NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE OCTOBER 2014



16th October 2014

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions – Jeff Rhodes

Background, update, timescales – Jeff Rhodes

2014 Community Survey Feedback – Keith Abbott

Issues and Next Steps – Hugh Lufton

Q & A session - All

Background - NPs (1)

- Completely new feature of Planning system
- The powers: 2011 Localism Act
- The rules: 2012 NP Regulations
- The guidance: still being produced(!)
- Parish Councils automatically count as a "Qualifying Bodies"
- Stafford Borough Council is still the "Local Planning Authority" (Local Plan and planning applications)
- A Neighbourhood Plan is a land-use planning policy document

 becomes part of Development Plan when adopted ("made")
- Also triggers additional local funds when development happens – SBC must give GPC 25% instead of 15% of Community Infrastructure Levy (a type of development tax)



- NPs can't be anti development but can help shape it
- Must be in line with general strategic policies in Local Plan (and with national policies)
- Must follow prescribed legal process (NP Regs)
- Typically take 2-3 years not many complete so far
- Lot of work, heavily reliant on volunteers and good will
- NP process is experiencing teething problems around the country (but Gnosall can learn from that)
- 1,200 NPs being done (Govt wants 10,000!), 110 published so far, 29 got to Referendum stage, 19 in force



The NP Working Group

- Project-specific, technical working group
- Made up of Parish Councillors and volunteer local residents, 50/50 (not a Parish Council committee)
- Formed Sept 2013
- Terms of Reference: 10 Members max (9 currently) plus Parish Clerk and Planning Consultant
- Meets regularly to progress the Plan
- Meeting minutes and progress on GPC website
- Output subject to public comment/consultation
- Plan ultimately subject to public referendum

Gnosall so far....

- GPC applied for NP Area designation July 2013
- Approved by SBC Sept 2013 and NPWG formed
- Major local questionnaire survey Jan 2014
- Data input and results analysis
- Consultancy support sourced March, appointed April 2014
- Survey Feedback Report July 2014
- Grant funding obtained July 2014
- "Invitation to Submit Sites" exercise Sept-Nov 2014 (not just housing)
- Draft Plan & Policy Options document in progress
- Information and documents on GPC website



