

CONSULTATION STATEMENT

WIGGINTON HOPWAS AND COMBERFORD
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2015 -2029



Consultation Statement

Introduction

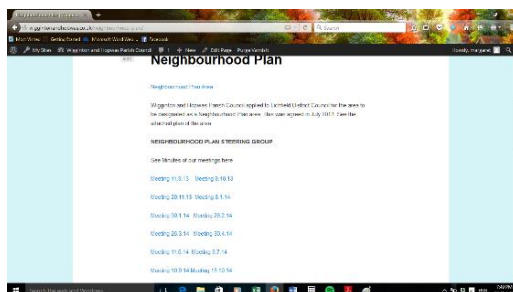
This Consultation Statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 in respect of the Wigginton Hopwas and Comberford Neighbourhood Plan

The legal basis of this Consultation Statement is provided by Section 15(2) of Part 5 of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, which requires that a consultation statement should:

- contain details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan;
- explain how they were consulted;
- summarise the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted;
- describe how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Publicity throughout the process

Throughout the Neighbourhood Plan preparation local people including residents, businesses and organisations such as schools and churches, were kept informed by newsletters, leaflets and posters. (see attached examples, Appendix G)



The Parish Council website was also updated regularly with minutes of meetings and links to the latest version of the Plan, and a Facebook page was used.



Engagement with the community, organisations and relevant bodies

The following consultations took place, including a variety of strategies to consult local groups as well as local and national stakeholders.

1. Initial Consultation 2012

This took the form of a questionnaire delivered to all households when a Parish Plan had been proposed. It was later agreed to use this as preliminary evidence of local people's views to inform the Neighbourhood Plan. (See attached summary, Appendix A)

It was decided that a Neighbourhood Plan rather than a Parish Plan would carry more weight as a statutory document, and an application for the Parish of Wigginton and Hopwas to be designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area was made in February 2013.

2. Public Open Meeting, January 2014

Residents of all 3 villages met to raise issues which they felt should be incorporated in the Plan. Approximately 40 residents attended. The views expressed in discussion groups representing each village were noted and later sent to all who had attended for feedback, and the key issues were then incorporated as policies in the Plan.

(See Combined Neighbourhood Views document, Appendix B)

3. Draft Plan Initial Consultation

The following organisations were consulted on the initial draft Neighbourhood Plan from July 2014, amendments were then considered by the Steering Group and incorporated in new or amended policies during Autumn 2014 based on comments received.

	Consultee	Response
1	Lichfield District Council	Commented
2	Staffordshire County Council (Minerals Authority) (Heritage Officer)	Commented Commented
3	Tamworth Borough Council	None received
4	Whittington Parish Council	Acknowledged
5	The Coal Authority	Acknowledged
6	Natural England	Commented
7	The Environment Agency	Commented
8	English Heritage	Commented
9	Network Rail	Acknowledged
10	The Highways Agency	None received
11	South East Staffs PCT	None received

12	National Grid	None received
13	Western Power	None received
14	Severn Trent	None received
15	South Staffordshire Water	None received
16	Lafarge Tarmac	Commented

4. Further consultation, March 2015

Further consultation was undertaken on the amended Plan in March/April 2015 as follows:



(a) Public Open Meetings, March 2015

These took place at Thomas Barnes School and St Leonard's School, March 26th and 28th (Thursday evening and Saturday morning) This ensured a range of times for residents to attend, at venues at the centre of each of the main villages. Residents were invited to view an exhibition, to discuss the proposals with group members and to comment on the draft plan. Approximately 30 people attended each event.

See attached summary of responses (Appendix C).

Some concerns were not incorporated into the Plan as they referred to a local site (Bodnetts Farm waste site) which was to be resolved by other agencies, or it was more appropriate for the Parish Council to raise immediate concerns with other bodies such as Highways.



(b) Landowner Consultation, March 2015

The following landowners were contacted with details of how to access the Plan and comment: Msrs Billings, Busby, Calcott, Cliffe, Faux, Henton, Ridout, Roberts, Rowe, Sketchley, Wylie, Bliss and Argyle (c/o JVH Planning).

Responses made by JVH Planning were considered and some points were incorporated. No other landowners responded.

(c) Statutory Consultees

Consultees were again consulted on the amended version of the Plan, and some comments were incorporated.

