



# Marchington NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## Newsletter No.6

### Examination passed with flying colours

*Referendum to be held on September 15<sup>th</sup>.*

#### The results of the Examination

The Neighbourhood Plan was examined in June by an independent examiner, Deborah McCann, appointed by the Borough Council in consultation with the Steering Group. She recommended only minor changes, which actually strengthened and improved the Plan and retained almost all of the policies from the submission draft. This final version of the Marchington Neighbourhood Plan, if supported at the referendum, will become part of the "Development Plan" and it will have real influence over planning in the Parish because it will be a "Material Consideration" in planning decisions.

You can see the Examiner's report and the final Plan on the Borough & Parish Council websites;  
<http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-plans/marchington>

[http://www.marchington.info/neighbourhood\\_plan](http://www.marchington.info/neighbourhood_plan)

In the meantime, a summary of the main features and polices is given overleaf.

The arrangements for the Referendum will be the same as for other local elections. It is open to registered voters in the Parish and will be organised by the elections team at the Borough Council. Look out for your notification later this month. The question that you will be asked (Yes or No) to vote on is; "*Do you want East Staffordshire Borough Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Marchington to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?*" **The Plan will be "Made" if over 50% of the turnout vote Yes.**

***Please keep Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September in your diary to vote or arrange a postal vote***

#### The NP Steering Group and our supporters

Seven people, with Parish Council support, were involved in preparing the Plan. All were volunteers who worked hard to achieve this fantastic result. They are; Andrew Mann [a.mann45@btinternet.com](mailto:a.mann45@btinternet.com) (Chair) Darron Hayes [darronhayes@hotmail.com](mailto:darronhayes@hotmail.com); Paul Nixon [nixon.private@btinternet.com](mailto:nixon.private@btinternet.com); Reginald Husey [reginaldandann@btinternet.com](mailto:reginaldandann@btinternet.com) Brian Darby [b.darby041@btinternet.com](mailto:b.darby041@btinternet.com) Julia Hayhurst [juliahayhurst@btinternet.com](mailto:juliahayhurst@btinternet.com); and Mick Marrision [mjmarrision@icloud.com](mailto:mjmarrision@icloud.com)

The Steering Group has been (very ably) supported the previous Parish Clerk (Linda Hoptroff) and in the latter stages, by the new Clerk, Catherine Thompson. Thanks must also go to Corinne O'Hare at East Staffs. Borough Council for her invaluable advice throughout the process. Grants have been provided towards then cost of the Plan from the Government Neighbourhood Plan Grant (by Locality) and the Borough Council. Free advice was provided in the early stages by Planning Aid England.

Clive Keble (Consulting Ltd) of Derby has been our retained Planning Adviser throughout the process.

## What are the main features and polices in the Final Plan?

The table below shows that most of the policies are unchanged or only subject to minor change. The only two substantive changes, which are linked, that are recommended are;

- 1 The **deletion of a proposed** Local Green Space (LGS) on The Barracks site (Policy CFOS3 C).
- 2 As a consequence, **the Forestside football pitch will be a protected open space** (Policy CFOS2).

It is disappointing to lose the proposed LGS, but the landowner maintained a strong (and in the eyes of the examiner), justifiable objection to this proposal. In addition, this land is not identified as a location for development and the policy on the Barracks (AB2) protects trees and other habitats.

The fact that there are so few changes is a testament to the efforts of local people. The process has been long and at times controversial, but most of what was intended has been achieved, especially:

- **Housing** numbers, location & design: 5 on Jacks Lane, 10 at The Bagshaws & 2/3 at Thorntree Farm
- Increased **landscape appreciation**, including **key views** and policies to protect **local character**.
- Increased **influenced on large sites** (the **industrial estate, the barracks & HMP Dovegate**).

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Examiner comments
DP1 Sustainable Development Principles	Minor amendment
DP2 Infrastructure & Flood prevention &	Minor amendment
SB1 Development in Village Settlement Boundary	No comment on this Policy
SB2 Development outside Settlement Boundaries	No comment on this Policy
AB1 HMP Dovegate	No comment on this Policy
AB2 The Former Barracks	Minor amendment
H1 Smaller infill sites criteria	Minor amendment
H2 Meet needs of all population	No comment on this Policy
H3 Design of residential conversions and extensions	No comment on this Policy
H4 Forestside residential area	No comment on this Policy
BE1 Protecting and enhancing local character	No comment on this Policy
BE2 Protect and enhance local built heritage assets	Minor amendment
BE3 Protect and enhance archaeological sites	No comment on this Policy
NE1 Protecting the countryside and landscape	No comment on this Policy
NE2 Nature Conservation	No comment on this Policy
T1 Development related traffic requirements	No comment on this Policy
CFOS 1 Community buildings, shops & public houses	No comment on this Policy
CFOS 2 Existing Open Spaces	Substantive amendment (see above)
CFOS 3 Proposed Designation of Local Green Spaces	Substantive amendment (see above)
LE 1 Local Employment	Minor amendment
LE2 Marchington Industrial Estate	No comment on this Policy
RE 1 Renewable Energy	No comment on this Policy
RE 2 Telecommunications	No comment on this Policy

*The 3 Community Proposals on Flood Prevention, Nature Conservation & Walking/Cycling also remain.*



***We are almost there, after a long and often complex, but very worthwhile journey. Thank you for your interest in our Plan and your past support. Now we need one last effort so please remember to come out and vote on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September.***