

Neighbourhood Plans Facts and Issues

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To begin at the beginning...

- * **Localism Act 2011** http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/pdfs/ukpga_20110020_en.pdf p116
- * **Locality:** Neighbourhood Planning Resources <http://locality.org.uk/projects/building-community/>
- * **Quick Guide to Neighbourhood Planning** “short, step by step overview of the neighbourhood planning process” <http://locality.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Quick-Guide.pdf>
- * **What am I bid?** How many NPs across England?
- * **Neighbourhood Planning** (2016) House of Commons Briefing Paper <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN05838/SN05838.pdf>
- * **DCLG Notes on neighbourhood planning** <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/notes-on-neighbourhood-planning>

Who, where, what?

- * **Parish/ town council as lead** (‘Qualifying’) body/ Neighbourhood Forum
- * **Russian Doll** – local NP: strategic elements must be in general conformity with LPA Local Plan
- * 200+ NPs in force (‘made up’!) <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-landmark-with-200-communities-now-approving-neighbourhood-plans>
- * “1,900 communities across England - covering nearly 10 million people - that have now also started to get their own plans in place.” (July 2016)
- * “The plans give local people a say in the development of their area, including where homes, schools and businesses should be built, how they should look and what infrastructure is needed to support them”

Why?

- * **Involve community** in its own future
- * Influence **type of development** e.g. Thame 775-estate
- * Sure it's a NP your **community wants/ needs?**
- * **CIL** 17% v 25%? Improved services for more homes
- * Improve community-individual-PTC **communication**
- * **Better an NP than no NP?**
- * **Managing change**
- * **Improve community-LPA communication?**

Issues

- * **NP time commitment** [Winchcombe 5 years]
- * **Cost** – time, money, meetings, consultations [Winch £50K help-in-kind]
- * NP solely about **land & buildings**; community concerns = wider e.g. education
- * Local politics and **‘bloodshed’**
- * **NIMBYism** – NP cannot go for less houses than LPA sets down
- * **Technical detail** – e.g. environmental assessments, site evaluation
- * **PTC cannot campaign for its own NP!**
- * Referendum – **51% of those voting**

- * “You can please some of the people some of the time....”!

Possibilities

- * **Thame (Oxon) 13,000 pop. NP Continuity Committee & Officer**
<https://www.thametowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Monitoring-and-Delivery-Report-December-2016.pdf>
- * **Community NP Consultants** – Winch, Alderton etc act as flying squad of informed peers – ‘been there, done that’; generate ££ for further local action
- * **Enable PTCs** to campaign for own NP!
- * **CIL policies in place!?** 25% of 0 is still.....**NOTHING!**
- * **Retain fraction of business rates** to fund more local action
- * **Be careful what form of comm plan & engagement** you choose

Marathon not a sprint

