

Tur Langton Neighbourhood Plan

Environmental Set-up meeting

14th March 2016, 7.30 p.m., Tur Langton Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Bladon (Parish Council chair), Cllr Weston, Alison Gibson, Clerk to the Council

John Martin, *Yourlocale*

Andrew Bladon, Bryan Ingram, Daniel Mansfield, Adam Waters, Hayley Waters

Apologies – Mike Stead

Declarations of interest – there were no declarations of interest. Cllr Bladon and Cllr Weston declared that they own land in the village which they may have to declare as an interest if relevant at future meetings.

Introductions – there was a round of introductions. John Martin introduced himself and explained that his role is to help to write the Environment Section of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Environment Section

This meeting follows on from the successful launch of the environment work on 5/1/16. John explained that the Environment Section aims to ensure sustainable growth by achieving a balance between protecting the environment and the needs of development. This is achieved through the inclusion of Local Green Spaces in line with the National Planning Policy Framework. (The slides from the launch meeting describe this in more detail). John circulated a proposal map from another NP he has worked on as an example.

John went on to explain that the identification of these Local Green Spaces benefits from local knowledge and input about what people think is important. The approach is to objectively identify all potential plots in the parish and score them for environmental importance. The ones that score the highest can be designated as Local Green Spaces and have statutory protection. Other sites that are rated as not so important can be included in a policy that has to be considered in relation to any planning application that includes that land. Some of the responses from the recent questionnaire may feed into this.

Environment Inventory Map

John circulated an Inventory Map (Appendix 1) and this was discussed.

The green arrows show the views valued by the community as identified at the July 2015 consultation event

The orange areas are existing designations identified through “Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Records” –

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/chr/herdetail.aspx?crit=&ctid=94&id=4752>

These areas require further investigation to see if they include anything of significance. They would only score highly if earth works were identified. If they are also designated for other reasons it would add to their significance.

Public Footpaths are marked on the map. It was noted that one has recently been moved and the clerk will forward details to John.

Ridge and Furrow areas are included. These do not have existing designation and the information used to identify them may be out of date so this needs to be verified.

Scoring Criteria

John also circulated the scoring system for sites (Appendix 2) and a completed example (appendix 3). It is possible to develop the criteria and alter the weighting to make it more appropriate for Tur Langton but not to add new criteria. John would encourage a finer scoring than the present red, yellow and green. It is important to judge this consistently right across the whole parish.

Next Steps

There was a general discussion and initial identification of some sites. It was agreed that the group will meet up for walks around the parish to label up plots and start to score. A further meeting will then take place with John Martin to compare judgements and look at the scoring / develop the criteria.

Next meeting – Tuesday 19/4/16 at 6.30 p.m. at Carpenters House, Main Street (Cllr Weston’s house)