For details see summary of responses and action taken (Appendix D).

5. Pre –Submission Consultation August-September 2015

A further amended version of the Neighbourhood Plan was updated during May/June 2015 prior to pre-submission consultation on the document undertaken from 14th August to 25th September 2015 in accordance with regulation 14.

Copies were prepared for delivery to each household and business in the Neighbourhood plan area, and statutory consultees were sent a link to view the most recent Plan. Local schools were contacted to involve younger members of the community; pupils of Thomas Barnes Primary provided photos for the Plan.

	Consultee	Response
1	Lichfield District Council	Comments received see appendix E
2	Staffordshire County Council	Comments received on feature at junction in Comberford.
3	Tamworth Borough Council	Verbal response on access to the development planned at Dunstall Lane
4	Parish Councils bordering the Plan area	Acknowledgements received
5	Canals and Rivers Trust	No further comment
6	Homes and Communities Agency	No comment
7	Environment Agency	No further comment
8	Historic England	Supportive comments received
9	Highways England	No comment
10	South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG	No comment
11	National Grid	Infrastructure not affected
12	Western Power	No comment
13	Severn Trent Water	No comment
14	South Staffs Water	No comment
15	JVH Planning on behalf of Mr Bliss and Messrs Argyle	Comments received see appendix E

For details see summary of responses and action taken (Appendix E).

For copy of response form see Appendix F

Following the pre-submission consultation

Amendments following the above responses received were made by the Steering Group at a meeting on 30th September 2015. Members reported that residents were generally supportive of the Plan which had been delivered to them.

Following the incorporation of these final amendments it was agreed to submit the Neighbourhood Plan and related documents to Lichfield District Council during October 2015.

List of Appendices

- A – Summary of Responses to 2012 Parish Plan Survey
- B – Combined Neighbourhood Views (responses from public meeting January 2014)
- C – Responses from Public Exhibitions March 2015
- D – Responses from Statutory consultees April 2015
- E - Responses from Statutory consultees September 2015
- F – Publicity Materials 2013 -15

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

Parish Plan Questionnaire

Highways

Are the roads and paths clean and safe?

- Water collects by bus shelter on A51 near Tame Otter.
- Not cleaned regularly enough.
- Mud on lanes from fields.
- Drains need regular cleaning.
- Grass cuttings left on footpaths.
- Uneven footpaths.
- Dog mess on footpaths.
- Overgrown bushes encroach onto pavements.
- Verges and paths often dirty and weeds rarely cleared.
- Paths breaking up on Tollgate Lane.

Does traffic go too fast on main or side roads?

- Too fast in Hints Road. Parked cars cause problems at times.
- Speed limits on A51 in Hopwas not observed.
- Junction of A51 and Plantation Lane dangerous.
- Commercial vehicles parked around green opposite Nursery Lane.
- Waste Away vehicles cause safety issues on Plantation Lane.
- Speed limit exceeded through Wigginton village.
- Speed limit exceeded in Comberford.

Are there parking problems?

- Around the green next to Two Trees Close on Hints Road.
- Parking on A51 sometimes blocks footpaths.
- School Lane too narrow. Double yellow lines on one side? Residents only parking?
- Parking issues at school times, morning and afternoon.
- Not enough off street parking.
- Visitors to pub not using pub car park.
- Never enough spaces in Comberford village.

Transport

Are bus services adequate?

- Inadequate for people with push chairs.
- Good service to Lichfield and Tamworth.
- No regular bus service through Wigginton, have to walk to Gillway to get bus into Tamworth.
- Full sized bus too big for Wigginton Lane.

Indicate additional services or routes you would use.

- Sutton Coldfield/Four Oaks.
- Tamworth/Ventura Park & Hospital.
- Burton.

Environment

Should the parish council object to wind farm proposals?

- Should object to wind farms although individual turbines may be a different issue.
- Small turbines ok.
- No wind turbines at all.

Will developments such as HS2 affect you?

- Will cause traffic problems between Tamworth and Lichfield.
- Noise level.
- Not economical.

Additional

- Pig farm – ruins lane and smells.
- Waste Away – remove site.
- Street lights – turn off.
- Footbridge – provide a separate footbridge over the River Tame to be located away from the road bridge.
- Cut hedges and greens more frequently with debris removed.
- More dog bins needed.
- Flood protection needs to be improved.
- Footpath from Comberford to Rawlett.

