

Appendix 1 - Clavering Parish Council Meeting 13th January 2025

245. Report of Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Working Party (NPWP)

The NPWP met on 12th December 2024.

Earlier that day, Cllr Gill had attended the Training 'Introduction to Drafting your Neighbourhood Plan' presented in Thaxted by RCCE in conjunction with UDC. She provided hard copies of the presentation to the NPWP members.

The NPWP considered briefly the responses to the NP Survey No. 2. These are to be analysed further by a volunteer.

The diverse decisions in Inspectors's findings for the Appeals re 5 Houses on the Arkesden Rd and the Land behind Clarendon House on the Wicken Rd were discussed. Also discussed was the potential impact on the Reg 19 Call for Sites decisions made to date by UDC given the findings of the two Inspectors concerning the sustainability of the area near the Cricketers PH were not consistent with each other and one finding also was contrary to the findings of two previous Inspectors for Appeals in the area.

Given the NP Survey no.2 results, it was determined to proceed with the NP and quotes be sought for a Landscape Character Assessment. The quote details were forwarded to the Clerk along with contacts details of LCA experts who are known to have worked on such for villages in Uttlesford. The Clerk was asked to seek quotes. Until the Working Party becomes a constituted Steering Committee, acceptances of quotes must be agreed by the Full Council.

The NPWP is scheduled to meet on Monday 27th January to consider the quotes received,

Recommendation: That Clavering Parish Council agrees to call an Extraordinary Meeting on Wednesday 29th or Thursday 30th January to consider the quotes for the NP LCA on the recommendations of the NPWP.

Consideration on these dates allows for a Locality Grant application to be submitted on 31st January 2025 for the funding available up until 31st March 2025

It was agreed that the next step should be to call a second meeting of all volunteers with the view to the setting up of a Steering Committee. This Committee should have a Parish Councillor on it. A meeting has been called Tuesday 21st January 7.30pm at the Christian Centre.

Recommendation: That Clavering Parish Council agrees to the cost of a Meeting to be held at Clavering Christian Centre for NP volunteers with a view to setting up a Steering Committee.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

On learning that a property adjoining her own property in the village had come forward under the Call for Sites at Regulation 19 Stage of the proposed Uttlesford Local Plan (it had not come forward at the Regulation 18 Stage) Cllr Gill had advised the NPWP and also Clavering PC that she considered that she has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest if she were to continue as a Steering Committee is formed for the Clavering NP, as it will be the Steering Committee that will consider the sites for development for inclusion in the Clavering NP. (Previously the decision-making process for development sites lay with UDC)

In the interests of clarity, on 18th December 2024 she discussed this with the UDC Monitoring Officer, who concurs with Cllr Gill's determination.

Therefore, Cllr Gill will not be part of a Clavering NP Steering Committee. She is able to carry out supporting research & etc. if she wishes, but she will not be part of the decision making process.

[It should be noted that landowners or developers (or their relatives or close associates) who have put sites forward would also not be considered eligible to be a member of the Steering Committee for similar reasons, as they would have a vested interest.]