a great moment to think about joining the Group and helping to compile the residents' blueprint for the parish's future to 2033!

In normal circumstances we meet once a month - usually in the week before the Parish Council meeting - and each member also spends some time between meetings either working alone or with other members of the Group on different aspects of the Plan.

We would very much welcome more new members, so, if you would like to find out more about how we work and what we do, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com).

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

Our original timetable for producing the North Marston Plan has inevitably been delayed, but the Steering Group have been holding regular meetings over Zoom for the past few months, and we were delighted to welcome Marie Cowen as a new member at our August meeting. Marie will now be taking a full part in our work as we begin the task of preparing the Plan itself.

The Group are presently in the final stages of gathering the factual evidence that we need to underpin the content of the Plan, and we expect to use these last pieces of evidence to fully complete all agreed Plan Objectives at our next meeting. These objectives are largely founded upon residents' responses to the 2018/19 Parish Questionnaire, and they will form the basis of the eventual Plan policies.

To ensure as much village participation as possible, we had originally hoped to present the Plan Objectives for comment at an Open Exhibition before beginning any drafting, but in the current situation, we now intend to begin work on an initial draft of the Plan itself, and to hold an exhibition as soon as we can. We are very eager to give residents a chance to comment on and make their feelings known about our initial findings so that they can be considered before any final Plan is formally presented.

Despite the disruption, we still intend to have the North Marston Neighbourhood Plan process completed in time for a Parish Referendum in the early summer of 2021. Current law states that the earliest such a referendum can take place is 6 May 2021.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Steering Group's work, or wish to help in writing the Plan itself, please contact Michael Lane (chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com). There is also a Neighbourhood Plan page on the village website.

Current Group members: Michael Lane (Chair), Trevor Jenkins (Vice-Chair and Secretary), Katherine du Plessis (Parish Council Representative), Marie Cowen, Bev Davis.

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The disruption caused to the Neighbourhood Plan process by this year's severe limitations has inevitably resulted in a significant delay to the Steering Group's work, but we still intend to have a North Marston Neighbourhood Plan completed in time for consideration by residents in the early summer of next year. Current legislation stipulates that the earliest a final Plan can be presented for a Parish Referendum is 6 May 2021.

The Group expects to begin the initial drafting of the Plan in January, and we are currently assembling all the supporting factual evidence that will be needed to underpin the stated objectives in the Plan itself. These objectives are largely founded upon residents' responses to the 2018/19 Parish Questionnaire, and they form the basis of the general policies for the future which will be outlined in the final Plan.

To ensure as much parish participation as possible, we remain hopeful of being able to present the initial draft for comment and suggested amendment at an Open Exhibition sometime in the spring, before it is made available for general consultation. However, if that cannot happen then the draft will be placed on the village website for comment. We are very eager to give residents a chance to comment on and make their feelings about our initial findings known so that they can be considered before any final Plan is formally presented.

At the beginning of 2020 the Steering Group was looking forward to completing the North Marston Neighbourhood Plan before the end of the year and giving residents a clear and agreed pathway for the village's future in the face of all the proposed changes in the surrounding area. Circumstances have meant that this was not possible, but we remain committed to working hard to provide a Plan which, as far as we are able, ensures that in coming years North Marston remains the wonderful place to live in that it is today.

Current Group members: Michael Lane (Chair), Trevor Jenkins (Vice-Chair and Secretary), Katherine du Plessis (Parish Council Representative), Marie Cowen, Bev Davis.

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has only been able to hold monthly “Zoom” meetings during the past 12 months, and, while we have made significant progress since lockdown began, this has necessarily been at a much slower pace than we had contemplated a year ago.

In particular, our inability to carry out any form of group outside research has hampered our progress greatly until very recently, and we have, of course, been unable to hold many face-to-face discussions with residents and stakeholders. This has resulted in the whole Neighbourhood Plan process taking much longer than either the Parish Council or the Steering Group would have wished, and we apologise for any frustrations the delays may have caused.

However, the Steering Group has now completed all our fact finding and evidence-gathering, and we have produced sets of agreed objectives and draft policies in the four general areas covered by the Plan:

- History and Heritage
- Green Environment
- Community and Sustainability
- Built Environment (including Traffic and Transport)

We are currently in the process of developing versions of the Neighbourhood Plan itself, and we intend to have an agreed preliminary draft version of the text ready for discussion and comment by the Parish Council within the next month. After these discussions we will move on to producing the text of the final Draft Plan, for the Parish Council’s endorsement and acceptance.

The Group has also started work on devising a North Marston Design Code which will eventually be our recommended blueprint for the design and form of any new building in the parish. This project was started following Guidelines for Planning issued last year by central government which are aimed at giving communities a louder voice in the appearance of their surroundings. The Design Code will be published at the same

time as the Neighbourhood Plan and will be a formal annex to the Plan. Its contents will be referenced in relevant Plan Policies.

When both the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and the Design Code have been finalised, a period of consultation with the parish community and other interested parties can begin. This lasts for a period of 6 weeks or more, and the Steering Group is planning to hold Open Parish Exhibitions during the consultation period to display and discuss the Plan with all residents and stakeholders, and, importantly, to receive representations about the Plan's contents. The Group must consider these representations, and, if appropriate, make amendments as a result of them. We intend that the Draft Plan will be available in both hard and soft copy versions throughout the consultation period.