Development

Do you agree that the green belt between Tamworth and the villages should be kept?

- Definitely.

Do you agree that new housing should be within existing boundaries?

- Village too large.
- Green belt must be protected.
- Any new housing must be kept within existing boundaries.

Should starter homes be given a priority?

- Demand should be assessed.
- Plus bungalows for the elderly.
- No starter homes.
- Do not object to quality development.

Should there be development to create local jobs?

- Where possible.
- Enough development within Lichfield Road Industrial estate.
- Better to use brown field sites or renovate empty property.
- Too many empty units already.
- Development doesn't create local jobs.

Play Provision

Are you satisfied with the play areas?

- Play equipment at Hopwas outdated and old.
- None in Wigginton.
- Play area not required, would introduce undesirables.
- Play area required for the benefit of younger families.

Are all age groups catered for?

- Older children not catered for.

Services and Facilities

Should any additional services be provided?

- Shop/Post Office
- Mobile library.
- Post Office in pub?
- Farm shop.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PREPARATION – JANUARY 2014

Below are the points raised and noted from the Residents Neighbourhood Planning meeting held at St Leonards on 15th January 2014. The meeting was conducted in a way to seek the individual needs for the villages of Comberford, Hopwas and Wigginton. This will ensure that when the Neighbourhood Plan is developed for the Parish, the plan takes into consideration both the overriding needs as well as the individual specific requirements for the villages contained within the Parish.

Summary:

Points	Comberford	Hopwas	Wigginton
1) Preservation of character, separate identity through clearly identifiable village boundary with green open space buffering the villages from Tamworth. Any future housing within the Parish to be developed in line with the character of the village/surround area as well as be 'aesthetically pleasing' and ensuring appropriate parking amenities for residents	✓	✓	✓
2) Infrastructure conditions to be enhanced or maintained throughout the Parish if additional housing is built in areas surrounding the Parish. This incorporates but is not limited to: i) Road congestion at peak times on A51 and surrounding roads ii) Sewage and waste water infrastructure iii) Surface water dispersment iv) Broadband and telecoms infrastructure v) Gas supplies vi) Doctors, hospitals and school capacities/access	✓	✓	✓
3) Maintenance of roads, verges, and village greens as there are concerns over current maintenance (roads, fly tipping, littering) and traffic programmes incorporating size of vehicles travelling through villages	✓	✓	✓
4) Protection of Hopwas Woods by seeking further protection to avoid mineral extraction or development	✓	✓	
5) To avoid the introduction of permanent wind turbines within the Parish and surrounding area (excluding those on canal barges and for personal/business use)	✓	✓	
6) To ensure that wildlife and access to the countryside and Hopwas woods is maintained or enhanced		✓	

7) To visibly see an increase in community policing.	✓		
8) To review the reasoning behind the closure of the church and seek ways to ensure that in future all residents are communicated and consulted	✓		
9) Parking for Thomas Barnes School for dropping and picking up children at the local pubs is to be maintained to ensure the safety of the children and avoid congestion in School Lane		✓	
10) The role of the school crossing attendant for Thomas Barnes School is critical and therefore should always be maintained and provided for by the Council		✓	
11) The Hopwas Playing fields should be protected from future housing development and a review taken place to ensure that it is protected in the most economical and viable way		✓	
12) Pensioners bungalows and affordable housing should be considered if it is required at Local Plan level that additional housing is required in Wigginton			✓
13) A question of whether the Parish Councillors should approach Lichfield Council to put forward the number of houses the residents feel could be reasonably incorporated into the village?			✓
14) To review the requirement for a Post Office within the village and whether the local pub is an option to accommodate this requirement if deemed appropriate			✓

Below are the notes taken at St Leonards on 15th January 2014

Comberford Residents Feedback:

- In relation to how the village can develop, the residents said they were content with the way things are with no desire for change.
- Keep each village's identity.
- Want to maintain and protect the rural identity of the village and immediate surrounding area.
- Issues regarding maintaining green verges on lanes (currently churned up by heavy vehicles).
- Preserve and maintain 'the green' at the end of Toll Gate Lane, it aids traffic calming. The green was going to be kerbed, questions as when this would happen?
- Need to protect the green and open space which acts as a buffer zone between Tamworth and Comberford area residents.
- Concerns re the prospect of any future buildings, current infrastructure insufficient to cope for example no gas and most buildings operate own septic tanks, other than buildings in the heart of Comberford. Concerns regarding increases in traffic.
- Desire to see community policing.

