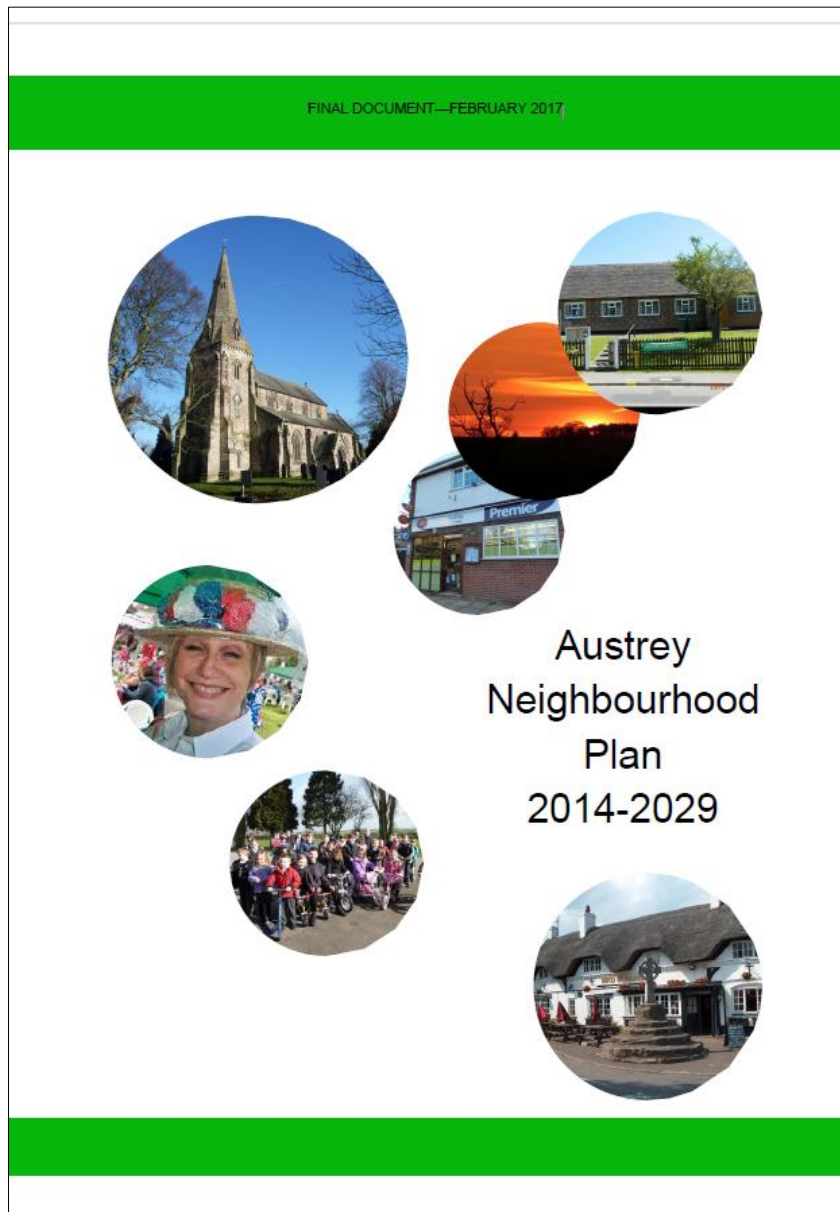


Austrey Neighbourhood Plan Review 2023 – 2029

Launch Event and Informal Consultation on Key Planning Issues



Background

Welcome to the Austrey Neighbourhood Plan Review.

The Review Plan will update the previous Austrey Neighbourhood Development Plan 2014 - 2029 which was prepared by a steering group on behalf of the Parish Council, examined and subjected to a local referendum. The Plan was made (adopted) by North Warwickshire Borough Council in June 2017.

As this is a formal Review, the Parish Council will have to follow the process set out in Government guidance and regulations, and the Plan will have to respect national planning policy and North Warwickshire Borough Council's Local Plan policies.

The Review process will follow a similar process to the first neighbourhood plan so there will be plenty of opportunities to comment.

An independent examiner will undertake an examination of the Review Plan and will decide whether or not there will be another Referendum. This will depend on whether the 'material modifications' are so significant they change the nature of the Plan.

When the Plan Review is finished and 'made' (adopted) by North Warwickshire Borough Council, the policies will be used to help determine planning applications alongside the policies in the adopted North Warwickshire Local Plan 2021.

Why are we undertaking a Review?

- The made NDP was prepared some years ago and is out of date.
- In order to be used to help guide decisions on planning applications neighbourhood plans should be reviewed from time to time and kept up to date.
- There have been changes to national planning policies and a new Local Plan for North Warwickshire has been adopted.
- Austrey has seen significant housing development in recent years in and around the village and continues to see interest and pressure from local developers and landowners for more development.
- We want to ensure our neighbourhood plan remains up to date and relevant so that new development proposals are well designed, provide the right sizes and types of housing needed locally, and important open spaces and the natural environment are protected.

Progress so Far

- The Parish Council undertook a Parish Housing Needs Survey in 2021/22 to better understand the housing needs of local people.
- Consultants Kirkwells have been commissioned to support the Review process and to provide professional town planning advice.
- A Steering Group has been set up to oversee the Plan's preparation on behalf of the Parish Council.
- We have started to consider the extent and scope of the Review and this launch is the first step in finding out what local people want to see addressed.

Key Planning Themes

The existing Neighbourhood Plan included policies under the following themes.

We need to check that these are still the main issues that are important to local people:

- Protecting local landscape character and wildlife.
- Protecting important open spaces and views.
- Farm diversification and renewable energy.
- Housing design, including high quality and sustainable design and supporting walking and cycling.
- Housing development, including windfall development and housing allocations.
- Meeting local housing needs.

Please complete and return the short Questionnaire about these key planning issues and include comments about any other issues you want to see addressed in the Review Plan.

Thank you. Your responses will help the Steering Group prepare the Draft Plan.