

## **Bures Neighbourhood Plan Team Meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Present:** Robin Hamilton (chair) Gill Jackson, Molly Thomas-Meyer, Ken McAndrew, Simon ten Brinke Jackson, Ken Jackson

Via Teams: Mark Thompson and Katie Evans CCP

**Apologies for absence:** Sandra Scott, Nigel Cowlin

The meeting followed the points suggested by CCP following the latest review of the draft Bures NP.

**1. Objectives** All objectives currently in the draft will continue to be included. Context for those where this is missing will be added. The summary of objectives will include all present in the document.

**Action: Members of the Bures team to add context, RH to check his summary to ensure all objectives are included.**

**2. National Landscapes** All reference to AONB will be changed to NL reflecting the national change in name. An explanation of the change will be included to ensure all those reading the document understand the new terminology.

**Action: CCP to make these changes**

**3. Green Spaces** Landowners of green spaces identified in the draft NP to be contacted. CCP have provided a template letter to be used. It was agreed that email would be used with a request for confirmation of receipt. A screenshot of the email with personal details redacted will be included in the appendix. CCP identified that 3 areas are close or neighbouring pieces of land. There is the danger that this will be viewed as an 'extensive tract of land' which is not permitted. The areas in question are the Recreation Ground, The Bevills field used by the school, Football Club and for camping/parking for village events and the meadow across the river. They are under three different ownerships.

Another NP at Wattlington, Norfolk had this issue with the 3 spaces totalling more than 10 hectares and it was not permitted.

**Action: Bures team to contact landowners.**

**Katie CCP to send examples of Green Space inclusions to show how the LGS assessments are presented and how to ensure that the Consultation statement includes evidence for the inclusion of 3 spaces in close proximity.**

**4. River Stour** As the county, district and parish boundary running through the centre of the village and as the focus for aspects of the plan, the River Stour requires a strong presence in the NP. CCP asked about the test results for the water. There was discussion over nutrients entering the water as these are not classified as pollution but are acknowledged as, in large amounts, causing problems for flora and fauna. Mark suggested that the policy as currently worded would not get through as it stops development. The importance of not adding to the adverse impact of nutrients can be in the supporting text.

**Action: Bures team to send Water test results to CCP. Policy to be changed and supporting text strengthened.**

**5. Community Buildings** Context to be added and examples of any new proposals.

Action: GJ Bures team to amend.

**6. Non-designated Heritage Assets** The NPPF provides some protection. Some NPs include lists but even if they are not listed there will be some protection for properties in Conservation Areas. Possible policy regarding the Conservation areas. If list proceeds then properties owners should be contacted out of courtesy not as a requirement. A NDHA template is available.

Action: Further discussion needed.

**7. Issues marked in yellow** Responses needed from the Bures Team

Action: as above. Information and photos to be sent to CCP

**8. NP period** Period confirmed as 2021 – 2035

**9. Housing** The issue of figures relating to the district being used for Bures was discussed. Neither Babergh not Braintree has allocated numbers for Bures. Most development identified in Local Plans is in urban areas rather than rural. Both LPAs see development in Bures to be through windfall, small sites. The HNS was a snapshot of the situation for the 38% who responded. It was agreed that a map showing the current development sites would be included but not current applications as that would soon be out of date.

Action: CCP, Kmc and MT to reword the Housing section to reflect the above.

**10. Local Businesses** Discussion on the need to protect local business and on the wording of this policy.

Action: Amend to clarify - CCP

**11. Getting around** Photo of Bures Station needed. More evidence of traffic/parking issues needed. Map for suggested new footpaths to be added.

Action: Bures team and CCP to work on this

**12. Next stage**

CCP has screened for Strategic Environment Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment. They may not be needed as Bures has no identified development sites. Likely to be end of Jan before the next stage which is consultation with District Councils, Environment Agency, Historic England etc. This can take 5 weeks. Reg 14 follows.

Action: Katie to send completed screening report. GJ to send new likely time scale to Jenny Wright, Parish Clerk.

**13. Added post meeting**

Biodiversity section needs work related to the blue/green corridors identified. A figure to be added to the NP of the identified corridors – map and feedback from the community.

Next meeting to follow completion of tasks by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024