**Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Dear Colleagues,

On the 26th February a meeting was held at the Communty Hall to discuss the feasibility of adopting a Neighbourhood Plan for Chattisham & Hintlesham. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of East Bergholt Parish Council, Cllrs Paul Ireland and Rodney Moss were invited to share their experience of the problems and pitfalls of this process. Although East Bergholt is a Core Development Village, it is a similar size and population to our villages, and they are about three quarters of the way through constructing their Neighbourhood Plan.

Thirty Five interested residents, including most of the Parish Council, were in attendance, and they asked some very searching and detailed questions regarding the length of time it is expected to take to complete the process, any funding and grants that might be available, and most importantly would it deliver the protection from over development that residents were seeking.

At the subsequent Parish Council meeting held on March 12th the Parish Council voted to start the process.

The Parish Council had recently learned that Babergh DC had appointed a Senior Planner whose main role would be to guide Parish Councils through the writing and adoption process of Neighbourhood Plans. It was agreed that Peter Eaton would meet the officer concerned, Mr Phil Hodshon, with the intention of finding out as much detail as possible, specifically concerning the initial steps.

The meeting took place on the 30th March, and it is felt that Phil Dodshon will be a great help in the later stages of writing the Plan and getting it adopted.

However, Babergh Planning Team Members Peter Freer and Nick Ward appear to have more expertise in the early stages of the process, so accordingly a meeting has been arranged for May 5th and Chris Leney, Peter Eaton and Ben Cox will attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Peter Eaton

Useful websites;

There will be a new funding regime to be announce shortly, but it will provide similar amounts to the old one i.e. about £7000 per annum

[**http://www.babergh.gov.uk/assets/Uploads-BDC/Economy/Strategic-Planning-Policy/Neighbourhood-Planning/PolicyContextBDC.pdf**](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/assets/Uploads-BDC/Economy/Strategic-Planning-Policy/Neighbourhood-Planning/PolicyContextBDC.pdf)

<http://www.babergh.gov.uk/planning-and-building/community-led-planning/>

[**https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/Awards-For-All**](https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/Awards-For-All)

[**https://www.gov.uk/government/news/23-million-to-get-more-neighbourhood-plans-across-england**](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/23-million-to-get-more-neighbourhood-plans-across-england)