



Neighbourhood Development Plan The Independent Examination

We are very happy to report that the Neighbourhood Plan passed Independent Examination on 16 August 2019. The Examiner has recommended that the Plan should proceed, with modifications, to Local Referendum. Representatives of Whitmore Parish Council and the Steering Group, with our consultant Hannah Barter, met with the Borough Council's Neighbourhood Planning Officer at Castle House on 25 September to review the Examiner's report and agree the modifications.

The Planning Department will now issue a "decision report" and publish the Examiner's report on its website. When the Examiner's report has been published we will also make the documents available on the Neighbourhood Plan website. The Borough Council's Elections Office will make arrangements for the Local Referendum – look out for announcements!

The Local Referendum will be the final act of community participation in a four-year process that has seen community participation at every stage. There have been a range of consultations and information events at which the community has been invited to give its views. Throughout the process the community has been kept informed through newsletters, leaflets and the Neighbourhood Plan website, including these articles which the producers of this magazine have very kindly published in "One Way". The views and suggestions put forward by the community have played a major part in shaping the Plan and its policies, and so it can truly be said that the Plan is a "neighbourhood" plan.

Once the Neighbourhood Plan has passed referendum, our three parishes will have a set of planning policies that respect the rural character and needs of our area. The parish councils and residents will be able to refer to the policies when responding to planning applications and the Borough Council will refer to them when deciding on planning applications. We can look forward to having a stronger voice on local development, including on protection of the natural environment, on the character of our settlements, and on the size, location, and design of any new developments that come forward.

**It's your neighbourhood – please support the Neighbourhood Plan!
Please turn out to vote in the Local Referendum – apply for a postal vote
if you will be away on holiday or business!!!**

**Visit the website: www.cmaw-neighbourhoodplan.org.uk
Email us: cmaw-neighbourhoodplan@hotmail.com**