

Binfield Heath Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Update: August 2021

Hello everyone,

In March parishioners voted in favour of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Binfield Heath and this newsletter is to let you know what has been happening since then.

A Neighbourhood Plan gives us a shared vision of how we want Binfield Heath to look in the future. Parishioners' concerns include:

- *Protecting the character of the area by preserving open spaces and the green gaps between Binfield Heath, Shiplake, Henley and Reading

- *Having a say in the size, style and location of new houses

- *Including the entire parish in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

- *Retaining and supporting the post office, shop and pub/restaurants

Once our plan is officially adopted by South Oxfordshire District Council it becomes part of the district's Local Plan and can influence planning decisions that affect the village. But the process leading to adoption is lengthy and involves a lot of evidence-based research.

On July 1 a group was formed to guide the plan through its various stages. The steering group is made up of residents from across the parish (details below) and is chaired by parish councillor Rob Davis. He has produced a road map (also below), agreed by the steering group, which sets out each stage of the plan up to completion, hopefully in August next year.

So far:

- *The district council has formally designated the parish boundary as the area to be included in the plan.

- *Two steering group members, Rob Packham and Roger Murray Leach, have produced a survey of houses in the parish together with provisional notes on the styles of building that contribute to the character of the village. Once completed, it will form the basis for the plan's design code, which will be prepared by consultants.

- *Lis Ransom and Barney Double are looking at the history of Binfield Heath.

- *An independent consultancy firm with experience of neighbourhood plans has been approached to help with technical support. Once agreed, Rob Davis will apply for a government grant to cover costs.

As the plan progresses, the steering group will keep you updated. In the meantime your ideas, expertise, help and advice would be very welcome. Please contact Rob Davis councillorRobertDavis@gmail.com or Norman Lane norman.lane@talktalk.net

Best wishes,

Binfield Heath Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Rob Davis (Parish Council); Kim Eccles (Arch Hill); David Embley (Emmer Green Road); John Hughes (Common Lane); Norman Lane (Shiplake Row); Roger Murray Leach (Common Lane); Tom Martineau (Dunsden Way); Tony McArthur (King's Common Close); Fionnuala McCredie (Crowsley); Rob Packham (Kiln Lane); Sarah Powell (Heathfield Avenue); Lis Ransom (Parish Council); Rachel Richardson (Dunsden Way); Roger Roberts (Shiplake Row); Paul Rollason (Parish Council); Mary and Martin Swords (Dunsden Way); Andy Whitwell (Heathfield Close).

[The Road Map is on the following page](#)

ROAD MAP

Key Milestones

SODC Completed Registration	29-Jul-21
Charter document complete	02-Aug-21
Charter Approved	01-Sep-21
Charter announcement drafted	26-Sep-21
Planning policies drafted	24-Nov-21
Design codes drafted	24-Nov-21
NP completed for Consultation	23-Mar-22
Subject set for examination	20-Jun-22
SODC complete examination	10-Aug-22



