

Pirton Neighbourhood Development Plan Passes last hurdle before Referendum!

The Examiner of Pirton's Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan has now issued her Report and Recommendations.

Subject to a number of modifications, she has decided that the Plan meets all of the Statutory Conditions needed to make a good Plan, and recommends to the North Hertfordshire District Council that it be brought to the Pirton Community to decide whether or not to adopt it. The Community will decide by Referendum.

The Pirton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, and the Pirton Parish Council, have accepted the suggested modifications, which are almost all aimed at making our policies clearer and so giving strength to the Community's views when planning applications are considered.

It is planned that a report will go to the NHDC Cabinet meeting in January 2018 for them to approve the final stage, a Referendum.

Diane Burleigh OBE, Chair of the Pirton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group today said, "I'm very, very pleased that the Plan has passed muster with the Examiner. It has been a lot of work over more than 4 years to get this far. I'm particularly delighted for everyone connected with the Plan, especially the Steering Group members, when I read the praise for aspects of our work. In particular the Examiner notes the exemplary and constant engagement with the Community; the close working and cooperation between the Parish and District Councils; and calls the supporting documents such as the Basic Conditions Statement "very helpful and comprehensive documents that I commend to others". The Consultation Statement, another statutory document, is also described as "thorough, comprehensive...an example of excellent practice". The Character Assessment too, has clearly been taken as an important supporting document for future decision makers."

Alison Smither, Chair of the Pirton Parish Council said "on behalf of the Parish Council I would like to say how delighted we are to get this result. We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to all the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group who have put in so many hours of work, dedication and enthusiasm. Thanks too to all the Pirton parishioners for their support and encouragement. We look forward to taking the Plan to Referendum, getting it finalised and using it to get the development we need while protecting and preserving all that matters to us about our village and parish."

Where to find the Examiner's Report:

Copies are being uploaded to the Pirton Parish Council Website, the Pirton Neighbourhood Plan Website, and links provided on all Pirton Facebook pages, as well as on the NHDC Website under Neighbourhood Planning.

Hard copies can be available on request to Diane Burleigh on 01462 713654