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Report from the Planning Committee 2016-2017 - Cllr. Margaret Gosling

The past year has been busy for the Planning Committee with responses to major planning applications to be considered, a response to the Local Plan Review to be made and attempts to progress with the Neighbourhood Plan. The committee has also had to consider responses to many other planning applications. These are always done with the aim of attempting to achieve the best possible outcome for local residents

The application for development in Blythe Valley Park took up a great deal of time and a planning consultant was appointed in order for us to put forward our case. Unfortunately, SMBC passed this application and allowed the second access into Kineton Lane which had been strongly opposed. Time was also spent trying to influence the outcome of the application for the second phase of development on the Mount Dairy Farm site. Members of the Parish Council have also been keeping a careful eye as building has taken place on this site and have reported several issues of concern to the builders, SMBC and Considerate Construction. We have had some success in ensuring that not too many problems have remained. We would ask that residents continue to report any issues of concern to the Parish Council so that we can try to get a resolution.

Members have also sent a response to the Local Plan Review to SMBC and this can be found on our website. We are very concerned at the amount of housing development proposed either in our Parish or nearby and have made this clear.

Progress on the Neighbourhood Plan has unfortunately been slow for a number of reasons - changes in those working on it, a lack of volunteers to help with this and other major issues that have had to take priority. However, we have almost completed another document outlining the issues we feel need most consideration and will shortly be circulating this to residents to ask for their views. The Parish Council would appreciate as much feedback on this as people can give as the development of a Neighbourhood Plan and its acceptance will affect the future of our community for years to come.