**Briefing Note**

14 March 2023

**To:** All PC Members/Parish Clerk

**Neighbourhood Plan (NP) - Badwell Ash & Long Thurlow Parish Council: Meeting 14 March 2023**

1. At the Feb 23 Meeting the PC agreed to go ahead with the Badwell Ash & Long Thurlow NP and to engage a Planning Consultant at the start of the process. Secondly to set up a NP Steering Group to manage the process. Initial contact has been made with an experienced Planning Consultant and MSDC on the NP light approach and response emails summarise the position as:

a) Planning Consultant list has been provided on which there are experienced NP Consultants, some of which are not available to work with us until Sept 23 this year.

b) A first consultation has been arranged on the 21 March via Zoom to get BA & LT started on what useful steps and work we can undertake in the interim period to then move forward with a Planning Consultant.

c) The locality grant funding provided by the Govt runs until the end of this month and no firm announcement has **YET** been made on the next financial years funding. Mid Suffolk expect the Govt funding to continue for 23/24, which we can still apply for.

d) The MSDC NP Light approach email reply, I have attached so you can see what options are open to us as a PC.

e) NP Steering Group, I have 2 volunteers so far, one from BA and one from LT, with two other persons offering part time input. This will not be enough to form a productive Steering Group, I have asked for an update for volunteers to go out in the next Broadsheet.

2. The other start up considerations remain TBC and decided

* What budget needs to be allocated for the NP? – Printing/Surveys/Admin Support materials
* NP Working or Steering Group?
* Do we need an email account for the NP, otherwise official PC email would be log jammed if not?
* What would the membership be? Based on skills set or time they can give?
* Dates for NPSG Meetings – suggest before PC Monthly meetings.
* How to staff meetings for example pop up surgeries/ volunteers to help with mail drops/surveys
* Would a treasurer role be required for example if any money is donated for the NP in the process stages?

Steve Russell

Badwell Ash PC Deputy Chair

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