

NOTES OF MEETING

Meeting: Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

Date & Time: Monday 11th February at 7.00pm

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

PRESENT:

Chair: Cllr David Northam

Steering Group Members: Cllr Colin Huckle, Michael Bevan, Penny Quilter, Phil Watts, Colin Marsh, , Rob Cheeseman, Paul Weston

Project Support: Michele Williams

| ITEM | DISCUSSION | ACTION | BY WHOM |
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| 1. | <p>Welcome and Apologies:</p> <p>David welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. Apologies were received from Cllr Ann Weaving.</p> | | |
| 2. | <p>Minutes & Matters Arising:</p> <p>Point 2.2: David has heard from Jonathan Mair and has confirmed that DC will not move from their position regarding accepting the Neighbourhood Plan during the Period before Election Process (PEP) period. But is happy to meet with David during this period.</p> <p>Phil has not met DC Littlemoor Cllr O’Leary.</p> <p>Minutes of last meeting held 8th January were approved – to be uploaded onto website.</p> <p>David informed group that there has been another Freedom of Information Request and expects there will be a few more to come.</p> | <p>Meet with Jonathan Mair</p> <p>Overtaken by events Upload onto web page</p> | <p>DN</p> <p>MW</p> |
| 3. | <p>Viability Briefing from George Venning</p> <p>Due to not having received a response from GV in time for this meeting there is no briefing from him this evening but David will chase for briefing at next meeting in March.</p> | <p>Invite to another meeting</p> | <p>DN/MW</p> |
| 4. | <p>Confirmation by SG of direction from Task Groups</p> <p><u>Task Group 1: Local Green Spaces</u> Agreed to move forward with all submissions, although concerns around the DC land submissions, apart from one of the newer submissions. There were two additional submissions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - one for an allocation of land at Nottingham This was disputed by both land owners and both CM and PW have suggested removing it as there is not enough strength in the | | |

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| | <p>application for it to be a LGS, besides it was felt the only reason this submission was made was to stop any future development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a small growing space at Chapelhay <p>This belongs to DC and from enquiries there had been some discussion between DC and WTC the land was potentially going to be handed over to WTC but no correspondence from DC to WTC for a while. It was agreed to take this one forward and add to the current submissions.</p> <p>PW has requested a table showing the current applications, their description and the reason for their submission i.e. which criteria they met. Discussion around once table completed we need to ensure that they are not duplicated in other policies – if duplicated and rejected then we could lose it entirely. Being under LGS only is stronger as an allocation. Need to review the Green Gaps as well.</p> <p>Task Group 2: General agreement.</p> <p>Policy 35: Some discussion on difficulty in finding space for social housing, and if we allow housing only on Greenfield sites they need to be not for second homes or B&B's.</p> <p>Phil W view is that principal residency should be within the Weymouth Neighbourhood Town Area, more chance of getting policy through if housing is in town areas.</p> <p>Policy 42: agreed</p> <p>Policy 58: include that if changing a community building can only be to another community building.</p> <p>SET's: PW fed back that general consensus from responses were supportive, but some suggestions for changes. Raised that there might be confusion on in Plan as refers to SET's (Strategic Environment Targets) and sets – need to look at changing terminology, clarify language.</p> <p>Policy 23: recognise that 10% minimum so therefore can go higher and our aim is to put 15% (similar to what Guildford have done).</p> <p>Policy 31: concentrate on public transport change to sustainable to possibly include walkable neighbourhoods. Question on how we can get as close as possible to what is mandatory.</p> <p>Task Group 3: The following sites were discussed Beverley Road, St Nicholas: responses were generally favourable and no planning obstacles that could not be overcome.</p> <p>Jubilee Site: slight change then take forward.</p> | | |

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| | <p>Lodmoor Old Tip: difficult due to response from DC and the impact on SSSI, agreed by SG to retain until we can look further into these. Further discussions with DWT and DC required.</p> <p>Park & Ride: Agreed take forward</p> <p>Task Group 4:</p> <p>Redlands: keen to retain and go for the 50% affordable homes. There is a need for a community facility – should already be in the set of standards from Planning Authority (DC).</p> <p>Budmouth: most objections but they are not planning objections more of personal nature. Need to address some of the issues raised by DC from the 2018 Options work.</p> | | |
| 5. | <p>Brief from Paul Weston:</p> <p>Discussion around the feedback from Paul Weston, and his suggested changes as a result of comments from public or from other larger agencies i.e. DC.</p> <p>PW explained that he has read everything and tried to take account of all comments. He feels that the suggested changes will ensure the remaining policies are more acceptable to those who will be scrutinising the Plan going forward. They are however suggestions. It is for the SG to either accept the changes or otherwise.</p> <p>Question as to whether we can have the rationale on where changes have been made so that when we have to feedback to the public we are able to show that we have considered the feedback and then show reasons for either accepting or not accepting them. Will also help with our consultation statement. PW agreed to answer any queries he received about his recommendations.</p> <p>MB wanted to make sure that we remember the plan is for the future and therefore any changes or policies that are taken forward need to have this in mind.</p> <p>Penny wanted to thank PW for all his hard work on the plan and in producing the working document, and felt that it would be unfair to send all the responses to PW individually and asked if Michele could receive the responses to the proposed policy change document then we could have a task group to look through before sending to Paul to implement. Agreed by the SG.</p> <p>Paul explained that although he is making change to the policies he is not amending the actual Plan – that would be for the SG to undertake, and also suggested we look at the format and take into consideration comments made about the layout etc of the plan – he suggested could reduce the number of pages by as many as 50 if we reduce some of the supporting text and non-land use related information, which would not impact the plan.</p> | <p>Send responses to MW</p> <p>Send to PW once agreed by Task Group</p> | <p>ALL</p> <p>MW</p> |

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| | Michele explained that she is already working on a portrait version where there are still two columns for the text but the maps etc will be on a full page to ensure they are more legible which has been raised as an issue, and changes some images etc.” | | |
| 6. & 7. | <p>Discussion on Further Discussions with Other Parties / Steps moving forward</p> <p>There is further discussion needed with the Planning Authority and various departments who have commented on the plan. Meetings to be arranged over next coming months.</p> <p>David updated that there will be a delay as we are unable to submit the plan until after the PEP period, but due to the volume of comments and the work still needed in analysing them we would not be ready to submit before the PEP period which starts on 16th March. We still have to submit the revised Plan to WTC before we can submit to DC.</p> <p>Therefore this gives us time to continue to work through the analysis of the plan and decide what will be changed and what will not be changed; give us time to redraft the plan accordingly; submit to WTC Full Council (possibly at a Special Meeting after 15th May).</p> <p>We will issue a Press Release on the delayed timescale so public aware kept informed.</p> | <p>Arrange meetings</p> <p>Liaise with Comms</p> | <p>DN/MW</p> <p>DN/CM/MW</p> |
| 7. | <p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>CH informed group that he would be stepping down as a councillor – everyone expressed their sadness but wished him well.</p> <p>DN read out a letter that had been sent to him from Cllr Joanna Dickenson and mentioned that they had met to discuss the background to the sites in Preston.</p> | | |
| 8. | <p>Dates of Future Meetings:</p> <p>Date: Monday 11th March 2024 Time: 7pm Venue: Council Chamber</p> <p>Date: Monday 8th April 2024 Time: 7pm Venue: Council Chamber</p> <p>Date: Monday 13th May 2024 Time: 7pm Venue: Council Chamber</p> <p>Date: Monday 10th June 2024 Time: 7pm Venue: Council Chamber</p> | | |

Meeting ended at 9:10pm