

## Saham Toney Neighbourhood Plan (STNP) – September 2017

Firstly, thanks to all those who visited our display at the village fete. We hope you found it interesting and informative. For those who couldn't attend, the key themes in the display were what we've done so far; what's next; why it's important for everybody to participate in completing the plan; and what's left to do.



We told you we hoped to publish the plan for public consultation in September, but had only just received numerous comments from Breckland Council and seen the latest version of Local Plan, both of which meant changes to the plan, so we couldn't promise to keep to our schedule.

At the time of writing we have just had a meeting with Breckland's neighbourhood planning officer to discuss her comments. It was rather unsatisfactory and there was very little we were able to agree, so we've decided to hire a specialist consultant to go through everything and advise us how we can reword the plan to meet legal requirements while still keeping to the aims that came from your earlier questionnaire responses; and which we showed you at the fete.

While we look for a good consultant, and apply for a grant to pay for it, we will start to make some minor changes to our draft policies that we think will improve their chances of being accepted, but without changing their aims that we showed you at the fete.

We think it's important now to get an expert's opinion so rather than stick blindly to our schedule we may postpone the public consultation until after we have done that, so that the document you review is one we can feel confident in.

Meanwhile we are going to look into what can be done on a website to keep you up to date without being subject to print deadlines. We'll keep you posted on progress.

Remember the neighbourhood plan is for all of us, so please continue to watch progress on it and participate wherever possible. If you have any comments or suggestions concerning the plan please contact us at [STNP2036@gmail.com](mailto:STNP2036@gmail.com).

Brian Mitchell, Saham Toney Neighbourhood Planning Group