

29.06.20. NDP Working Group Report

From: David Hughes (DH), David Quoroll (DQ) and Alison White (AW)

1. Background to the formation of the NDP Working Group.

In August 2019, a smaller Working Group started drafting the NDP documents. At each stage in the NDP process – Strategic Environmental Assessment, Reg.14, Reg.15 – the NDP documents have been reviewed by the Steering Group (SG) before going to Tywardreath and Par Parish Council for approval as appropriate. The members of the working group are: the Chair of the NDP SG, Cllr David Hughes; the Vice-Chair, David Quoroll; and the Secretary, Alison White.

2. Reg. 14 Consultation Period

The Reg.14 Parish Council consultation on the NDP started on Monday 23rd March, just as Covid 19 arrived and social distancing measures were introduced. The measures taken to ensure that the community had the opportunity to raise concerns and contribute their views are detailed in the Consultation Statement. On Cornwall Council's advice the consultation period was also extended through to Monday 1st June 2020.

3. Working Group Reports

Given that social distancing continues as of June 2020, it is proposed that face-to-face NDP Steering Group meetings should be suspended, and that all communication should be by email and telephone as appropriate. It has been agreed previously that Steering Group (SG) NDP decisions can be taken by a majority by email as necessary, always assuming that the quorate is met i.e. at least 4 members agree. The NDP Working Party will circulate Working Group Reports by email to the SG and once agreed by the SG, the reports will be posted – at least once a quarter - on the NDP section of the Parish Council (PC) website in lieu of SG meeting minutes: <https://www.tywardreathandparparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

4. Community Engagement

Members of the public can continue to raise queries and submit comments in a variety of formats to the members of the SG and this information is publicised widely. The NDP is also a standing item on the Agenda for PC meetings, so members of the public will continue to have the opportunity to ask questions at these meetings (which are currently being held via Zoom).

5. Draft NDP (submission version)

The following draft NDP (submission version) documents are now up on the NDP section of the PC website: the main document i.e. the draft NDP; the Evidence Summary, the Appendix, the Sustainability Check and the Basic Conditions Statement.

<https://www.tywardreathandparparishcouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplankeydocuments.php>

The draft Consultation Statement and other NDP documents are on the agenda for review by the PC meeting on Thursday 2nd July. Once the documents have been endorsed at a PC meeting, the Consultation Statement will be uploaded to the PC website. AW will also make a formal submission (at Reg.15) to Cornwall Council.

6. Going forwards

All communications with Cornwall Council are going through a generic NP team mailbox. Sarah Furley is the lead for this team and has responded in very positive terms to the news that we hope to be in a position to make the formal submission relatively soon.

“Well that is good news. It’s a real milestone for you and all the steering group, after all the work you have done over the last few years. Of course there are a few statutory stages for the NDP to travel through after submission, but these will be carried out by Cornwall Council and while we shall of course keep you informed and you will be involved if the Examiner asks any questions, the bulk of your work will be over.”

Throughout the stages detailed below, there will be ongoing communication and consultation between the Cornwall Council NP Team, the Working Group, the NDP SG and the PC. Amendments will be made to documents, as/if necessary. Once Cornwall Council receives the formal submission at Reg.15, an officer will draw up a report. Then, Cornwall Council launches its own consultation process (Reg.16) and an External Examiner will be appointed. All communications from the External Examiner come via Cornwall Council. In the best of times this process can take months, but it is heartening to know that the process will be able to continue right up to the Reg.18 stage as set out in the guidance at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2# covid-19>.

“**Decision-making:** Where the local planning authority has issued a decision statement (as set out under Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012) detailing its intention to send a neighbourhood plan to referendum, that plan can be given significant weight in decision-making, so far as the plan is material to the application.”

Currently, referenda are postponed until 6 May 2021, but at least our NDP should be finalised by then and will continue to carry more and more weight in planning decisions as it goes through the above process.

7. Facebook postings and Email updates

Cllr John Page, Community Engagement Co-ordinator, and AW will continue to update the community on progress via Facebook and emails out to all the

individuals, businesses and community groups which have signed up to our general email list.

8. St Blazey Flooding and Natural Amelioration Group (FANAG) Meeting

The Flood Risk Management meetings, set up and organised by Cllr Jenny Moore of St Blaise Town Council and NDP, have led to the formation of a group called St Blazey Flooding and Natural Amelioration Group (FANAG). AW and Cllr Roy Taylor attended a FANAG meeting on Monday 29th June. The key points for Tywardreath and Par Parish are as follows:

- Roy Taylor said that there had been several flood warnings recently and it was felt that this was useful information for the community. The lack of flood signs was also mentioned and Tom Fletcher said that he will talk with Amy Pearce about this.
- Tom Fletcher from the Environment Agency (EA) reported that the StARR works are all progressing. The outline planning application for the EA work (PA20/01777) is in with Cornwall Council. The EA application mainly concerns the river channels, including the Par river in the St Andrew's Rd. area. The EA has been calling this area St Andrew's Park but is aware that the community refer to it by other names e.g. Par Duck Pond, St Andrew's Rd. Wetlands Reserve and Bunny's Field etc. It was recognised that the issue of what to call this area and/or how it is described will need to be addressed. It is hoped that the work will start before the end of 2020.

Cornwall Council has set up a website called 'Let's Talk'. This will soon include a StARR page via which local people will be able to contribute their views. The intention is that there should be a virtual exhibition, but there is still a lot of flexibility as regards landscaping, and the EA is hoping to work with Eden and local community groups on this aspect. Jenny Moore suggested that Tom Fletcher might wish to liaise with John Page, Chair of Friends of St Andrew's Rd. Wetlands Reserve, and link into the various local community Facebook pages e.g. Friends of Par Beach, PL24 etc.