Tilehurst Parish Council

Press Release

12 September 2022

# Consultation on development plan for Tilehurst Parish

## The story so far

A few years ago, Tilehurst Parish Council set up a steering group of local volunteers to draw up a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) for the parish. The NDP was intended to give local residents a say in how the area grows and changes, and the new group launched by holding public meetings, inviting every household to complete a survey, and having a photography competition to see what is liked about the area. After much work, the NDP has been drafted and people who live, work or run a business locally have a chance to have their say.

## What is in the draft NDP?

The NDP sets out a vision for Tilehurst for the next 15 years. It includes chapters on housing, travel, and infrastructure, as well as policies on housing development, affordable homes, domestic energy and sustainability. There are also proposed action plans and projects aimed at making it easier to use footpaths, encourage cycling and reduce the need for car travel, and possibly to develop a new community centre/health hub in the area.

The NDP also designates Local Green Spaces – a way to provide special protection for green areas of importance to the local community.

## Public consultation begins

The public consultation period will run for six weeks from 12 September to 24 October. It offers those who live or work in the area an opportunity to influence the content of the draft NDP before it is finalised.

## Find out more

Anyone wanting to find out more should go to <https://tilehurstpcnp.org.uk/public-consultation> to read the draft NDP, submit comments, or request a printed copy of the plan.

A series of public events is also being held during the consultation period. Anyone who lives or works in Tilehurst Parish (the part of Tilehurst in West Berkshire) is welcome to drop in and meet members of Tilehurst Parish Council and the steering group, who look forward to hearing residents’ views.

Friday 23 September, 6pm-9pm. Turnhams Farm Hall, Little Heath Road, Reading RG31 5TX

Saturday 1 October, 2pm-6pm. Cornwell Centre, Home Croft, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 5WJ

Wednesday 5 October, 6pm-9pm. Calcot Centre, Highview, Calcot, Reading RG31 4XD

### Notes for Editors

**The Tilehurst Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** is a team of volunteers working on behalf of Tilehurst Parish Council to consult with the community and develop a Neighbourhood Development Plan to cover the area served by the Parish Council

Neighbourhood planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act 2011. Communities can shape development in their areas through the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders.

Neighbourhood Development Plans become part of the Local Plan and the policies contained within them are then used in the determination of planning applications. Policies produced cannot block development that is already part of the Local Plan. What they can do is shape where that development will go and what it will look like.

**Tilehurst Parish Council** serves the communities of Birch Copse, Calcot, Denefield and Westwood: a population of 15,500 covering an area of 11 square miles. Situated to the west of Reading, Tilehurst Parish extends from the A4 in the south to a few metres short of the A329 in the north.  The Reading boundary forms the eastern border while its western border follows the line of the Sulham escarpment.

### Contact

Tilehurst Parish Council

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