

Saham Toney Neighbourhood Plan

The examiner confirmed he made an unaccompanied visit to the village on 29 March. As a result of what he saw, and his assessment of what was said at the earlier hearing, he had several additional questions for us and one for Breckland Council. Our responses and those of the Council were returned on 28 April.

We felt the Breckland response included a significant error that might potentially be damaging to the Plan by limiting the future availability of new affordable homes to those with a village connection, so we wrote to the examiner with our view on that.

For reasons we don't fully understand, he was not best pleased with our intervention, and in consequence has given Breckland until 13 May to comment on our responses to his questions. After that he will prepare his report, but has not indicated how long that will take.

The additional questions the examiner asked and the responses we and Breckland gave, can be found on our website in the 'Documents' section.

One thing to keep in mind is that although there are many topics on which the examiner has not raised questions, that does not automatically mean he accepts those parts of the Plan; but simply that he doesn't need any more information in order to reach a conclusion on those.

Now we must await the exam report. We'll publish it on our website as soon as received. Within 5 weeks of the report's publication, Breckland must decide if it will hold a referendum. During the same period, we must provide a final updated version of the Plan. Then within a further 8 weeks Breckland must arrange and hold a referendum.

The Plan will carry significant weight in planning decisions when Breckland formally agrees to hold a referendum, even if no firm date is set for it.

As usual, if you have any comments or questions on any of this, or the Neighbourhood Plan in general, or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list, please get in touch with me. **Most importantly, stay healthy and safe!**

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***Neighbourhood Plan
Shaping the future of
Saham Toney!***