

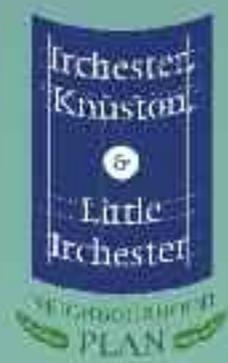
INFORMATION LEAFLET
Irchester
Knuston and Little Irchester
Neighbourhood Plan
2011-2031

Consultation Draft Plan

This is an official consultation on your Neighbourhood Plan

It is independent and for the community

**It is in no way linked to other consultations
on development proposals in the Parish of Irchester**



Your Community – Your Voice

www.irchesterparishnhp.com

Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2031 Consultation Draft Plan Now Available for Comment

You, as a resident, and other interested parties, are now invited to read the Consultation Draft Plan and make comments. There will be a six week period to do this, commencing on Friday 16th September 2016 and closing on Friday 28th October 2016.

A copy of the Consultation Draft Plan can be found on the Neighbourhood Plan (NHP) website: www.irchesternhp.co.uk

Reference copies can also be found at Irchester Library for consultation. Some hard copies are also available to take away or borrow from Irchester Library. If you wish to have a hard copy please contact our Administrator, Nikki Daft who would be happy to supply you with one. Phone: 07525 909528 or Email: Irchesternhp@gmail.com

How can I comment on the Consultation Draft Plan?

During this period the NHP Steering Group will be holding a couple of drop-in sessions:

- Tuesday 20th September 2016, 4pm-7pm at Irchester Library
- Tuesday 18th October 2016, 4pm-7pm at Irchester Library.

Please come along and meet with members of the NHP Steering Group, let us hear your opinions and discuss any aspect of the Consultation Draft Plan you would like to have explained.

If you wish to comment in writing on the Consultation Draft Plan you can do this:

- By email addressed to: Irchesternhp@gmail.com
- In writing (preferably typed):
 - At either drop-in event
 - At the Irchester Library during normal opening times where a box will be available for replies.
 - Alternatively, when the Library is closed you can post your letter through the Library letter box in an envelope marked 'NHP Consultation Draft Plan'
 - If you wish to send it by post please send to: NHP Draft Plan, Irchester Library, High Street, Irchester, Northants, NN29 7A.

Please ensure that you specify the policy or paragraph to which your response relates.

Background

In February 2012, Irchester Parish Council called a public meeting in Irchester Village Hall of interested developers who wished to build new housing developments in the Parish. At the same meeting, the Irchester Parish Council asked if any residents would be interested in developing a Parish Plan for the community and as a result volunteers came forward to undertake this task.

This group of community volunteers, after investigating the purpose of a Parish Plan sought guidance on the new emerging Neighbourhood Plans (NHP) and decided that this was what they should be working towards for the community. They were supported and endorsed in this endeavour by the Irchester Parish Council and the Borough Council of Wellingborough. As a result of this the volunteers reformed themselves as the 'Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group' under the direction of Irchester Parish Council.

The Borough Council of Wellingborough designated the 'Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Area' on 4th December 2012 for the purpose of enabling Irchester Parish Council, via the Steering Group, to prepare the 'Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan'. The Neighbourhood Area covers the current boundaries of the Parish of Irchester.

The volunteers, with support from their consultants Armstrong Rigg Planning, funding provided by the Irchester Parish Council and the grant giving body 'Locality', have carried out consultation with the community, undertaken research and produced documentary evidence to help them prepare a Consultation Draft Plan.

We aim to make Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester an even better place to live for future generations. By producing a NHP will help us do this. It will cover a 20 year time period (2011-2031) with a review every 5 years.

The NHP process has identified the need for 150 new homes in Irchester in the period 2011-2031. Since it was formed the NHP Steering Group has undertaken research into housing requirements and the issues which could arise from any new development. It has carried out public consultation and taken into consideration all the feedback it has received from local people about their wants and desires to help prepare the Consultation Draft Plan.

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Background, continued from page 3

The NHP Steering Group has listened to the concerns of local residents and has undertaken detailed research on potential development sites in relation to housing needs, highways, heritage, landscape, environmental and ecology issues and concerns.

As a result of this research two locations are proposed as part of the Consultation Draft Plan, which comprise two sites of 75 houses in Irchester. One site is on 'land adjoining Austin Close; the other site on 'land south of James Street'.

The NHP will enable our community to ensure that we have control over where housing development takes place, to influence the type and quality of that development, and to ensure that the change it brings meets local needs and objectives.

The alternative is to rely on development plans prepared by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit or the Borough Council of Wellingborough. This would result in less community involvement.

Working with the support of the Borough Council of Wellingborough the NHP will be in line with National Planning Policy and local strategic policy. Residents of the parish will, through a local referendum, be able to vote on the final NHP and if approved by a majority, it will be brought into force by the local authority. Developers will then have to work within the policies and priorities contained in the Plan.

The NHP will sit within the recently adopted North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy as an integral part of the statutory development plan for the area. The new Borough of Wellingborough Local Plan, which is forecast for completion in 2017, will also form part of the statutory development plan for the area.

We hope that you will enjoy reading the Consultation Draft Plan of the Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan and look forward to you supporting the many hours of work that the volunteers have undertaken in preparing this Plan for the community for now and the future.

The Next Step

Once all feedback has been received the NHP Steering Group will review all comments, modify the Neighbourhood Plan accordingly and send it to the Borough Council of Wellingborough for the next stages of the NHP process.

We look forward to receiving your comments