

Pepperpot – Christmas 2015

The parish council has commenced with one of its most ambitious and exciting projects, a Neighbourhood Plan. This is not all about the council, it is all about you as residents of the village, what you would like to see, not just for you, but for future generations, how can your children and grandchildren remain in Sutton if they wish to do so. – Please do get involved, have your say, and when we reach the referendum – have your vote.

Rosie
Clerk to Sutton Parish Council

Sutton Neighbourhood Plan – Planning the way forward

This year has seen us take some major steps forward in the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the village. In January we distributed a survey throughout the village which provided residents with their first real opportunity to provide us with ideas as to how they would like to see the village developed for the future. Then in February we held an Open Forum where we reported back on the results of the survey and other presentations that included one on what a Neighbourhood Plan is and why we are preparing one.

Following that we then successfully applied for a grant which enabled us to hire Alex Munro, of Maroon Planning Ltd, to provide us with guidance on how we should go about developing our Neighbourhood Plan. Alex then played a major role in the planning and running of our Open Day at The Glebe on October 3rd. The purpose of this day was to gain further input from residents to help us put together the vision, aims and objectives section of our Neighbourhood Plan. We had six Groups on the day, each of which had a Group Leader, including our two District Councillors, Lorna Dupre and Lisa Stubbs. The day operated as a drop-in event so residents could choose which of the groups they wanted to talk to. Alex Munro, doubled up as a Group Leader taking on the Housing and Built Environment Group. The six groups on the day were:

- Housing and Built Environment** – Alex Munro
- Biodiversity and Natural Environment** – Jon Megginson
- Sport, Recreation and Leisure** – Christina Coates and Stan Smith
- Traffic and Transport** – Mark Inskip
- Local Business, Retail and employment** – Lisa Stubbs
- Local Services and Amenities** - Lorna Dupre

It was generally agreed that the day was a success both in terms of numbers, which was around 100 and the input we received from residents. Alex Munro, then took away the input provided to each Group and came back with a summary report providing guidance on how we should take this plan on to the next stage. This report is now available on the Parish Council website. Having seen the report the Parish Council has now resolved that the working Party can take the Neighbourhood Plan to the next stage. As previously stated, Neighbourhood Plans are community led so rely on the input and support from the residents. There will be further opportunities for you to have you say. Updates on our progress will be made available on the parish council website. Then, at the end of the process a referendum to enable you as residents to vote on whether or not to accept the proposals outlined in the Neighbourhood Plan.