- Loss of the Church as both a Church and as a community space a concern (not all residents received correspondence).
- Concerns regarding proposed wind turbines (latest applications at Wigginton and Whittington refused?)
- In support of protection of Hopwas Woods as a visual amenity for all.
- Litter and fly tipping a problem.

Hopwas Residents Feedback:

- Agreed the importance of preserving the character and separate identity of the village. At present the flood meadows to the east (on both sides of the river) and the green belt to the west form buffers against intrusive development while at the same time providing a pleasant visual aspect and a habitat for wildlife. The NP should emphasise the importance of these.
- Hopwas Hays Wood is arguably an important wildlife site as well as a popular recreational amenity. Although recognised as ancient woodland it has no official conservation designation. It is therefore in danger of being developed for housing or for mineral extraction, either of which would destroy its value to the local community. (Query: If we seek to protect the woods through the NP, can a case be made to extend this protection to the former quarry site and field adjacent to the canal? This would protect the north of the village from development.)
- Concern was expressed about the siting of large wind turbines in or around the village. It was accepted that a blanket ban is not practicable, not least because many narrowboats use small wind turbines and farmers might reasonably wish to erect small turbines to mitigate their energy use.
- The A51 carries a high volume of traffic through the village. Concern was expressed this could be exacerbated by housing development elsewhere in the Parish.
- The traffic and parking by non-residents in School Lane is often a problem, particularly at the beginning and end of school-days. This problem would become very serious if, for any reason, the Tame Otter were to withdraw its permission for parents to use its car park. (Such a move might be prompted by a change of management or an accident in the car park.)
- It was noted that the school crossing attendant outside the Tame Otter performs a very valuable job. Should the NP be used to underline the importance of this role in case of future cuts in the County Council's budget?
- The Hopwas Playing Field is currently maintained by the Parish Council but this could change in the future. In order to protect the Playing Field from future development, should the NP try to designate it as a "neighbourhood park" in accordance with Lichfield's Greens and Open Spaces Strategy?

Wigginton Residents feedback:

- We were joined by a small number of residents from Browns Lane. Housing was the residents' main concern and the Browns Lane development was discussed. The Chairman pointed out that the Parish Council had been consulted on the Browns Lane development, due to the building being within the Lichfield boundary. A concern was immediately raised by one resident, who claimed that our local schools are at capacity, as are the local hospitals.
- A suggestion was put forward for new pensioners' bungalows to be provided in the village, as existing housing had been sold to private buyers.
- The issue of flooding at Sill Green was raised. It was stated that the Parish Council had already addressed their concerns about further flooding in this area with Taylor Wimpey.
- A resident suggested that new services would be beneficial if the village is expanded but it was agreed that our close proximity to Tamworth meant that this was unnecessary.
- It was pointed out that the Lichfield Inspector's report states that Tamworth and Wigginton must not coalesce.
- The issue of sewerage was raised. It was claimed that the current system is insufficient to cope with existing housing, with problems experienced by residents in both Browns Lane and Gillway Lane. It was agreed that the sewerage system would require updating, should plans for further housing go ahead.
- The Chairman pointed out that the proposed Lichfield Plan states that 500 houses are to be distributed amongst 15 villages, equating to approximately 33 houses per village. It was felt that Wigginton could not accommodate this number. Discussion ensued regarding how many houses we could accept and villagers were asked to consider in-filling and to think about suitable areas for this. Someone suggested a Post Office could perhaps be situated within the local pub.
- A recent barn conversion was discussed and it was suggested that similar "aesthetically pleasing" houses would be in keeping with the village character.
- A suggestion was put forward that we inform Lichfield District Council how many houses we felt could be reasonably incorporated into the village.
- It was noted that affordable housing may be required, depending on the number of new-builds in the village.
- A local resident and St Leonard's church member reported concerns at the large number of lorries driving along Wigginton/Comberford Lane.

