

## Council Offices, Commercial Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 8NG 01305 239839 – office@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk

## **NOTES OF MEETING**

Meeting: Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

Date & Time: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm

Place: Council Chamber, The New Town Hall, Commercial Road

**PRESENT:** 

Chair: Cllr David Northam

Steering Group Members: Cllr Ann Weaving, Cllr Colin Huckle, Michael Bevan, Penny Quilter, Phil Watts,

Rob Cheeseman, Colin Marsh, Sandie Wilson. **Project Support:** Michele Williams, Jane Biscombe

Special Attendance: N/A

## **SUPPORTING PAPERS:**

1. Notes of Special Mtg 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023

- 2. Notes of SG mtg 11th April 2023
- 3. Comments on Policy Content of WNP Initial Draft
- 4. Evidence Paper for WNP02
- 5. NP LGS Proposals
- 6. SEA Supplementary Note on Site Preferences

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	BY WHOM
1.	Welcome and Apologies:		
	David welcomed everyone.		
	Apologies were received from Cllr Colin Huckle and Lara Wood.		
2.	Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising:	Approved for	Michele
	Minutes of the Special Meeting held 04/05/2023 and the Steering Group meeting held 11/04/2023 were approved.	Release	
	Still to arrange communications meeting with Sarah H to look at presenting some positive messages in preparation for public consultation.		
3.	Full Council Meeting 3 <sup>rd</sup> May & feedback from Paul Weston:  David wanted to thank everyone for their support at the FC meeting and asked for thoughts from everyone.  There were no stupid questions – all seemed well thought through;  Others who had watched online said that it was very professionally presented;  Michael wanted to iterate he is keen to help and thought that it showed up the 2 council members who were negative.		

ITEM		DISCUSSION	ACTION	BY WHOM
		ned that we now have a responsibility to keep the		
	Councillor up	o to date on our progress which he will aim to keep doing.		
	Discussion r	e Paul's Feedback:		
	Discussion o	n the following with decision:		
	Policy	Decision		
	WNP17	agreed – we need to state there will be a policy protecting of and Local Listings. Discussion on how to address Design to follow later.		
	WNP18	David encouraged others to respond to the DC Planning for Climate Change Consultation by 8 <sup>th</sup> June.		
	WNP21	Noted – will pick up in discussions with DC (David spoke to Nick Cardnell about a meeting for the last week in June).	Arrange mtg with	Michele
	WNP25	Yes - Agreed	DC ref	
	WNP27	Agreed for future update	Policies	
	WNP28	Yes - Agreed		
	WNP30	Flag for future update		
	WNP31	Suggested 24 months – for future update		
	WNP33	Decision we can make later		
	WNP34	There are other policies that cover car parking – No Action		
	WNP35	Noted		
	WNP41	Noted		
	WNP45	Need to polish last sentence – future update	\A/NID 47.	N 4: - l l -
	WNP47	Information was there but box needed expanding	WNP47:	Michele
	WNP51	Will need to respond down the line – future update	Amend online	
	Rob did question if we have Paul the expert questioning if there is a potential danger if we change what he has suggested. Colin responded that there have been occasions where Paul has been asked to either amend something which not undertaken for whatever reason and therefore, we had taken over the document have made changes which we believe reflect the local area. Also discussed that we have the right to challenge things.			
	Heanes hav unsure why of concern, response. Post Meeti	ore conversations with DC – Nick Cardnell and Helen e said that the document has been approved and therefore it has not been sent to us. They say that there is nothing but we would like to read it ourselves. Jane to chase ng Note: Response received 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2023.	Chase DC response	Jane
4.	SEA Next Ste	eps:		
	Colin explair	eation of WNP02 ned that when engaging with partners they use the DERC nation. These are the proposed basis for discussions, Colin ned with Paul but not yet looked at by Paul. The hope is that	Agree there should be update.	Colin / Paul

