



# Volunteers needed!

## Cople Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group needs you!

In 2015 the Parish Council held a number of events for residents and the local community to find out if they were in support of a Neighbourhood Plan and to gather names of volunteers who may be interested in becoming part of a steering group. A steering group was formed and for next two years the team worked hard in starting the process of producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

To get the Neighbourhood plan moving forward again we now need new (and former) volunteers to reform the village steering group to complete this work. We would need approximately six residents to join some Parish councillor's to make a robust team, the commitment would mean attending monthly meetings starting in February (via zoom at the moment) and complete agreed tasks to get the plan moving forward.

### **What is a Neighbourhood Plan?**

Neighbourhood planning is a new way for communities to have a say in the future of the places where they live and work. It gives you the power to produce a plan with real legal weight that directs development in your local area. It helps you:

- choose where you want new homes, shops and offices to be built
- have your say on what those new buildings should look like
- grant planning permission for the new buildings you want to see go ahead

### **Why make a Neighbourhood Plan?**

Once a Neighbourhood Plan is made (adopted) it becomes a formal part of the planning policy for the area alongside Bedford Borough Council's Local Plan. Therefore it forms the basis for determining future planning applications and developments.

### **Who is responsible for preparing the Neighbourhood Plan?**

Preparing a Neighbourhood Plan should be a community led project, put together by the community, for the community. It can bring together residents, businesses, local groups, landowners and developers in order to shape the area in which they live. It is a requirement that Bedford Borough Council are involved throughout the process as it is important that any Neighbourhood Plans fit into the Borough Council's Local Plan 2032.

**For information please visit the Parish Council website**

**<https://cople-pc.gov.uk/cople-parish-council-neighbourhood-plan/>**

**If you are interested in joining please email the clerk before January 29th 2021:**

**[clerk@cople-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cople-pc.gov.uk)**