Wigginton Hopwas and Comberford Neighbourhood Plan

Comments from Public Exhibitions

Hopwas 26th March, Wigginton 28th March 2015

- Pleased with policies to ensure that each village remains separate from each other and Tamworth, with policy to restrict access from Dunstall Lane, with protection of Hopwas Woods
- Concerns about Waste-away and traffic safety on Plantation Lane, breaching of weight limits on canal bridges
- Concerns over moving Hopwas pedestrian crossing, need for speed camera near Lichfield Crescent, concern about road safety at the Waste-away site
- Keep the existing trees in the village, no mention of Waste-Away mess and road hazard
- Keep it green; accident risk at recycling site in Plantation Lane; parking at School Lane junction with double yellow lines needed
- Speed camera needed on A51 in Hopwas to slow traffic and make crossing safer, Waste-away accident risk
- Concerns about Dunstall Lane being used as a rat run when Tamworth build there; traffic calming needed in Nursery Lane by the Scout Hut, no more development in Nursery Lane as canal bridge won't cope with traffic

Wigginton Hopwas and Comberford Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Responses April 2015

Public – see summary of comments made at the meetings. A further resident response was received generally supportive of the Plan, but asking for reference to be made to the canal, to protect it from development. The Canals and Rivers Trust were contacted for their input to the Plan.

Canals and Rivers Trust – various suggestions were made regarding protecting the canal environment and promoting its use by the community. A policy was added to the Plan based on this.

Historic England – pleased with the Plan and how it had incorporated their previous suggestions.

Staffordshire County Council – comments regarding access to proposed development at Dunstall Lane: saying that the Plan should not include this policy as it may impede access by farmers and other local residents; it was agreed to discuss this with Tamworth Borough Council in whose area it was proposed. Other comments on ecology would be incorporated.

Landowners – no response from any except for JVH Planning; various comments were made including the boundary of the green belt would be considered in the allocations document, this would be discussed further with the District Council; as suggested the Proposals Map would be clarified.

Lichfield District Council – generally supportive, comments were made on development in North Tamworth and how it could affect policies in the Plan. Further direct contact would be made to clarify this with Tamworth Borough Council, who had not yet responded to initial consultation.

Wigginton Hopwas and Comberford Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Responses September 2015

Public – Comments were made asking for inclusion of traffic issues in Wigginton Lane in the plan, it was agreed to add this to policy W6; on the use of Comberford church building by the community, and in agreement with the plan

Lichfield District Council – generally supportive, amendments to wording suggested, advised not to include policy on land outside the Neighbourhood Plan area, advice on green belt, on use of distance for non - coalescence policy, and on Broad Development location; amendments were made accordingly and further discussions were held to clarify these issues.

Staffordshire County Council – comments made on the policy C3 not referring to the development of land, decision made to leave this policy in the plan as it was important to residents.

JVH Planning – comments made on green belt being a matter for the District Council not the Neighbourhood Plan - some wording would be amended; on the use of a Heritage Statement - this wording had been suggested by the County Council and would remain; to refer to exception sites – not needed as this was in the Local Plan; and on the risk assessment.

Aquireland – site proposal north of Gillway Lane; this was not acceptable as it breached the non- coalescence policy in the Local Plan and policy W1.

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council.

Wigginton, Hopwas and Comberford Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Draft for Consultation

Consultation Response Form

The Steering Group invites your comments on the Pre-Submission Draft of the plan.

Please note that comments will be publicly available as part of our consultation statement, identifiable by name and/or organisation. Your personal details will not be made public and will be processed in line with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Copies of the draft plan may be viewed on our website wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk/neighbourhood-plan/ or please let us know if you require a hard copy. **All comments must be received by 25th September 2015.**

Please send comments to clerk@wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk

Your contact details (Only your name (and organisation where applicable) will be made public)

Full name:	
Organisation (where applicable):	
Capacity in which you are commenting:	Resident Local Business Statutory Consultee Other (please specify)
Address	
Email address	

Do you agree with the Neighbourhood Plan as a whole?

Yes

No

If no, please comment further on which policies you disagree with.

Policy	Reasons / suggested changes / comments

Any other comments	

Publicising the Plan

Parish Council Newsletter March 2013

Leaflet promoting meeting June 2013

Poster promoting meeting July 2013

Parish Council Newsletter October 2013

Flyer promoting public meeting January 2014

Flyer delivered to all properties and businesses March 2015

Covering letter accompanying copy of Plan delivered to all properties August 2015

For more information about Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council and regular updates see
www.wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk

PLEASE CONTACT US TO HELP DEVELOP OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN!

