

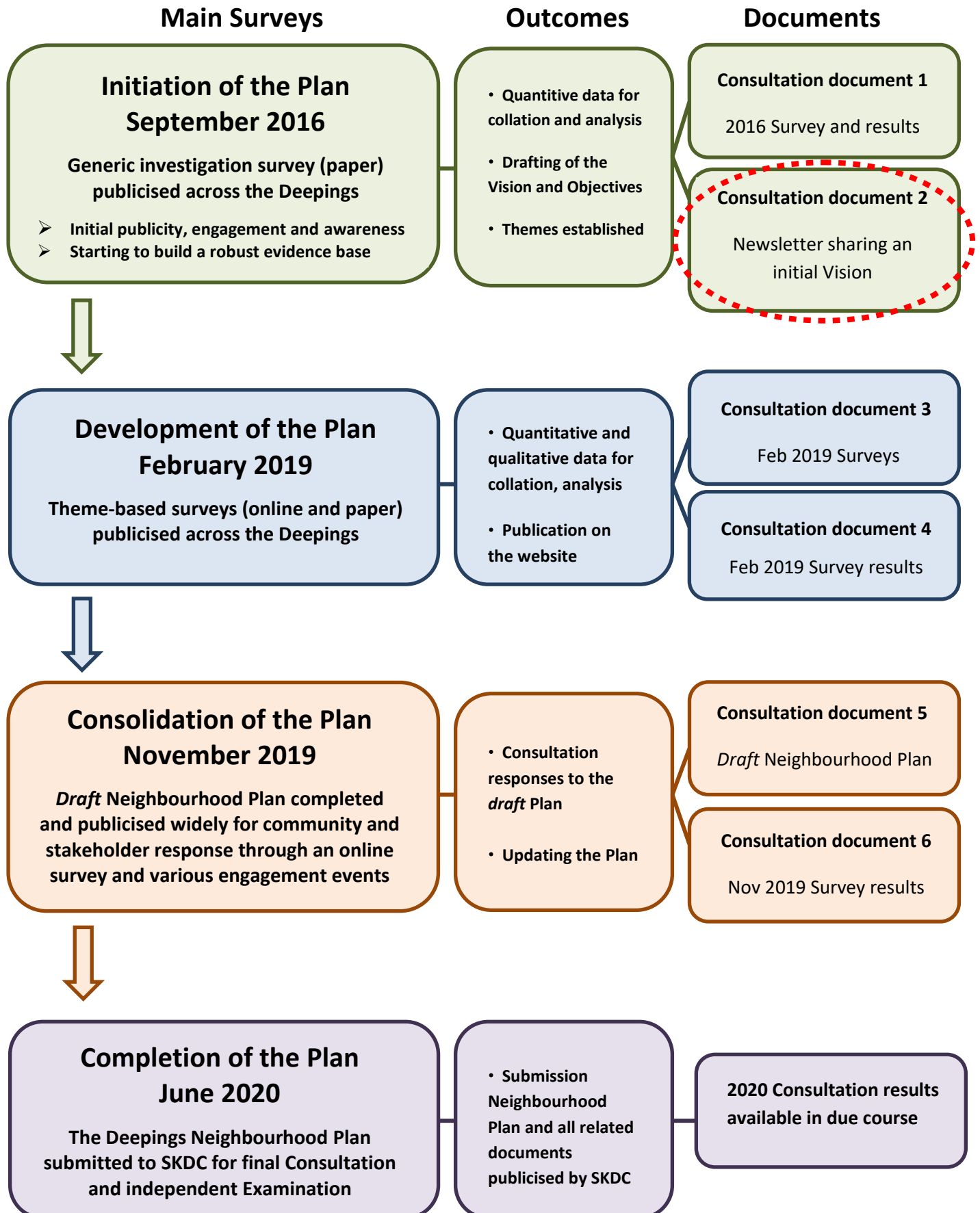
Consultation Document 2

Draft Vision and Objectives Circulated in the Deepings Advertiser

The Deepings Advertiser is hand delivered to all households in the Deepings , approx 5500 plus adjacent villages.
The following newsletter was an A3 folded insert into the Friday 7 July 2017 edition.

