

Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan Examination Procedural/Clarification Meeting

Meeting Date and Time: TBC (please see notice of meeting)

Meeting Venue: TBC (please refer to notice of meeting)

Participants

Eynsham Parish Council/Eynsham Futures representatives (EPC)

West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC)

Purpose of meeting

This meeting has been requested by the Independent Examiner, Ann Skippers who will chair the meeting. The meeting is open to the public and anyone can attend and observe.

However, the Examiner is only inviting representatives of EPC and WODC to participate in the meeting.

The meeting seeks to provide more information to the Examiner based on the agenda below. It is not an opportunity to consider the merits or otherwise debate elements of the Eynsham Neighbourhood Plan (ENP) or to consider any representations. It is not the same as a hearing and it may be that a hearing will be convened at a later date if the Examiner considers this to be necessary. The meeting is designed to assist the Examiner to better understand the intent of the ENP and to establish and agree a way forward with EPC and WODC for the examination of the ENP.

Submission of information

The Examiner is not requesting statements or any further evidence or information to be submitted before the meeting.

Agenda

The Examiner will chair the meeting and all participants should please come prepared with the answers to the following matters:

1. To receive a short verbal update on the progress of the emerging Local Plan and likely timescales for its adoption from WODC.
2. To hear from both EPC and WODC how they have discussed and agreed the relationship between policies in the emerging ENP, the emerging Local Plan and the adopted Local Plan given that the ENP is being developed at the same time as WODC is producing its Local Plan. This should include how the reasoning and evidence informing the Local Plan process has been shared and how the emerging ENP and emerging Local Plan might complement each other.
3. To understand whether the sites referred to in the ENP namely a) the western extension to the village, b) the proposed Garden Village north of the A40, c) the Southern Industrial Area, d) Spar and the policies that refer to these sites are intended to be site allocations in the ENP i.e. in their own right regardless of the content in the emerging Local Plan or whether it was intended that the ENP would rely on and complement the proposed site allocations in the emerging Local Plan (for a) and b)). The answer to this question will have implications for the process of examining the ENP.

4. To understand the intentions and 'status' of the policies, the supporting text to the policies and the recommendations in the ENP given the way in which these three elements are written and presented as well as to understand the relationship between each of these elements. By way of explanation some of the supporting text appears to include different or additional requirements than the policy it sits alongside and some of the recommendations are planning related and so could have been policies. Therefore the Examiner would like to understand the intention behind each different element (policy, text, recommendation).
5. To establish what European sites and any other sites of national or local importance fall within or are near to the ENP Plan area and to see their location(s) on a map.

In order to answer this question it would be most helpful if EPC and WODC could prepare a map in readiness for the meeting that shows their location(s) so that this matter can be confirmed factually and quickly at the meeting. Any existing map from a WODC document can of course be used for this purpose. In particular this query relates to the location of the Oxford Meadows Special Area of Conservation and any SSSIs, SAMs or other such designations.

6. To factually check whether the overall housing figures and those for a) the western extension to the village and b) the proposed Garden Village north of the A40 quoted in the ENP in relation to those being promoted in the emerging Local Plan are the same or to understand the reasons for any differences.
7. To factually check whether the map(s) in the ENP are accurate in particular in relation to the western extension to the village boundaries. It would be appreciated if WODC could lead on this in relation to any proposed site allocation boundaries delineated in both emerging Plans.
8. To factually establish whether any part of the proposed Barnard Gate Garden Village proposal site falls within the ENP area.
9. To find out the planning status of New Wintles Farm in terms of what this facility is and what implications, if any, there are for the ENP.

By their nature, some of the matters overlap and the answers to one matter may well impact others.

Ann Skippers
17 November 2017