

Neighbourhood Plan

In August we updated on the plans to create a Neighbourhood Plan. This is a document that sets out planning policies for a local area. It's written by the local community, to ensure the community gets the right types of development and in the right place. The plan sits alongside the local plan prepared by Cherwell District Council.

The first step in creating a Neighbourhood Plan is to designate the area it will cover. The Neighbourhood Plan planning group has linked up with Hampton Gay & Poyle and agreed to work together on a Neighbourhood Plan that will cover both areas. For Bletchingdon residents, this means that our whole Parish and the area immediately to the south of our village will be covered by a joint plan.

A consultation has been undertaken by Cherwell District Council on this area proposal, the outcome of which is that the proposal is agreed. This means that we can now proceed with producing the joint plan with Hampton Gay & Poyle. More detail regarding the consultation and the outcome can be found here:

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/221/neighbourhood-plans/982/bletchingdon-and-hampton-gay-and-poyle-neighbourhood-plan>

In order to deliver the Neighbourhood Plan in line with legal requirements, the Neighbourhood Plan planning group will be working with an external consultant and the next step is to secure this arrangement. As we go through the plan development, it will be important to engage with Bletchingdon and Hampton Gay & Poyle residents. We anticipate that this will include mini events in the Village Hall as well as a survey, and hope to encourage as much community participation as possible to ensure the final plan is robust and as widely representative and evidenced as possible.

More information about how the neighbourhood plan is progressing will be provided in future editions but in the meantime if you would like to get involved, please email futurebletch@gmail.com