PLAY AREAS

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council manages Comberford Millennium Green and Hopwas Playing Field. This includes arranging for the grass to be cut, bushes to be trimmed, bark to be replenished and play equipment to be inspected and maintained. Residents of the whole parish are encouraged to use these play areas. The new fence at Hopwas Playing Field is shown below.



Wigginton Village Hall

The Parish Council is the Trustee of the Wigginton Village Hall Trust and manages the monies raised from the sale of the old village hall. This money must be spent for the benefit of the inhabitants of Wigginton and the locality. At the moment discussions are being held regarding a joint facility with St Leonard's Church, so the funds can be spent on the refurbishment and provision of an improved hall for both village and church groups to use. Currently advice and permissions are being sought, and more details will be given in the next newsletter and on our website as they are received.

Wigginton & Hopwas Neighbourhood Area proposal

The Localism Act enables communities to produce their own formal plans for a defined area (the Neighbourhood Area). They are discretionary, but a community has the right to decide to prepare such a plan if it wishes to. Neighbourhood Plans are prepared by the community and set out local planning policies in relation to that area. They have to be in line with national and local planning policy, have to be independently examined and then voted upon in a local referendum.

Lichfield District Council has received an application from Wigginton & Hopwas Parish Council to designate the Parish of Wigginton & Hopwas as a Neighbourhood Area in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

Lichfield District Council is required to consult for a minimum of 6 weeks on the proposals to designate Wigginton & Hopwas Parish as a Neighbourhood Area.

You can view the application at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans. If you have any comments on the application you can make your representation in one of three ways:

- Make representations through the Council's Consultation Centre that can be accessed via the following link: <http://lichfielddc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>
- e-mail: developmentplans@lichfielddc.gov.uk
- Write to the following address:

Development Plans Team
District Council House
Frog Lane
Lichfield
Staffordshire, WS13 6YZ

The consultation runs from Tuesday 26th March 2013 to Tuesday 14th May 2013 (an extra week has been added to allow for the Easter period)

If you want to find out more about what Wigginton & Hopwas Parish Council are proposing or want to get involved, please contact the Parish Council:

Tel: 01827 50230

Email: clerk@wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk

Website: <http://wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk>

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

Is a Neighbourhood Plan right for our area?

Do you want to find out more about how this could help our parish develop in the future?

If so, please come along to a meeting on Thursday June 6th, 7- 8 pm, at Thomas Barnes School, Hopwas.

The Planning Department at Lichfield District Council will explain how a Neighbourhood Plan can help our parish and what is involved.



Local people can then get involved in deciding how the area will develop, either by joining a working group or just coming along to consultation sessions. We need local people to tell us what you want – come along to the meeting to find out more!

If you would like to join a working group but can't come along to the meeting, please email clerk@wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk or write to the Clerk to Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council, 50 Cornwall Avenue, Tamworth B78 3YB

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MEETING

Wednesday 3rd July 7.15 St Leonard's School, Wigginton

Our Neighbourhood Plan will show what local people want our community to look like in the future. It allows YOU to decide where you want homes and other development to be built in this parish, what they will look like, and where green spaces will be protected.

What skills can you share? How can you help?

What issues are important to you? Should Tamworth build its overspill close to Wigginton? How can we protect Hopwas Woods? Where should wind turbines or phone masts be located? Should homes for our young families or older residents be built, and where? Can we be consulted on our roads? Should more housing be built in Wigginton or Comberford? **Residents can have a say on issues such as these and many more by getting involved in the Neighbourhood Plan.**

IT IS UP TO YOU – YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!

FIND OUT MORE - COME TO THE MEETING ON JULY 3rd

For more information, see www.wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk, or find our new page on Facebook for Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

October 2013

Issue 20

Your Council.

Chair Keith Stevens, Vice Chair David Shirliffand Councillors JohnChesworth, Joy Whitehead, and Carol Croft. The Clerk to the Parish Council isMargaret Jones.

WE HAVE TWO VACANCIES –
Please let us know if you would like to serve your community as a Councillor. Anyone over 18 who lives or works in the parish qualifies and will be very welcome to join us!

