

Progress report on the Wells Neighbourhood Plan

1. The Steering Group met on the 14th of July. I was pleased to report on approved funding for
 - the consultant, Stuart Todd, of £7350
 - an additional amount of £1000 to cover extra costs due to Covid 19
 - work with AECOM to cover two design packages: one related to the three housing allocations in Wells and the other to provide a "masterplan" for Wells and
 - work with AECOM to provide a Housing Needs Assessment. On this, I am ably assisted by Cllr Rachel Humphreys who has relevant experience from the Wincanton Neighbourhood Plan. I have had discussions with Mendip Cllr Liz Leyshon (Portfolio holder for Corporate Projects), who mentioned the fact that Glastonbury have commissioned a HNA and Frome are seeking funding for one. There is clearly scope for sharing experience.
2. Simon Nash, former CEO of Somerset Wildlife Trust, is revising the section in the NP on the natural Environment.
3. Members will have seen the report on Local Green Spaces attached to the agenda for the last meeting. The list includes six spaces proposed by the last Council. Comments on this and any other spaces would be welcome.
4. I would also refer to the embryonic Transport Plan which sets out several improvements for cyclists in the city. Cllr Stewart Cursley has been working on this with the Strawberry Line Group.
5. We were joined at our meeting by not only our County Councillor but also our Neighbourhood Plan Champion, Rosemary Naish. Rosemary has considerable and useful experience as she is now engaged in re-writing the Clutton Neighbourhood Plan.
6. The Steering Group next meets on Tuesday the 11th of August and all members of the Council are welcome to join us.

Adrian I'Anson 16.7.20