The Draft Vision is on the last page

The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Draft) Consultation Framework



Neighbourhood Plan Newsletter July 2017

Feedback & Next Steps

A Neighbourhood Plan is a way that certain planning decisions can be passed down to a local level.

This newsletter is to provide you with feedback on work carried out so far by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to create such a plan.

We provide you with feedback on the questionnaire we did late last year, and also invite you to review our draft vision.

The work is being done voluntarily by local people supporting Market Deeping Town Council and Deeping St James Parish Council. If you want to get involved, or have comments, please contact us via info@deepingsfirst.org.uk or the address below.

1. UPDATE

a. The Neighbourhood Plan production

We are on a steep learning curve. It must be said it has taken us far longer to get where we want to be. To accelerate and develop our work, we have now employed specialists paid for by a successful grant from *Locality* (<http://locality.org.uk/>.)

Locality is a very experienced national organisation that promotes community enterprise, and social action within their communities. Work on this is now active.

b. Our new web site and involving you

We want to improve communication with you. There will shortly be an active web site that we are in the process of building. Creating the plan still requires an input from local people and we still want to know if there are any volunteers out there. Our needs change continually.

For example, right now we want active younger people who will be best placed to see what the outcomes will actually be.

All we ask is that you either

- live or work in the Deepings and have a real interest in its future, or
- are actively involved in local organisations, or
- have specialist experience that may help (e.g. planning, IT, web management, surveying, publishing).

c. Advance warning – From 3 July 2017 – Consultation starts on South Kesteven Council's new District wide Local Plan.

South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) will soon publish their new draft plan for the whole district. This will cover South Kesteven up to 2036, and it will set out a 'high level' direction for new development. It will not necessarily deal with very local issues; that is for our Neighbourhood Plan.

SKDC will be doing their own publicity, and more information on SKDC's new Plan may be found here:

<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8498>

SKDC will allocate large sites in the Deepings for housing and new employment uses to ensure they can meet wider needs.

A significant amount of new housing in the Deepings is now proposed by SKDC (some 830 houses with potential for an additional 2000 or so people of all ages). This is on top of that already permitted but not yet built. We will test their new draft plan against our own emerging ideas, but you are encouraged to involve yourself directly when you see the Council's publicity.

2. THE RESULTS OF OUR FIRST SURVEY.

Thank you to the 658 households who took the time to respond to the “*Have your say*” questionnaire that was circulated between July and September 2016

The views expressed in the responses were intended to provide a basis for topics to be included in the neighbourhood plan and we had hoped to provide feedback sooner. We decided that it would be far more beneficial to use the responses to the questionnaires to offer a vision of how the Deepings would develop over the next 20 years and this has taken some time to discuss and agree.

The data from the completed questionnaires has been collated and analysed, full results will soon be available on our website, www.deepingsfirst.org.uk. The website is currently being updated, but a brief summary of the feedback follows.

As to *what people liked most about living in the Deepings* the most popular responses were

- community spirit,
- the friendliness of the people,
- access to the surrounding countryside.

People also commented positively on

- feeling safe,
- the attractive appearance and size of the Deepings,
- the peaceful atmosphere,
- ease of access to Stamford, Bourne and Peterborough and the very good local schools, medical centre, leisure activities and public transport.

As far as to *what needs improving*, the comments were dominated by concern about

- the general infrastructure as population levels increase, particularly with respect to

stretching even further the resources at the medical centre.

- a desire to have improved road maintenance,
- a better balance of shops,
- more frequent and extended hours for public transport .

From the responses it is clear that the Deepings are a very attractive, comfortable and pleasant place to live but there is a real concern about the ability of the existing infrastructure to cope with, and keep up with, a significant increase in population as additional housing is constructed.

The views of respondents on the questions specifically relating to *aspects of housing* favoured

- affordable homes and starter homes were seen as most important,
- green space within the built environment,
- predominantly owner occupation and of a design that respects the size of neighbouring properties.

