

## **ASH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026**

Over the course of 2025, the Ash Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Committee oversaw the development of the Ash Neighbourhood Plan. Since March 2025, the plan progressed from the pre-consultation stage, through drafting and production of the Regulation 14 consultation stage in the Summer.

This feedback was used to make the submission version of the document, which was approved by Full Council and submitted to Guildford Borough Council on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025. It then entered the Regulation 15 consultation stage and, as of the date of this meeting, has concluded that consultation that has lasted from 20<sup>th</sup> Jan – 9<sup>th</sup> March. After this, the plan will go to an independent examiner and then referendum.

Working with consultants ONH, who liaised between us, Locality, AECOM and others to produce specialised elements of the plan, the plan was created at a pace designed to protect and guide the future development of Ash, Ash Vale and Ash Green as soon as possible. This has included, among other policies, the additional development of design codes, local green space designations and the creation of a local gap and strengthening wording around protecting Ash Green's identity as a village.

The tireless work of our council staff, including the Clerk Ali Watmore, must be recognised as to the picking up of a significant amount of the hard work collating the information to be delivered to our consultant team, contacting respondents, and communicating between them, us and Guildford Borough Council.

With the stage the plan is currently at, unless feedback from the independent planning examiner comes back that requires us to make changes, I do not anticipate a meeting of the committee needed in the near future.

Councillor Michael Moriarty

Chair of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee