

EAST MEON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - PROGRESS UPDATE

There have been many developments and much progress made as we continue to develop the East Meon Neighbourhood Plan (EM NP).

Designation

We have applied for official designation of the EM Neighbourhood Plan area. This is a process run by the South Downs National Park and hopefully should just be a formality. There is a six week consultation process, finishing on 28th July, and then our application goes before the SDNP Planning Committee. If successful we will then be given a grant of £5,000 towards the expenses incurred during the production of the plan.

The SDNP are positively supporting us in the development of the EM NP. One of their officers attended the last EM NP Steering Committee meeting to give us help and advice.

Consultant Selection

We ran a selection process to identify and recruit a planning consultant to help and guide us through the process of producing the EM NP. There are many fine points to consider to ensure we meet the requirements of Government and SDNP policies, plus meet the expectations of the 'neighbourhood plan examiner'. We have selected Lisa Jackson (<http://www.jacksonplanning.com>) who is immediately proving her worth. Lisa has been working on both the Petersfield NP and the Wisborough Green NP, as well as working on a broad range of planning and design projects.

Website

We are currently creating a website that will have all the relevant and up to date information about the plan, personnel, timelines etc. A link will be posted on the EM Parish Council web site (www.eastmeonparish.net) as soon as we are ready, plus we give you details in the next edition of Meon Matters.

What The Teams Are Working On

The three teams, Built Environment, Village Design Statement and Landscape Assessment are currently working on, and drafting out, what policies we need to support our plan. They are also developing surveys to build evidence to support these policies, such as a housing needs survey to support how many and what type of housing is required. The Village Design Statement team will be carrying out street surveys to identify exactly what sort of housing we have and where situated.

If you have any questions on the EM NP please give me a call on 823051 or email me at brian@brianralpbiggs.plus.com.

Brian Biggs