

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW MEETING**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7PM**  
**SWANTON MORLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Mr R. Atterwill (Swanton Morley Parish Council) Chairman  
Mr J. Venworth  
Mr S Gauntlett  
Mr J. Phillips  
Mr B. Powter  
Mr S. Vincent (Abzag Ltd– Neighbourhood Plan Consultant)  
Mrs K Pickard (Clerk to Swanton Morley Parish Council)

**1) Welcome & Introductions**

Mr Atterwill welcomed everyone to the meeting and made introductions between Mr Vincent and Mr Powter.

*The minutes from the previous meeting were approved and signed*

**2) To Receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr D Turner, Mr J Rodrigues, Mrs A Walker-Fraser and Mrs B O'Dowd

**3) Changes & Updates**

Mr Vincent had circulated some documents ahead of the meeting for consideration.

**Changes and Updates:**

**National Planning Policy Framework**

A document was circulated to highlight any amendments concerning the NPPF that the SMNP needs to be mindful of.

**Breckland Local Plan**

This section should be updated with the current situation in respect of the draft Local Plan Full Update.

Suggested elements to include are:-

The Local Plan is also currently undergoing a review. Breckland DC have agreed to do a Full Update of the Local Plan which will roll forward the Local Plan period to 2046, including the allocation of new developments and reviewing other policies as necessary.

The Breckland Local Plan Full Update is part of the process of preparing a new Local Plan for Breckland. Until it is adopted the development plan for Breckland remains:

- Breckland Local Plan 2019 (as updated 2023)
- Made Neighbourhood Plans
- Saved policies within the Thetford Area Action Plan 2012 and Site-Specific Policies and Proposals Plan 2012.

The Regulation 18 consultation, a 6-week period of public consultation on the Full Update (emerging development strategy) for the Local Plan finished on 19th February 2024. The proposals included:-

- Alternative development strategy options.
- Potential new development sites.
- Settlement boundaries and the removal of settlement boundaries.

- Call for sites & site assessments.

Through June and July 2024 the Draft Local Plan Full Update Preferred Options document was consulted on in a further Regulation 18 consultation.

It was anticipated at the time that the Regulation 19 consultation would happen in January 2025, with the Draft Local Plan Full Update being adopted late in 2026. Following a change of Government, in July 2024, Target Housing Numbers were reintroduced. The impact of this will increase the Breckland annual housing need number from 625 to a Target

Housing number of 917 per year, an increase of just under 47%. Breckland Council has decided to take a 'pause' in developing the new Local Plan while it considers the implications of this change in national policy on the Local Plan and the timetable for production.

It was suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan could include policy details on approach change to 'criterial based', no longer defining or using 'settlement boundaries' and details on the 'built form'.

## General text

Foreword

Text to be updated on page 3

'The Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan has now passed its examination, and local residents have the final say at a local referendum. With a positive vote, highlighting the support of the community, the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made'

*Suggested update ...*

***'The Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan has passed its examination, and local residents had the final say at a local referendum on Thursday 14th November 2019. The result was a positive vote, 84.5% voting 'YES' highlighting the support of the community. The Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan will be 'made' (adopted)'***

Executive Summary

Text to be update on page 7

The Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan, if approved by local residents, will

*Suggested update .....*

***The Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan, as approved by local residents, has***

Text to be update on page 8 ...

'The Examiner has decided that the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan can move to the next stage - a local referendum. If approved by local residents, the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan will be taken into account when planning decisions are made about our village in the future'

*Suggested update .....*

***'The referendum on Thursday 14th November 2019 achieved a positive outcome, 84.5% of residents voting 'YES'. The Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan was 'made' (adopted) and will now be taken into account when planning decisions are made about our village in the future'.***

## 2.4 Key Dates Through History

Suggest changing the last line of key dates  
'2015 Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan commences!'

*Suggested Update .....*

### **2019 Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan 'made' (adopted)**

#### 3.8 Referendum and Adoption

##### 3.8.1. Text to be updated in paragraph on page 22

'will proceed to a local referendum in the Autumn of 2019 where the residents of Swanton Morley, who are registered voters, will be asked whether they want Breckland District Council to use the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan when it determines planning applications in the parish of Swanton Morley (the Neighbourhood Plan Area)'

*Suggested update*

**'proceeded to a local referendum on Thursday 14th November 2019 where the residents of Swanton Morley, at that time were registered voters, were'**

##### 3.8.2. Text to be updated on page 22

'Provided a favourable response is received the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan will'

*Suggested update*

**'With a positive, 84.5% 'YES' vote, the Swanton Morley Neighbourhood Plan has'**

#### Section 6: Neighbourhood Plan Policies

##### Paragraph 6.7 Text to be update on page 28

'All policies have been framed in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Core Strategy'.

