

West Chiltington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

Wednesday 27 August 2014, 7.30pm

APPROVED MINUTES

Present:-

Amanda Apps
Gillian Bradley

Norman Kirby
Clive Needham

Jane Needham
Robert Thornton

1. Apologies. None. All members of SG present

2. Matters Arising. None

3. Election of new Chairman. Due to personal reasons Harvie had resigned as both Interim Chair and member of the P&BE Working Group. It was agreed that Jane would email Active members and invite nominations/self-nomination. If more than one person comes forward a ballot of Active members would take place at the WCNPC meeting on 8 September. Each candidate would provide a brief statement which would be circulated prior to 8 September to allow members time for consideration.

4. Update on P&BE (Norman). Previously no output document had been produced, along the lines of the work that the other WGs had provided for the Plan. There was general agreement on the issues but specific objectives and policies had not been determined. Michael Jackson had joined the P&BE WG with Gillian, Bruce and Norman offering further assistance. As no one wished to act as Lead, Norman had taken this on.

The group agreed to attempt to identify the potential developments sites in the Parish including the SHLAA sites and subject them to an objective appraisal. Robert would prepare the list of sites showing their size and Bruce would draft an assessment sheet drawing on similar documents used by HDC and other councils. The P&BE group was due to meet on 28 August 2014 to start the appraisal process. There were no 'forward plans' available from the Church/Village Hall/Golf Club or similar to include in the assessment.

5. NP Up-date. Although it had been hoped to have an initial draft Plan ready for the August NPC meeting this had not been achieved because of lack of P&BE policies. Comments on the draft were still coming in and an updated version was being compiled but it still has significant gaps and would not be circulated until the remaining issues had been clarified. Norman had compiled a note regarding the requirement of having a SA/SEA Screening proposal and sent it to Laura Bourke for HDC's view on whether this work needed to be undertaken. [Subsequently HDC had advised that this work would have to be undertaken.]

It has become clear that the HDC Planning Framework will need to complete its independent examination before any Neighbourhood Plan is sent to the Inspectorate for its examination. This puts the timing into the Spring of next year.

6. NE Sustainability Appraisal. Amanda was concerned that the work the NE survey group had undertaken could potentially be retrospectively deemed insufficient thus causing the Plan to fail or be open to legal challenge at some future point. After discussion SG felt that NE had covered the topic as well as could be expected and the group's ongoing work would be referred to in the sustainability appraisal.

7. Preparation for NPC Meeting of 8th September. Norman said he would put together a Presentation to run through the P&BE process so far.

8. Any Other Business. In the absence any other member of the SG or P&BE WG being available, Clive volunteered to attend Thakenham's Planning Consultation Workshop on 10 September 2014.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.