

The 'Pop-In' Session to discuss the latest developments to the East Meon Neighbourhood Plan (EMNP) has been rescheduled for Saturday, 7 February 2015. The meeting, originally planned for December, was moved to allow for more time for the local planning authority, the South Downs National Park (SDNP), to provide their critical input on the proposed development sites.

The session will be held from 10am – 2pm in the Village Hall. All residents are invited to attend and review the work that has been completed to date. The EMNP team will present the following material:

- Proposed Development Sites

Maps of East Meon highlighting the sites under consideration will be available for review; all residents will have an opportunity to physically see where future homes might be built in relation to existing homes and the surrounding landscape.

- Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria used to judge a site's viability will be listed with relevant notes as to why or why not a site has met the conditions, according to the EMNP and/or SDNP. Residents are asked to provide their input (agreement or not) as to the soundness of these assessments.

- Policies

The first draft of policies related to building sites (locations), development time periods, limits on housing size, occupation qualifications, and housing design will be on hand for comment.

- Landscape Policies

The Landscape Design team will present the relevant national and local policies that drive the landscape considerations in the plan. Given East Meon's location in the National Park, a number of policies exist that limit development and protect green spaces and key views within the village.

- Design Statement

Examples of the work completed by the Design team to inventory the existing housing designs in the village will be available for examination. This work will feed the eventual design statement that is to be produced in conjunction with the plan, which will serve as the handbook for developers as they make plans to build in the village.

It should be remembered that everything reviewed at the session will still very much in draft form. Feedback from attendees will be taken into account as the first complete draft of the Neighbourhood Plan is formed and made available for examination. The proposed time period for this review period is in the late spring.

Please update your diaries and join us in February for this very informative and critical meeting. Your valuable input is crucial to the success of the plan.

In addition to preparing for the session, the team has been busy making progress in several other related areas. We are keeping in close contact with the planning authorities at SDNP to advise them of our progress and to keep up to date on the latest movements of the park's Local Plan, also in development. The parish was asked to give feedback on data collected about services and facilities in East Meon, data that will inform what is expected of the

village in the Local Plan. SDNP also provided input on the proposed development timeline for the East Meon plan; some important target completion dates are now as follows:

- Develop Draft Plan: Late Spring 2015
- Review and Finalise Plan: Summer 2015
- Consultation Period: Autumn 2015
- Independent Examination: Late Autumn/Early Winter 2015
- Referendum: Winter 2016

We continue to keep the team's website (www.eastmeonnp.net) current with the latest information, so please check back often for updates. And, as always, please contact the team directly with any queries or concerns.