

MESSAGE TO PARISH RE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Dear Resident,

Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Thriplow

The parish council have decided that they wish to proceed with the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Thriplow is unusual in having two distinct settlements and the parish council propose that the Neighbourhood Plan should cover the whole of the parish, which is both Thriplow village and Heathfield.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a way for Communities to take a proactive approach to deciding the future of the places where they live and work. It is not a legal requirement but a right which communities can use to determine the development and use of land and to make other improvements to their neighbourhood, including the development of homes, shops, offices, infrastructure and their design.

The Neighbourhood Plan can:-

- Propose more development than the local plan
- Identify the most suitable areas for development
- Help to determine what type of design of development should take

The Neighbourhood Plan cannot:-

- Propose less growth than in the Local Plan
- Prevent any development from ever taking place in the area
- Be prepared without community input and support
- Be in conflict with Local, National or EU policies.

The Neighbourhood Plan sets out a community's vision for their area over 10 - 20 years. It has the same legal status as the Local Plan, so decisions on planning applications must take the Neighbourhood Plan into consideration. Communities can put in place planning policies that will help deliver their vision.

I must stress that the production of a Neighbourhood Plan will not be a quick process, there are several legal requirements that have to be met and the timing of these will not be something that the Parish Council can control.

There are lots of areas where help will be needed, for example, in the early stages a lot of door to door help will be required, delivering information to residents who we have no e-mail contact for, calling on residents to seek their views and carrying out surveys.

If you are interested in helping in any way with the formation of our Neighbourhood Plan – even if you can only offer to deliver some letters - then please come along to the meeting room at the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th July between 6.30pm – 8.30pm and put your name forwards. There are many different areas where help will be needed.

Whilst it would be extremely helpful that professionals with experience of planning should form part of the group it is essential that all areas of the community are involved. If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to participate please let me know.

As soon as possible after 19th a meeting for all who have expressed interest will be held to form a committee and allocate responsibilities.

Regards,

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