Following this consultation and any necessary amendments, a finished Neighbourhood Plan can be prepared ready for submission to statutory outside bodies for examination prior to the formal parish referendum.

This programme is, of course, dependent upon the continued increased freedom from restrictions and, especially, that larger public meetings will be able to take place safely in the Village Hall later this year.

Steering Group members: Michael Lane (Chair), Trevor Jenkins (Vice-Chair and Secretary), Katherine du Plessis (Parish Council Representative), Marie Cowen, Bev Davis.

If you have any queries, please contact chair.nmnpseg@gmail.com

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan has been written and is now in the final stages of preparation.

As we are required to do, a copy has been sent to Buckinghamshire Council for their comments, and when the Steering Group has received these, together with those of other statutory bodies such as Natural England, then we can move forward to the next stages of Parish Council endorsement and “pre-submission consultation”.

During this consultation process all parishioners and other interested parties can become involved before the finished Plan is sent to an Inspector for independent assessment.

Pre-submission consultation lasts for a period of at least 6 weeks, and while it is open anyone can make comments (formally known as “representations”) on the Plan which will be circulated and published online together with associated documents such as the Design Code. Library copies will also be lodged at facilities throughout the village.

If circumstance permit, the Steering Group also intends to hold at least two Open House meetings during the consultation period at which anyone attending will be able to discuss the Plan personally with us and make representations on the spot.

Representations can lead to changes being made in the Plan if a particular subject or concern is raised by several individuals, and the more representations we receive, the more we can be confident that the Plan represents your views, so please do comment if you can.

Look out for more details in the Magazine, and on noticeboards around the village, during the next 2 or 3 months.

We hope that the consultation will begin during October assuming that all statutory comments are received in good time.

If you have any queries, please contact chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan is now very close to completion, and we currently hope to be in a position to publish the Plan and all associated documents in November.

We are still awaiting formal responses from Buckinghamshire Council and other outside statutory bodies, but the draft Plan has been forwarded to the Parish Council prior to endorsement, and – subject to no surprise last-minute requirements for major amendment in the Plan! – the Steering Group will be able to complete our work on all the background documents during October.

After the Plan has been placed in the public domain, a “pre-submission consultation” period of at least 6 weeks will begin during which all parishioners and other interested parties can become involved by commenting on the published Plan before a finished Plan is sent to an Inspector for independent assessment.

The Steering Group intends to hold two Open House meetings during the consultation period at which anyone attending will be able to discuss the Plan personally with us. Representations will be accepted at these meetings, and online representations will also be possible.

We will welcome comments from all residents to try and ensure that the Plan does represent the views of North Marston as fairly as possible.

Look out for more details about the Plan’s publication, the consultation process, and the Open House meetings in the Magazine and on noticeboards during the next 2 or 3 months.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be circulated and published online together with associated documents such as the Design Code. Library copies will also be lodged at facilities throughout the village.

If you have any queries, please contact chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com

November 2021

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Steering Group now intends to publish the Plan and its associated background documents in late November or early December.

We are still awaiting formal permissions to proceed from Buckinghamshire Council and other outside statutory bodies, but the Plan itself has been forwarded to the Parish Council prior to endorsement, and work on all the background documents will be completed very soon, enabling us to prepare them for publication.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be circulated and published online together with its associated documents. Library copies will also be lodged at facilities throughout the village.

After the Plan has been placed in the public domain, a “pre-submission consultation” period lasting until at least the end of January 2022 will begin during which all parishioners and other interested parties can become involved by commenting on the proposed Plan before a final North Marston Neighbourhood Plan is completed and sent to an approved Inspector for independent assessment.

We will welcome comments – formally known as representations - from all residents to try and ensure that the final Plan does represent the views of North Marston as fairly as possible.

To try and encourage maximum participation, the Steering Group will be holding two Open House meetings during the consultation period at which anyone attending will be able to discuss the Plan personally with us. Representations will be accepted at these meetings, and online representations will also be possible.

Please look out for more details of the Plan’s publication, the consultation process, and the Open House meetings in the Magazine and on noticeboards during the coming few weeks.

If you have any queries, please contact chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com

North Marston Neighbourhood Plan Update

The draft North Marston Neighbourhood Plan and all associated documents will be published online and be available to download on Wednesday December 15, following its formal endorsement by the Parish Council at their next meeting.

Full details of how to access the Plan will be contained in a leaflet that the Steering Group will circulate to all households around the date of publication, and the information will also appear on village noticeboards.

In addition, statutory consultees and other interested parties will receive the details via email, and library copies will be available to view at selected village amenities.

Publication of the Plan will start the process of “pre-submission consultation”, during which everyone is free to make representations and comments about the Plan’s contents and policies. These representations can lead to revision of the Plan to reflect consultation responses, and information about how to make representations will be published with the Plan.

The consultation process will extend for a period of 8 weeks from Wednesday December 15, 2021, to Wednesday February 9, 2022.

To encourage maximum engagement with the Plan, the Steering Group intends to host two drop-in sessions during January and February when anyone attending can discuss the Plan personally with us and make representations at the same time. Dates and times will be confirmed later, but we expect to hold one Saturday morning and one weekday evening session.

The Neighbourhood Plan is important to the village because it eventually becomes part of the legal framework within which decisions about North Marston will be made by local and national authorities. The more engagement there is with the consultation process the more the Steering Group can be confident that the final Plan truly reflects the views of the community. Please make sure your voice is heard.

If you have any queries, please contact chair.nmnpsg@gmail.com