

AS&S NPDG Meeting - took place by email exchange on Wednesday 5 July 2017

Present: Diana Tombs (Chair)
Margaret Morgan
Patrick Griffin
Eric Nicoli
Kevin McGann
Jackie McCarten

The EGM to discuss the motion to proceed with the Borough Local Plan took place on Monday 19 June. Despite all the requests by local residents, parish councils and NP groups to delay so as to allow for proper consultation and engagement, Cllrs voted by 33 to 10 to proceed with the BLP. Note that only one of our NP area Cllrs voted against - Julian Sharpe; all others voted in favour, against the wishes of their residents.

RBWM has now published the Submission Version of the Borough Local Plan and is consulting on it under Reg 19. Consultation runs from 30 June to 5pm Friday 25 August 2017.

Sadly, this Plan is no better than the Reg 18 one to which we objected. This leaves us with no alternative but to challenge the Plan through this consultation and through examination.

It was agreed that we should employ the services of a planning consultant to assist us with the preparation of our Representation and also, if the examining Inspector calls any pre-hearings, the same consultant would help represent us at these pre-hearings.

The cost of this will be £2,000 for the preparation of the Representation and we should budget £2,000 if required for support at any pre-hearing. Local residents have agreed to underwrite this cost.

Several other organisations have confirmed their interest in joining forces with us on this - ie. signing a common "Group" Representation and sharing the costs. We have agreed that when a first draft is available (Monday 17 July) this will be shared with these organisations and they will at this stage be asked to commit their intent to both sign and contribute to the cost.