

## The future of Compton – Your Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) update July 2019

It was good to meet and talk with so many of you at the recent village fete and to hear your views on the future of Compton, thank you for coming along to our stall. Once again, the fete reflected the results of our drop-in sessions held last year with the Environment and Housing groups drawing much of the attention, however the Business team was also pleased by the considerable comment and interest they received. Many of you took part in our “How well do you know Compton” competition and our congratulations go to Kerry Mason, Duncan Wheeler and Sara Dickinson, the first three correct entries drawn by the NDP Chairman. Well done to them!

Through May, June and July we have been working to ensure the NDP is as representative as possible. The village groups we have met include representatives of business, the village hall, the Compton pre-school, and the surgery; we have been gathering as much information as possible about their future needs. We have held meetings with members of West Berkshire District Council Planning Team, which has been advising us on various aspects of planning, and we held another productive workshop with our consultants to ensure that our work is on track.

We have also received some disappointing news from Homes England, the government organisation currently responsible for the Pirbright site. We are hoping that some of the existing buildings on site could be considered for repurpose for a variety of uses, but Homes England has advised us that it will not grant us access to view the inside of any of the buildings. This is particularly disappointing as we have shared with them our survey results and information gathered. We have also recently been made aware of at least one business that would be interested in business premises on the site. We will continue to press our case.

In this issue of Compilations, we include an update from the Environment group, (which encompasses Environment, Green Space, Parks, Roads & Transport) who have set out their vision and next steps below:

1. Maintain the rural character and biodiversity of the village in the wider landscape context of the North Wessex Downs AONB which Compton is part of.
2. Create integrated and safe greenspaces in new developments that are linked to the existing green infrastructure network.
3. To enable people and wildlife to thrive within Compton.

In the coming weeks our group will develop further then draft the plan. We will;

- Collect more evidence of the Green Spaces within Compton to assess local need
- Assess local need for Green Space, using existing evidence and socioeconomic data along with population growth predictions.
- Ensure that all local stakeholders and the wider community have been engaged and have a chance to contribute to their plan
- Identify potential new spaces that could be designated as Green Space in addition to the existing Green Space. (recreation ground, allotments, verges, paths, gardens, bridleways and footpaths and any other open space within the Parish).
- Develop our approach to other environmental considerations such as light and noise pollution within the existing village and any new development
- Ensure that our draft plan is evidence based and robust with a clear rationale so that we can be confident that it will be able to be adopted into the Compton NDP.

Finally, it's not too late to take part in any of the three surveys we are running.

The first is on community issues, which you can access via the QR code or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MTZHXVZ>.



The business group has two surveys:

- For Compton businesses  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/X3MB6MQ>
- Regarding the jobs of Compton residents  
The survey can be accessed on our Compton NDP Facebook page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ComptonNeighbourhoodDevelopmentPlan/>

We are still looking for a Housing Association tenant to join the Housing and Development Working Group – we really need all viewpoints. If interested and you would like to chat with the group's chairman, David Norbury, in confidence and without any commitment, please get in touch on the email below and you will be put in contact.

And, of course, the steering committee is happy to answer any questions or receive any discussion points regarding the NDP, its work and objectives at any time – just email [comptonndpsec@outlook.com](mailto:comptonndpsec@outlook.com) or pop a comment on the Facebook page.

Your Neighbourhood Development Team