How to contact us: email clerk@wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk
Phone the Clerk 01827 50230
Write to 50 Cornwall Avenue
Tamworth B78 3YB

Future Meetings

ALL WELCOME AT OUR MEETINGS
PLEASE COME TO OPEN FORUM AT 7.15 AT THE START OF EACH MEETING TO TELL US YOUR CONCERNS.

The public are welcome to observe all Council meetings.

Thursday December 5th , Thomas Barnes School, Hopwas

Thursday January 9th , St. Leonard's School, Wigginton.

Thursday February 6th Thomas Barnes School, Hopwas.

Thursday March 6th , St. Leonard's School, Wigginton.

Neighbourhood Plan

Our Parish has now been designated as a Neighbourhood Plan area, and work has begun on developing a plan for how this parish will develop in the future.

Earlier this year many residents completed questionnaires which told us everyone's views on a wide range of issues. Many of these will be used in the Neighbourhood Plan. It is vitally important that as many residents, groups and businesses get involved, and eventually local residents will vote in a referendum.

A steering group of people who want an active role has been formed, but there is still time for more local people to join us. You don't need any knowledge about planning, most of us are new to this too!

Please get in touch if you would like to help! If you have any particular expertise in organising events or publicity, doing surveys, IT, planning or drawing plans we'd love to hear from you!

Meetings are advertised on our website www.wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk and on our facebook page (www.facebook.com/WiggintonandHopwas) as well as in the Village Voice section of the Tamworth Herald and on our parish noticeboards.

Next meetings – 20th November 7.30 Thomas Barnes School
15th January 2014 7.30 St Leonard's School – open meeting.

For those who would like to help but haven't got the time, let us know about the issues that most concern you. We will soon be organising consultation events, so look out for information about these and pop along to have your say!



Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council



Public meeting

Wednesday 15th January 2014 at 7.45

St Leonard's C of E Primary School

This open meeting will tell residents about progress with the
Neighbourhood Plan.

A group of local volunteers have begun work on our plan.

All are welcome!

Find out more!

What is the Neighbourhood Plan?

How do I want my village to develop?

Which issues are most important?

How can we moderate more development on the
edge of Tamworth?

Tell us what you think!



26TH & 28TH MARCH

**WIGGINTON, HOPWAS
AND COMBERFORD
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
EXHIBITION**

Thomas Barnes School, Hopwas; Thursday 26th
March 7.30 – 8.30 p.m.

St Leonard's School, Wigginton; Saturday 28th
March 10.30 - 11.30 a.m.

**WHAT DOES THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD
PLAN PROPOSE
FOR OUR AREA?**

**Which policies are
being suggested?**

**How will it affect
my community?**

**Come along
and see for
yourself!**

Ask us about it!

Read our draft plan
on
[www.wiggintonand
hopwas.co.uk](http://www.wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk)

Please comment -
[clerk@wigginton
andhopwas.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk)

Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council.

Mrs. M. Jones, Clerk,
Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council,
50, Cornwall Avenue,
Tamworth,
Staffordshire. B78 3YB
01827 50230
clerk@wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk

Dear Resident

Our Neighbourhood Plan

As you may know a group of volunteers including local residents and your Parish Councillors has been preparing a Neighbourhood Plan over the last 2 years.

The group has met local people at public meetings to talk about the concerns of residents and then included their views in the draft Neighbourhood Plan. *(A few matters such as Plantation Lane could not be included as they are under the control of other authorities such as Lichfield District Council or Staffordshire County Council).*

Our draft Plan will shortly be sent to Lichfield District Council for their approval and will later be the subject of a referendum so that local people can vote on whether it should be adopted.

The Neighbourhood Plan Group felt that it was important that everyone can read the draft Plan, and so have provided a copy for each household.

The group would therefore be grateful if you would look through this booklet and let us know your comments (preferably by email, see contact details above) by 25th September. Please let us know if you agree with the Plan as a whole, or comment on any policies you disagree with or feel should be amended.

Many thanks on behalf of the steering group, who look forward to receiving your comments on the plan.

Yours sincerely

M Jones

Mrs M Jones
Clerk to Wigginton and Hopwas Parish Council

Website: wiggintonandhopwas.co.uk