

## Update from the NP Chairman (November 2022)

**On 31st October, the Regulation 15 version of the Neighbourhood Plan was finally submitted to East Suffolk Council (ESC) to enable them to begin Regulation 16 consultation.**

Early drafts of the Regulation 15 version of the Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents were submitted for review to ESC in February 2022. Since then, and after many iterations following feedback from ESC, the Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents have now been completed and submitted to ESC in preparation for the Regulation 16 consultation. The Neighbourhood Plan has also been updated to acknowledge that the Parish Boundary will be extended on 1 April 2023 to incorporate the new 'Wickham Gate' housing development in Pettistree.

ESC will now commence Regulation 16 Consultation which is due to begin on 9 November and they expect to complete the consultation by Christmas. Any representations to the Plan must be submitted within 6 weeks of ESC first inviting representations. ESC may, if it considers it appropriate to do so, refer any issues to independent examination. Once the period for representations is over, ESC will issue its final decision within 5 weeks, or within 5 weeks of receipt of the examiner's report if issues were referred.

Following the Regulation 16 Consultation, further amendment of the Neighbourhood Plan may be made if required. ESC will then call a referendum and should more than half of those voting vote in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan, the plan comes into force as part of the statutory development plan for the area.

The Regulation 15 version of the Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents are all available on our [Key Documents](#) page.

**Cllr Dick Jenkinson, Chairman of Wickham Market Neighbourhood Plan Committee**