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	BY WHOM
	Paul will look at these and develop these – want to prevent blanket wording across Tiers. Colin explained how the Tiers work.	Details to be agreed.	
	(b) Clarification of Sites for consideration -Supplementary Notes of Initial Draft for SEA		
	David went through the document and explained the recommendations  – all agreed in principle, we will ask for the whole scope of development i.e. specify the min and max number of homes then we can get steer. Still exploring the art of the possible.	Agrood	David
	David to make changes to Westwey House information following meeting with Weir Group representatives.	Agreed	David
	(c) Clarification of WNP11: Local Green Spaces  Colin M produced a report on the current status of LGS submissions and used a traffic light system to denote suitability of LGS submissions to date, noting that submissions were still being received. Some sites would benefit from protection through specific policy and Colin recommended that where borderline suitability existed, taking into account the consultants assessment, we should try for LGS as opposed to being overcautious. He commented that If we apply for LGS without additional policy to back this up rejection at examination would leave us without any protection. It was agreed to update the LGS list and to liaise with our consultant on the SG position and addressing landowner objections and to update the assessments taking into account the SG views The recommendations were accepted.  CM emphasised the following.	Amend doc	Colin / Paul
	<ul> <li>A number of landowners objections had been received. These would be fully considered and would need to demonstrate that a site did not meet the requirements of the NPPF. Objection was not an automatic veto.</li> <li>Noted that land at Beverley Road has both submissions for LGS and for development and further consultation with local residents would be required prior to a decision. In situations such as this options for community provision such as allotments should be considered alongside the benefits of LGS status.</li> </ul>		
	(d) Clarification of WNP10: Green Gaps  Not specifically discussed will seek advice via the SEA		
	(e) Clarification of WNP16: Development Boundaries  Noted that this will need to be agreed with DC at some point.		
	(f) Deleted Policy WNP17: We will flag that we will have such a policy. David keen to have a baseline to move forward with then get to point for publication.		

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	Penny questioned whether they would look at everything when undertaking the assessment i.e. habitat etc – David confirmed they will look at everything.		
5	Communications Next Steps:		
	David explained his thoughts on publication and the need for some positive messages via Echo and other local publications. All agreed the way forward, meeting to be arranged with Sarah from Comms team and invite to everyone so that if anyone would like to attend, in particular the theme leads.	Arrange mtg with Comms	Michele
	<b>UPDATE:</b> Meeting arranged for Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May @ 10am in Council Chamber.		
6.	Dorset Council Next Steps:		
	We still waiting for the response from Dorset Council, issue that 3 different departments are		
7.	Code of Conduct/Consultation Statement Update:		
	David still to write to Locality to ask for guidance. We have not published our 3 <sup>rd</sup> engagement, want to include in the plan how the responses might have been distorted.	Write to Locality	David
	Sandie questioned whether we could have a covering document which explains the status of how the responses and why we paused.  David explained that yes, we will once we have a response from Locality and felt uncomfortable about sending out anything before the response from Locality.	Update Survey Report	David / Paul
8.	Project Meeting Including Risk Register:		
	Deferred to next meeting.  David reminded everyone that DC is undertaking their Planning for Climate Change consultation which closes 8 <sup>th</sup> June and encouraged everyone to take part.	Review next SG	Michele
9.	Any Other Business:		
	<b>Rob:</b> Green week is coming up $10^{th} - 18^{th}$ June which will showcase what is already being done – query whether the SG would like to have something at the event. David and Rob to have chat.	Chat re showcase	David / Rob
	<b>David:</b> At the last Full Council meeting on 10/05/2023 Lucy Hamilton nominated Pete Dickenson to join the Steering Group. David was unaware that Lucy was going to do this, and the reasons why are unknown.		
	David informed them that the Council cannot decide this as per the Terms of Reference the decision lies with the SG members. David had sent an email to Pete Dickenson asking for a resume and providing his background and why he wishes to join the SG.		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	BY WHOM
	Phil responded that he was not happy and surprised that Lucy had put Pete forward, which others agreed – also questioned whether this meant that Lucy was stepping down as TOR delegate that only 4 councillors would be on the SG, to ensure not Council led.  David advised that any formal complaints to be sent to him directly.  Post Meeting Note: Pete Dickinson has since advised 'After a week of thought and refection I now consider that it would not be appropriate, beneficial or indeed in the best interest of my residents to join the steering group.'		
10.	Dates of Future Meetings:  Date: Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2023  Time: 7pm  Venue: Council Chamber		

Meeting ended at 9:14pm