*Suggested update*

**'All policies have been framed in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Local Development Plan'.**

A brief overview of the policies then took place for the purpose of Councillors who were not in post at the time that the Neighbourhood plan was made.

#### **Policy 1 – Settlement Boundary**

This is quite a significant issue as Breckland Council are considering not having settlement boundaries anymore and using criteria base in terms of development.

Cannot change the policy to reflect the new policy as it doesn't currently exit.

Does the settlement boundary matter? Is there already sufficient protection?

Councillor Atterwill stated that part of the reason for this policy was not to become part of Dereham. Solution already in Neighbourhood plan, refer to map 4 which is the map in the Neighbourhood plan which is the settlement boundary.

## **Policy 2 – Growth in the right places**

Trying to drive development to areas that it is wanted.

RA asked about the boundary for the Barracks and if it needs to be included. The Consultant advised at the moment to leave it as it is.

The built form area is in the parish of Swanton Morley, but the airfield is in the parish of Hoe and Worthing.

The Clerk asked when the next review would take place as the Barracks is due to close in 2031 so would it allow enough time to include it in the next review.

The allocated sites for Swanton Morley that are included in the plan are Swanton Vale and the next field along.

The Clerk asked if now that Swanton Vale is complete that this should be removed or updates. The Consultant said this isn't relevant as this was for the entire duration of the plan.

## **Policy 3 – Enabling growth on allocated sites**

Allocates out fields 14 & 16 taking into consideration this policy

## **Policy 4 – Housing for the local community**

This policy is households connected with the two sites previously discussed on field 14 & 16.

If two fields are development, an element must be affordable housing, the policy links it that people with a connection to the village are given first refusal.

No changes were identified

## **Policy 5 – Affordable housing on exception sites**

No changes were identified

## **Policy 6 – Delivery of planning obligations**

At the time of creating the Neighbourhood plan there had been a lot of difficulty to have planning obligations delivered.

Councillor Atterwill raised the fact that at the time the Parish Council had not asked for planning obligations regarding streetlights.

Since then, when there is a large development, the Parish Council have asked for a commuted sum for the future maintenance and running costs of these. (£38 and £278)

It was agreed that this could be considered, however it is referenced in policy 11 and does not refer to future maintenance.

There had previously been a policy for 'Management of Open space' this could be included in the public consultation to revisit the subject.

This would be the safer option.

## **Policy 7 – Local Green space**

In the Neighbourhood Plan there are three areas of designated Local Green space.

Councillor Venworth asked if Davidson Park should be designated, however this is ownership of the Parish Council so does not require designation.

As part of the Local Plan review, Swanton Morley Parish Council have designated further green space, this is the Cricket Ground, field to the back of the Village Hall and the allotments and Manns Lane field.

In the draft document at the moment, Breckland Council are in agreement that the sites can be put forward for designated green space.

It could be included in policy 7.

The Consultant confirmed that if Breckland decide not to put forward the sites the original sites put forward are still safe.

It was suggested to look at the criteria table for the open space and consider any changes.

## **Policy 8 – Protection of Existing open space**

The table includes details of the areas and protects the open space without the designation.

Why does the open green space not hold as much weight in the Local Plan as it does in the Neighbourhood plan? in the Local Plan not going through the due process using the Localism Act 2011.

It was agreed to include Swanton Vale but not Blenheim Drive in the reviewed document. This is due to the future Parish Council considering road widening into the field.

**Policy 9 – Important views**

No changes were identified

**Policy 10 – Accessibility and Biodiversity**

No changes were identified

**Policy 11 – Design of development**

Car charging, energy efficient heating, heat pumps and solar panels were discussed for future development.

It was agreed that the Consultant will draft up something to include energy efficient heating and solar panels.

Paragraph 11 was considered and needs to read 'energy conservation'

It was suggested to incorporate the charging point as a separate policy. The Consultant will check through Breckland Councils design guide.

'All homes regardless of size must include a car charging point'

Solar farms were also discussed and where they would be considered. The consultant is to superimpose the red areas on the plan over the village map.

Ground source heat pumps were discussed but over time the efficiency deteriorates.

**Policy 12 – Flooding**

This policy details how to mitigate flooding.

No changes were identified.

**Policy 13 – Broadband and Mobile communications**

No changes were identified

**Policy 14 – Employment and local shops**

No changes were identified

**Policy 15 – Additional community facilities**

No changes were identified

**Policy 16 – Traffic impact**

This policy is still relevant and will continue to be if there is a large development on Robertson Barracks to improve the road infrastructure.

**4) Questions and AOB**

It was suggested to look at other made plans to determine if there is anything further that could be included.

The advertisement for the Steering group will be published in the Mardler with a view to meeting in January.

**5) Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

\_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) \_\_\_\_\_ Date