The views on *where additional housing should and should not be built* were passed on to SKDC, as they are actively considering details of future housing allocation.

The Deepings will be allocated a proportion of the new homes to be built in Lincolnshire and our latest information is that this will be about 830 homes over the next two decades. If this large increase is favoured (and this is presently not certain), we need to ensure that these additional developments generate improvements for the community and that community assets increase, at least in proportion to the additional population.

The neighbourhood plan will not be able to change the scale of growth, but will give the community a legal document that states what sort of housing additional homes should be and will also allow us to influence the type of infrastructure

necessary to support the additional population.

We will work with other agencies to seek improvements to services, such as schools and medical facilities, communication, green space, getting about and other community resources.

As additional houses are inevitably going to happen we may also want to influence the types, tenure, designs, and the way the new housing connects with the town.

3. A neighbourhood plan vision statement: what is it?

Our draft vision is on the next page. A *neighbourhood plan vision* is a series of statements describing what the Deepings should be like at the end of the plan period in 2036. It is intended to be concise and locally distinctive covering what the area will look like, what facilities will be needed and what it will be like to live and work here. A plan's vision is similar to a company *mission statement* which is a broad statement of intent and a succinct description of the company's core purpose.

Our draft vision presents the area's unique selling points, what makes it a distinctive attractive and desirable place, and tries to address unrealised potential.

Non-planning issues.

It need not focus just on land use planning matters but can reflect social and community aspirations. The non land-use planning aspects are important but can be progressed outside the Neighbourhood Planning process.

What is this vision based on?

The following draft vision is based on responses from the questionnaires. It is also influenced by the results of consultation on previous Conservation Area Plans, Health Checks, and The Deepings Survey. Whilst some of these additional sources of information are a few years old many of the community views expressed historically have a high level of commonality with those from our 2016 questionnaire.

The version presented here will need to be tested against the emerging 'evidence base', and will be the subject of further community consultation.

This is so we can check its sense, making sure it is realistic and forward thinking.

The next stage.

Once the vision is agreed, more detailed desired outcomes will be developed, and detailed policies advanced. We will again ask you what you think when we get there.

Please see what you think about the vision as follows on the next page.

If you have any comments please write to the address below or send an email to info@deepingsfirst.org.uk

Please head any comments 'Draft Vision'

A vision for the Deepings - DRAFT

Please let us have any views in writing by the end of July 2017 via
info@deepingsfirst.org.uk or the address below

By 2036, The Deepings will be two Parishes with one diverse community. It will still have the character of a friendly market town but will have seen growth that is proportionate and appropriate. The result will be:

- *a more attractive place to live, work and play,*
- *a peaceful set of neighbourhoods with live social networks, and*
- *a good place to grow up and grow old in, supporting healthy behaviours and reductions in health inequalities.*

Specifically, we will work together with other agencies to secure

- *The housing needs of present and future residents with a supply that recognises local needs - particularly historic unmet needs of single people and the elderly.*
- *Significant advances in the affordability of large parts of every new major housing development.*
- *Healthier and mixed communities.*
- *Primary and secondary educational place provision in the Deepings matched to meet the needs of all children from the Deepings catchment area.*
- *The promotion of a strong network of attractive walkable streets and cycle routes, more and improved useable green open spaces, and improved countryside connections.*
- *Improved well-being and active healthier lifestyles.*
- *Ease of accessibility to services and facilities, all schools and parks, with barrier-free and safe access by foot, cycle, mobility scooters and wheelchair users.*
- *Continued protection and enhancement of the special heritage character of Market Deeping's established market core, the riverside and Church Street, and the heritage and valued riverside characteristics of Deeping St James.*
- *Additional services and jobs focussed around the Northfield business area, and enhanced neighbourhood service areas/shopping parades.*
- *Growth creating more local jobs allowing for better opportunities to live and work locally.*
- *Increased local spending to stimulate the local retail, leisure and tourist economy.*
- *Growth as a key service centre for our rural catchment.*
- *Enhanced connections to the Deepings from adjacent villages, as well as from the Deepings to Peterborough for access to key services and facilities not offered locally.*