

## FLORE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

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**for the village  
by the village**

## **NEWS UPDATE**

### **Flore Plan Independent Examiner Appointed**

Since the last update in November a lot has happened and we have now reached the all-important next stages where the Plan is reviewed by an independent 'Examiner'

### **Daventry Consultation on the Flore Plan**

Back in November I reported that Daventry DC were undertaking the consultation on our Plan. This was a statutory requirement which resulted in 8 responses being made. These can be found on the Flore Neighbourhood Plan section of DDC web site. In summary they were as follows:

One response was from Anglian Water supporting our policy on sustainable drainage systems for new development; another from DDC had observations on our design policies; one further response from a

resident was in connection with inappropriate tree planting on residential boundaries; one made an observation on the use of brownfield land for development but objected to the inclusion of the garage as a local community facility; another resident objected to the village development boundary as drawn and the other responses were various landowner interests to the north of the village seeking residential allocations.

All of these responses will be submitted to the Examiner who will consider them in the next stage.

### **Examiner Appointed**

Following the end of the consultation phase in December, DDC and the Steering Group jointly undertook the next stage which was to identify and appoint the independent Examiner.

I am pleased to say that using the 'Neighbourhood Plan Independent Examiners Referral Service' operated by the RICS we were presented with a shortlist of 4 highly experienced individuals with the requisite skills and experience to undertake this task.

The appointment is a joint one between DDC and ourselves (although DDC have the responsibility to pay the costs of the Examiner).

Each candidate was objectively assessed and the highest scoring has been appointed.

Both DDC and Steering Group had consistent scores – which was very reassuring!

### **Next Steps**

Our original assessment was that the formal examination would take place in March. However, we are hopeful that this may be brought forward to February. That is a decision for the Examiner.

He will also review all of the responses from the consultation and decide how he wishes to conduct the examination – by written submissions or by a hearing. That decision again rests with the Examiner.

Once he has finished his examination he will report back to DDC on whether 1) the Plan cannot proceed 2) whether to approve the Plan or 3) to approve the Plan subject to modifications being made. This report has to go to DDC's full Council for ratification before coming to the parish for the referendum. Given dates for full council you can understand our keenness for this to happen in spring early summer so that we can hold the referendum before the school holidays.

Tom Higginson  
February 2016