

Council Meeting – 27 October 2016

Agenda Item CC1647/16

Neighbourhood Plan

Introduction

Members will be aware that over the course of the last three years the Council has been pursuing development of a Neighbourhood Plan. The application to Three Rivers District Council was made on 8 November 2013 and following the necessary legal processes the Executive Committee of Three Rivers District Council (TRDC) approved the application the 27 January 2014.

Discussion Narrative

As the Neighbourhood Plan, if approved by referendum, will become part of the planning application criteria by TRDC as the planning authority the Neighbourhood Plan has had to be written with planning considerations in mind and accordingly the Council appointed a consultant to assist in this aspect.

The Working Party has met on numerous occasions, meetings have been held with TRDC and third parties and stake holder and public consultations undertaken.

The Neighbourhood Plan is reaching a point when it can be formally submitted to TRDC in order for it to be examined by an independent examiner to ensure that it is within all the necessary legal and national planning policies framework. TRDC have indicated that they would wish to appoint the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examiner Referral Service to undertake that examination and the Parish Council's permission is required by TRDC for them to proceed with that appointment.

Additionally to further progress the Plan, Council must formally approve submission of it to TRDC. It is possible that during or following the examination further amendments to the Plan may be required and to minimise any delays it is proposed that the Clerk as Proper Officer to the Council is given delegated authority from Council that any necessary amendments which are agreed by the Working Party are made to the Plan.

Recommendation(s)

- To discuss and agree that approval is given to Three Rivers District Council for the appointment of an independent examiner using the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examiner Referral Service;
- To discuss and agree that the Neighbourhood Plan as currently drafted following amendments from the consultation process is formally submitted to Three Rivers District Council; and,
- To agree that delegated authority is given to the Clerk as Proper Officer of the Council to authorise any subsequent minor amendments on behalf of the Council upon guidance from the Neighbourhood Planning working party.

Cllr Gallagher
18 October 2016