**Stoke Ferry Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**

**Monthly report to Stoke Ferry Parish Council**

**Date:** 02.09.2020

**1. Work since our last report of 10th August 2020**

* Due to the lockdown across the village which resulted from the Corona Virus pandemic, we were unable to progress the planned second public consultation day and face-to-face stakeholder meetings. This activity has been replaced by a comprehensive household survey, which the NPWG hand delivered to every private residence and business within the parish, some 500+ properties.
* Surveys are due to be returned by the 14th September and four banners have been erected at strategic places within the village to encourage residents to either complete their paper survey or online via the NPWG website. Publicity has also been sought through the local papers (EDP and Lynn News) and through Stoke Ferry’s face-book page.
* Two Working Group sub-meetings were held via Zoom on August 4th and 25th.
* The sub-Group dealing with the ‘Village Character Appraisal’ has continued apace with a target completion date of mid-September. This work is required input to the Housing Needs Analysis and the Urban Design Codes – two consultancy assignments to be conducted by AECOM.

**2. Work planned through September/October 2020**

* Analysis of the returned surveys will take place after the deadline of the 14th September. Feedback from the returned surveys will be used to draft a set of policies and as input to the Housing Needs Analysis.
* AECOM are scheduled to begin The Housing Needs Analysis work in September. This is a three-month process.
* The recent Govt white paper on planning changes emphasises the need for good design in Neighbourhood Plans and therefore, we intend to advance our application for a grant for Urban Design codes. This is a fully supported financial grant application.
* The NPWG are planning to hold a workshop on 17th October to begin drafting the Neighbourhood plan document, review the draft policies and plan the second public consultation day tentatively due to take place sometime in November (dependant on the latest pandemic govt. advice).

**3. Consultancy, Funding and Financial costs to-date**

* Funding:
	+ We have received the balance, £5,972 grant funding.
	+ The Housing needs grant was approved, and the work is being started.
	+ We are also applying for a Technical Grant (Design Codes) from Locality which will cover the cost of a professional urban designer to work alongside the Working Group, harnessing our ideas and local knowledge, and produce bespoke urban design guides or codes for potential development sites.

**3. Agreement Needed by SFPC**

* Agreement that NPWG can proceed with the following funding applications for:
	+ A technical grant to fully fund the cost of providing Urban Design codes