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| Stay safeStayWellStaySafeStayw | Dear Parishioners, | Stay safe Stay wellStay safe Stay well |
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| Welcome to our February 2021 Neighbourhood Plan (NP) update. As we have said before, despite Covid we are continuing to make progress with the plan, but the government restrictions still mean for the time being at least we will have to continue to update you via leaflets like this one, through social media and posters. We WILL NOT be delivering leaflets through doors, but may use the postal service if economically viable. Here is an update on the progress that’s been made:- |
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| **Reminder of what the Neighbourhood Plan is and how it can help our Parish with regard to planning matters:** |
| **The Neighbourhood Plan** 1. Guides where new development is preferred by the community
2. Ensures that the unique characteristics and landscape setting of the village is maintained
3. Enables the protection and improvement of vital services and facilities appropriate for a village of the settlement’s size and location.
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| It contains planning policies which, when the Plan is complete, **crucially**, will be used as a starting point for consideration of planning applications. **It is a powerful tool in deciding planning matters.** |
| By engaging in this process, we will retain some control over future development of the parish. IT IS NOT A MEANS TO PREVENT DEVELOPMENT. It does mean, however, that if the community feels a site submitted on the Joint Local plan is not sustainable and we have an alternative site, and we can produce evidence to argue for a more sustainable site, we can then influence where development takes place.  |
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| **What stage are we at now?** |
| Just before Christmas we completed the school survey and competition.  |
| * Six winners were announced across the age groups and given prizes for their efforts
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| * The NP gave a donation to the school for their contribution towards our plan.
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| * The NP is now in its draft format and going to our consultant for its first review.
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| * The Landscape Assessment, Site and Design Codes assessments are also in DRAFT format. These form the backbone to and influence a considerable part of our Plan.
* The Neighbourhood team are still working hard to produce a completed plan before the end of the year to work alongside the new JLP.
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| Email: sproughtonneighbourhoodplan@gmail.comPhone: 07538311567 |
| **Thanks for your support and patience as we try to make progress despite the restrictions imposed on us by Covid-19. We would be delighted to hear from you with any questions, suggestions or comments about our Neighbourhood Plan (email address and phone number at the top of the page).** |
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| **Pigeon/Burstall Lane DC/19/00567**Despite great efforts from the Sproughton Working Group, the Parish Council & 335 objections, the Babergh Planning Committee voted in favour 6-5. An article about the outcome was published in the local press. Despite this decision we will still need to make sure the upcoming detailed applications follow what has been approved at outline and to ensure Pigeon/Felix Thornley Cobbold Trust meet their obligations. We are hoping to form a working group to monitor progress of the development & ensure compliance with conditions specified e.g., planting woodland. If you live close to the site & are interested in helping please email sproughtonpc@gmail.com. Pigeon have put forward land for a village carpark & community space in their application. Please forward any suggestions you think the community space could be used for to sproughtonpc@gmail.com e.g. village hall, park, community orchard, Alms-houses etc. Your suggestions will be put to the parish for a vote & then put to the developer.  |
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| **Hopkins Homes/Loraine Way, 49 Dwellings**The developer appealed against the Babergh refusal & the planning inspector heard the appeal on 1st December. The decision was not expected until Jan’21 but we received an early Christmas present as the appeal was dismissed just before Christmas. We have asked Babergh to remove the site from the draft Reg19 Joint Local Plan. |
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| **Taylor Wimpey/Wolsey Grange Phase 2**Taylor Wimpey are planning to submit the application for Phase 2 in spring 2021 – we may not have much time for comment but will ask for an extension in order to ensure that the parish has time to consider and respond to the application. The plans include building a further 750-800 homes in the Chantry Vale area phased over several years. Further details are on the website [www.sproughton.onesuffolk.net/news](http://www.sproughton.onesuffolk.net/news). If you are interested in joining a working group to review the application (once published) and put together a parish response, please contact our parish clerk (see top of page for contact details). |
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| **Babergh Joint Local Plan**The updated JLP published in November had a closing date of Christmas Eve. We have responded to this and were pleased to see comments from parishioners. Next stage is examination by the Planning Inspector. We have asked to speak on many points raised in the JLP. We are waiting on the date for this next stage. |
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| **Solar Farm Planning Application**Two energy companies ENSO & EDF have put in two applications for solar farms on land in Burstall, Flowton, Elmsett & Bramford. This is a huge amount of land and the parishes have some concerns. If you are interested in learning more about this so you can comment please email SproughtonPC@gmail.com or put a comment on NextDoor and we will arrange a meeting via Zoom, information will be put on the SPC website shortly. |
| **Keep up to date on this and other planning matters on our website****http://sproughton.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/** |