

Grafton Neighbourhood Plan- call for sites

Over the last few years, there have been big improvements to Grafton Parish to make it a great place to live. Think of the difference that our Coronation Hall has made to the community, or the hard work put into restoring Wilton Windmill. Other volunteers have helped create our wonderful Sunflowers Nursery or transform our broadband supply in Wexcombe and Marten, and now connect our homeworkers in meetings from Zurich to New York!

Grafton Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for the parish, led by a steering group of local people and parish councillors. You can learn more about the NP on our [website](#), it will create a kind of central blueprint for our work as a Council over the next 10 to 15 years. Ultimately, the plan will be subject to a referendum in the parish where local people will decide whether or not to adopt the approach.

Grafton parish is subject to many planning constraints, and the Neighbourhood Plan will allocate land for certain forms of development. The aim is to carefully develop the area, maintaining its character and charm and avoid in-filling (adding new dwellings into small gaps between existing houses). The steering group has agreed a set of local design principles. They conducted an online survey in Summer 2022 where there were 78 respondents. This showed that there was overall support for allocating land for housing and for small commercial enterprises such as a shop or local businesses. The steering group are proposing to develop between 15-30 houses within the parish over the next 15 years.

The steering group is now looking for potential sites to consider

The steering group is asking local landowners to submit information on sites under their control (as owners or otherwise) for the purposes of either housing or for small businesses.

If you have a site that you would like to be considered, please download a copy of the site allocation methodology which can be [found on this link](#) together with maps of the parish.

Please submit the following information if you wish to have a site considered:

1. A statement that you are the landowner and that you can develop the site.
2. A brief statement of what you wish to do on the site, for instance provide a number of dwellings, open a new business, open a farm or village shop, etc.
3. A map showing the full extent of your site. A drawn outline on a downloaded map is fine and can be sent as an image if the submission is made electronically.
4. A confirmation that you will work positively with the steering group to address any planning issues that will arise from your proposal.

You may wish to discuss this with either the steering group or their planning consultant. If you wish to do so, you can contact us on clerk@graftonparish.com and we will get back to you.

This notice does not affect the usual process of applying for planning permission – this can continue to be made at any time in the usual way.

Please ensure that your submissions are **received no later than July 28, 2023.**