



To: **Eckington Village Community as a Whole**  
20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **OPEN LETTER**

### **Eckington Neighbourhood Plan**

As you will be aware the Plan was overwhelmingly approved by the village through the referendum at the end of January. The purpose of this open letter is to update you all about what happens next.

The Steering Group will imminently be disbanded, and it is our desire to ensure that everybody understands their role in the delivery of the benefits of the Plan.

Open letters have also been sent to the School, the Parish Council and the Church (these are on the Neighbourhood Plan web site, [www.eckingtonplan.com](http://www.eckingtonplan.com)).

Your participation in the Village Survey and subsequent Consultation events gave a good picture of what the village would like going forward:

- Limited development providing the type of homes we want, aimed at keeping the school strong
- Improved road safety around the School and the Recreation Centre.
- Provide the School with land to expand.
- Create open spaces.
- Improve car parking.
- Provide land for future community facilities.

The plan provides the opportunity to realise all of the above, and in particular the donation of community land which the plan secures gives rise to the following possibilities:

- A footway to allow access between the recreation ground and Roman Meadows 2, creating a safe pedestrian route to the Recreation Centre.
- An extension to the cemetery on Pershore Road.
- Green Space and potential additional playing fields for the Recreation Centre.
- Land with the potential to become an overflow car park for the Recreation Centre.
- A new access road to the overflow car park from Pershore Road.
- Provision of land with the potential to build a future Community Building.
- School Car Park and potential Drop off – for Community use outside School hours.
- Land for a playing field for the School (and Community outside School hours)
- Opportunity to expand current school buildings onto the existing playing field.

But why stop there, the list could be endless. If you are part of a group in the village, say Junior Football or Under Fives for instance, you may come up with an idea and wish to make a case for it. Someone suggested a community woodland for example.

One thing's for sure, these things won't happen on their own. The residents of Eckington have shown time and time again how groups working together can achieve great things, Eckstock and Open Gardens to name but two. The School, Parish Council and Church are fully aware of the possibilities, but it will be for the residents of Eckington to really make things happen. Your support and enthusiasm will really make a difference.

So, if you want to get involved, have some new ideas or can contribute in any way, particularly if you have fund raising, project management or facilitation expertise, then please contact the Parish Council.

### **Background to this document**

This document accompanies similar open letters written to the Church, the School and the Parish Council. The Steering Group will be disbanded shortly, and we wish these letters to record the intent of the Plan as well as to help ensure the opportunities created by the plan are realised for the benefit of the whole community. The views within these open letters are supported by the entire Steering Group.

Signed on behalf of  
Eckington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Cilla Cameron  
Colin Chapman  
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