**WATLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN FORUM**

**Workshop held to assess the draft WNDP policies and objectives against the Sustainability Objectives: Saturday 1st April 2017 at 1.30p.m. at the West Room.**

Present:

WNDPF Environmental Sustainability Group:

Mike Chadwick, Fiona Danks, Peter Danks, Iain Naismith

WNDPF Coordination Group:

Pepita Bianchi, Gill Bindoff, Pauline Harvey, Keith Jackson, Tony Powell, Peter Richardson

WPC NP Steering Committee:

Tom Bindoff, Terry Jackson

Watlington Parish Council:

Ian Hill

Context of the Workshop:

* The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (including the sustainability objectives) had been sent out for informal consultation and had been amended in line with comments received from Natural England, Historic England, the Environment Agency and the Chilterns Conservation Board.
* The draft sustainability objectives had been presented as part of the Summer Roadshows in June 2016 and had received strong public support – 88% of responses rated the objectives good or excellent.
* The objectives of the WNDP also received strong support at the Roadshows – 92% of responses rated them good or excellent. The objectives had been presented with the heading ‘What Watlington Wants’.
* The WNDP policies had been developed over a period of time, with support from SODC, and had been approved by the WPC NP Steering Committee.
* The workshop was held to complete information for the Sustainability Appraisal/Environmental Report in advance of the pre-submission consultation (Consultation 3) on the draft WNDP which was scheduled to run from 18th April to 29th May 2016.

The group discussed and agreed a process for making the assessments. The draft WNDP objectives and policies were assessed in turn by the whole group using a ‘traffic light’ system: green = positive, amber = neutral and red = negative. It was accepted that the outcomes were indicative only because the process was inevitably subjective and that each of the three levels of judgement were very broad. The traffic light system had been adopted earlier in the process to assess development sites against the adopted site selection criteria and this system was continued in order for the processes to be consistent.

Agreements were reached on the assessment of each of the WNDP objectives and policies following thorough discussion and resolution of differing views. Spreadsheets were completed for each set of assessments. Policies for the sites allocated in the WNDP for development – Sites A, B and C – were included in the assessment. It was agreed that the sites available for development but not allocated in the WNDP will be assessed against the Sustainability Objectives at a second workshop.