

## **Ringmore Neighbourhood Plan report to Parish Council 09-01-18**

The Ringmore Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has engaged Devon Communities Together in writing the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire. This questionnaire is different from any previous survey in that the number of replies for or against any proposed question will be counted and used as evidence of local feeling in eventually writing the Plan. The Plan's policies must be traceable to solid forms of evidence and the questionnaire is one of these.

A draft questionnaire has been received and the Steering Group have suggested several modifications. Many of these modifications are based on comments made via the previous survey and engagement with the residents. Our target for circulating this questionnaire is the end of January, however, this may slip to the end of February if further work is required.

All replies will be sent direct to DCT for analysis, the individual responses will not be seen by members of the steering group thereby ensuring total confidentiality.

Letters have been sent to the two Holiday parks in Challaborough inviting them to discuss how the Neighbourhood Plan might assist their businesses in the future and giving them an opportunity to outline any plans they may have that may need future support. It is intended to approach the agricultural businesses and tourist based businesses during the next three months.

The Steering Group is looking at several Government initiatives that may help the implementation of any plan.

Lastly the steering group will need to apply for another tranche of grant money in order to undertake the next phase of the plan from March 31<sup>st</sup> onwards.

Richard Baker

*Ringmore Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.*

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has met twice since Christmas and has now approved the main questionnaire for printing. This questionnaire which will be attributed a voting status for each question will be distributed in April with results available to the Steering Group during June. These results will form the core of the policies that will then be developed.

The cost of the questionnaire including printing and a reply paid return envelope is £1300.00 + VAT.

The current funding for the Steering Group ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> March and any surplus funds will need to be returned. We intend to make a new application to fund the next six months of our work and this will be needed to finance the questionnaire analysis and result.

The period between distributing the questionnaire and receiving the analysis will be busy with consultations with businesses in the parish, collating other material needed for the evidence base and if necessary commissioning any detailed studies required.

The Neighbourhood Plan of necessity needs to comply with the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan and this document is still in draft form and under inspection by government inspectors. There have been a lot of views about the wording and content of many parts of this plan from all parties interested in planning development and as a result, the inspectors may change or remove sections of the draft JLP. However one item has been clarified, it was thought that the authority was only interested in counting developments of a minimum of 0.25 Hectare (0.6 acre), in medium building density this area of land would support up to 14 houses. It is now apparent that this is not the case and that single or individual houses will be counted, no matter what the footprint. Secondly it has been clarified that a section of the JLP which appeared to allocate numbers of houses to individual villages is only advisory and not compulsory. It is for each Neighbourhood Plan to decide the needs of that village based upon the evidence it gathers during its work. Therefore the indication that Ringmore would have to have a single site development of around 10 houses is not correct. Secondly it also means that any rebuild or new build in the village since 2014 counts towards the eventual total of new development in the village during the period from 2014 to 2034.

Neighbourhood Plan :- report to the Parish Council 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018

The steering group has completed the drafting of the residential questionnaire. This has now been printed and will be distributed during week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018 for reply by the beginning of June.

We are offering a raffle prize to all completed entrants in order to maximise the returns.

The questionnaires will be sent by each individual household by reply paid envelope to Devon Communities Together who will collate the answers and provide the steering group with the resulting statistical data. They will also draw the raffle, the winning ticket number will be published in the Newsletter.

The funding cycle for the last six months has now ended and I expect that we will need to return the balance of funds, approximately £970 to the original funding authority. It is intended to reapply for funding for the next 6/12 month period.

Richard Baker

8<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Neighbourhood Plan :- report to the Parish Council 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The Neighbourhood Plan continues in the Consultation Phase and a written questionnaire has been delivered to each residence in the parish with a date for replies of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018.

Devon Communities Together will analyse the replies and supply the Steering Group with the statistical data gathered. In addition other forms of information will need to be collated from public records etc. before any conclusions can be drawn. The steering group must show evidence and traceability for any inclusion or policy in the final Neighbourhood Plan.

The steering group has used grant money (£1,783.32) to fund its activity up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 and has repaid the surplus (£932.68) on account. We will now apply for a further tranche of grant money to carry us forward for the next 12 months. The maximum grant available for a total of all phases of is £9,000.

Richard Baker

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018

Neighbourhood Plan :- report to the Parish Council 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Devon Communities Together have received 53 returned completed Ringmore NP questionnaires from 90 individuals. This represents a return between 46 and 63%. Normal return ratios for this exercise are in the region of 25 to 30%.

These returned questionnaires cannot be analysed until the Steering Group has the grant funding to finance it. Although an application for a grant of £4935 for the next 10 months work has been made, the authority has raised some questions concerning the quotes from DCT for further work and replies from DCT are currently awaited.

Richard Baker

12<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Neighbourhood Plan :- report to the Parish Council 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018

The Steering Group has successfully applied for and been paid, via the Parish Council, a grant of £4425.00 to fund its operations until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Any unspent monies will need to be returned at that date.

This has enabled the steering group to commission DCT of Exeter to digitise the responses to the Parish Questionnaire and to write an independent report on its findings.

These documents along with other evidence will determine the principles of the Neighbourhood Plan going forward. Any policy included in the final plan must show a clear link to independent evidence collected in the formulation of the plan.

The winner of the questionnaire raffle has not yet claimed their prize of £50.00. The winning ticket number will be re-advertised in the next Newsletter together with the reserve number. If there is no claimant by August 31<sup>st</sup> the raffle prize will not be awarded.

Richard Baker

10<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Neighbourhood Plan :- report to the Parish Council 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019

The Steering Group has now completed its first draft of the main chapters of its Neighbourhood Plan, namely Forward, Introduction, Vision statement, Housing, Heritage, Tourism and Holiday Parks, and Natural Environment. We need to add chapters concerning Infrastructure, Communications, Health and Well Being.

The Group has also completed four public consultations at village public events and plans a further 'drop in' morning for residents to see progress and ask questions which will be held in the WI Hall on Saturday 16th November 2019.

We are anxious to widen the representation of the Steering Group and there is an advert for new members to be posted in the next edition of the Ringmore Newsletter. There have been some changes to the composition of the Steering Group, with two members feeling that they are overcommitted and need time for other things now that the initial chapters are nearly complete. However I am happy to inform Council that we have already replaced these vacancies and two new members will join the Steering Group at the next meeting.

Richard Baker  
Ringmore NPSG

10-09-19

Neighbourhood Plan :- report to the Parish Council 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Since the last Parish Council meeting the Steering Group has met twice to consider the report from DCT on the results of the parish questionnaire. Items for further discussion have been identified.

A summary of the DCT report was published in the Newsletter at the beginning of November and the full report is available on the Parish Council website.

The next meeting of the Steering Group will be in January but in the meantime four members of the SG will attend a course on policy writing and its pitfalls.

Richard Baker

13<sup>th</sup> November 2018