



Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Update: 13th July , 2026

The key issues discussed in the recent SG meetings are as follows:

1. Meeting with Ann Skippers:

Ann fed back her comments having reviewed the initial draft of the NP document. It was noted that if the NP was a single issue (i.e. housing), the policies were more wide-ranging than she had anticipated. However, many of the additional policies incorporated into the NP cover the planned protection of green spaces, improving PRowS to enable better connectivity across the village and ensuring biodiversity etc. Ann commented that these are 'hot topics' and the inclusion of these policies would be well regarded by the assessors. A small number of our policies may not be necessary as these are already covered in either the Local Plan or the National Planning Framework. It was agreed that these will be removed. Following the meeting, Ann was given a brief tour of the village to enable her to gauge the potential sites and thereby comment on subsequent site-specific policies.

Following Ann's visit a list of questions from the SG were forwarded and her responses have been received. As such, the first part of her contract is now complete. Any additional time will form Part B of her contract which provides for flexible support equivalent to four days (28 hours) work

2. Meeting with Charles Welham, UDC

In addition to making use of the external consultant, the team has also received considerable support from Charles Welham. The primary aim of recent discussion with Charles was to provide advice on the site selection process. The SG were surprised to note that the process does not require an analysis where various components are weighted to give an overall scoring for each site. Rather, we are required to use our 'best judgement'. The team are re-assessing the process in the light of this recent advice and further discussion with Charles Welham is anticipated.

Both Ann and Charles have recommended that selection of sites should include a 'reserve' in case one of the final selected sites is either no longer available or considered unsuitable. This will ensure that the process can move to the next stage without having to return to site selection again.

The team will continue to work on the outstanding issues required to generate the next draft of the NP. Regarding timing of next steps, the SG still plan to have a rough draft available for review by CPC by the end of July. Depending on comments received, it is anticipated that a Village Hall meeting will then be feasible by end August to gain feedback from the parishioners on any potential gaps in our knowledge that might make our choices unsuitable. After this point we plan to have the NP ready for Reg14 stage by September this year.

3. Definition of Settlement Boundary:

A significant amount of work has gone into defining the current Settlement Boundary since this has implications for possible future planning applications where Core Policy 3 of the Local Plan may be used to decide whether new developments are within the built area. Once the new sites have been identified, these will also be included within the updated Settlement Boundary.

4. Summer Fete:

The Fete was well attended and there had been a number of enquiries about the NP from parishioners. However, most people attending the fete were from outside the village.

Rachel Tallon

Chair, Clavering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

7th July, 2026