

Farringdon Neighbourhood Plan

Draft Community Engagement Strategy

Background

The neighbourhood planning legislation places an obligation on the body responsible for preparing the Neighbourhood Plan (the Parish Council) to carry out an extensive and inclusive programme of community engagement and to prepare a 'Consultation Statement', as a supporting document to the Plan itself, to show how, when and where local people and businesses were 'engaged' in the neighbourhood planning process and what the outcome was.

Consulting with the community will be a continuous and on-going process. The Farringdon NP Project Plan has earmarked five main consultation points during the plan-making period that are the responsibility of the Parish Council and its Steering Group to deliver:

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|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| C1 – | <i>publicise intention, initial survey, recruit helpers</i> | – February – March 2017 |
| C2 – | <i>'survey' of local issues and opinions</i> | – May – July 2018 |
| C3 – | <i>consult on vision & objectives</i> | – September 2018 |
| C4 – | <i>consult on first version of Plan</i> | – January 2019 |
| C5 – | <i>consult on Pre-submission Version of Plan (Reg.14)</i> | – April – May 2019 |

Summary Proposal

Consultation Stage C1 – Publicise Intention, Initial Survey, Recruit Helpers

Purpose

To let everybody who should know, what has been decided so far, what is being planned and how and why they should be involved.

Call for volunteers “to be on the steering committee to help implement the plan”.

Method

Two-page Initial Survey. A questionnaire was delivered to every postal address in the Parish – 137 forms delivered. Member of the Survey Team called to collect at home/business.

'Information Day' on Saturday 4th March (09:00-14:00) at Farringdon Village Hall.

Timetable:

February – March 2017

Consultation Stage C2 – Survey of Local Needs & Demands

Purpose

The purpose of this major consultation is:

- To share the main findings from the evidence base
- To canvas local opinion on the bigger issues and main themes
- To carry out specific consultations to fill in the gaps in our knowledge and understanding
- To encourage and facilitate debate where it is needed

Method

- Focus Groups
- Survey of businesses
- Attendance at Community Events

Timetable:

June – July 2018

Consultation Stage C3 –Consult on Vision & Objectives

Purpose

To share the draft vision and objectives and seek general endorsement from the community that the Neighbourhood Plan for Farringdon is taking the right direction with the right set of objectives. In particular to:

- report back on response and conclusions from the C2 consultation programme
- share a draft vision, aims and objectives for the Farringdon Neighbourhood Plan
- set out the themes and priorities for neighbourhood planning policies
- seek reaction/endorsement of the vision, aims and objectives
- invite suggestions for specific planning policies

Method

Drop-in event with exhibition to be held in Farringdon Village Hall

Timetable:

September 2018

Consultation Stage C4 - Consult on 1st Draft Plan

Purpose

To share a first version of the Neighbourhood Plan for scrutiny by the local community and local stakeholders to ensure the policies reflects the community's agenda

- invite comment on the content of the draft Plan and specific planning policies
- invite suggestions for land and buildings to be the subject of specific policies
- identify unresolved issues and opportunities
- encourage community action in support of specific policy approaches

Method

- A first Version of the Neighbourhood Plan will put on the website
- Its presence on the website will notified to the community and local stakeholders
- Letters will be sent to those who own land or buildings that are the subject of draft policies

Timetable (provisional):

January 2019

Consultation Stage C5 – Formal Consultation on the Pre-submission Version of the Plan

Purpose

The Parish Council has a statutory duty (under Regulation 14) to ensure that consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan takes place for at least 6 weeks prior to its submission to the local planning authority and that everybody within the Parish has an opportunity to see and/or hear what it contains, and to comment on it.

Method

We propose:

- The Pre-submission Version of the Plan is put on the website and widely advertised within the Parish
- A summary leaflet is distributed to every household and business
- Key local stakeholders and those affected by policies will be written to individually
- Hard copies of the draft Plan will be placed on deposit for public viewing at suitable locations in the Parish

Timetable (provisional):

April – May 2019