

Progress report on the Wells Neighbourhood Plan

1. Since my last update, the Steering Group has met in August and September.
2. There have been several meetings with AECOM, planning consultants funded by Locality, and the fruits of their labour are beginning to appear.
3. The AECOM team is led by Ben Castell. Simon Hargreaves has toured Wells to view not only the core of the City but also the three sites of housing allocations. He has been working with Guisepppe Verdone and Simona Palmieri who have since produced a first draft of "concepts" for these sites. This document is attached.
4. Mark Service has also toured Wells with a view to its heritage elements especially non-listed buildings and those outside the Conservation Area.
5. Jessica Cooke has produced an initial draft of her Housing Needs Assessment and this is now available on the Council's web site. Although the draft runs to 71 pages, the Executive Summary is 1 page.
6. Simon Nash, former Chief Executive of Somerset Wildlife Trust, has produced his second draft of the Biodiversity Section and this is attached.
7. As soon as these and other documents reach a final stage, they will be incorporated in the revised draft Plan on the basis of which we will consult the people of Wells towards the end of the year.
8. The Steering Group next meets on Tuesday the 13th of October and all members of the Council are welcome to join us.

Adrian I'Anson 17th September 2020