

Woodhouse Parish Neighbourhood Plan Housing Theme Group
MINUTES from Tuesday 22nd October 2019, 7pm-8:30pm Maplewell Farm, Woodhouse Eaves

Present: Derek Doran, Neil Davidson, Mark Elliott, Merrin Pearce, Tim Sault, Bertil Schou

ITEM	WHO	NOTES & ACTIONS
Introduction	DD	No further declarations of interest; 18/9 Minutes approved; Matters arising: Merrin Pearce to follow up with Ann Irving to clarify the Housing Needs Survey questions (ref Minutes from 18 Sept)
Charnwood Local Plan update	DD / TS	Tim Sault, as Woodhouse Parish Councillor attended the Charnwood Local Plan meeting on 21st October. The Borough Council outlined their process for preparing the Local Plan. Summary is that they have adopted a low growth plan. Service centres will take the larger proportion of new housing. Shepshed, Loughborough and Birstall are some of the focus areas for larger schemes. Woodhouse Parish is grouped with 13 other areas under the title 'Other Settlements'. This group of 14 has been allocated a requirement for 800 new 'units' up to 2036. As an average, the target is therefore 0-57 units for Woodhouse (this would make the target roughly consistent with the findings of the MRHT survey identifying a need for 22 houses in the next 5 years - ie 10 market and 12 affordable houses). Aim for affordable housing is between 20-40% and to date the has been achieving 22%. In addition to the allocation of 800 units, the Local Plan has a requirement for the Neighbourhood Plans to deliver at least 160 units in 5 years. This puts the average a little lower, at 11.4 units per settlement. The Housing theme group is aware of a number of development applications already in progress. Clarification is needed on whether these existing applications are part of the allocation.
Summary of Status Quo and sustainable Site Assessment	ND / TS	Theme group is now awaiting sites to be made available so that the rigorous sites analysis process can be undertaken (using the SSA Scoring Matrix as well as analysis undertaken by the Environment group.) Tim Sault to check whether the Parish Council has issued the call-out for sites, through which channels, and the deadline given to landowners to respond.
Design Issue Update	ME / BS	Mark Elliott has read the Village Design Statement. It is very thorough but some of the planning content is out of date. ME to arrange Ann Irving and original team to assess the impact of the design statement (how closely has it has been adhered to). Aim is to incorporate the most effective elements of the VDS into the NP. (Unlike the VDS, once the NP is Made, it will become part of the Local Plan and will therefore have greater legal weight). Bertil Schou advocating incorporating green credentials into our NP for any new build. BS referenced award-winning development in Norfolk. Group agreed that this is the most responsible approach given imperative to tackle climate change.
Local connection policy	DD	Group reviewed Great Easton policy example. Policy outlines criteria used to assess eligibility for property purchase or rental within the Parish. Eg - was the person born in the area, employed in the area, lived in the area for a certain amount of time, etc... Discussed how such a policy could be enforceable. Group to consider the possibility of establishing a Parish Housing Trust to this end.
Draft Policy Template	DD	Group touched on this for further reference as a framework as our NP policies begin to be developed.
Date and time of next meeting	DD	6:45pm, Tuesday 29th October, Village Hall