

STAPLEHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW GROUP

Minutes of meeting held on 15 August, 2018

Present: Robin Oakley(RO), Cllr.Joan Buller(JB), Colin Bowden (CB), Cllr. Tom Burnham (TB), John Kelly (JK), Cllr. Gill Smith (GS), Robin Kenworthy (RK), Margaret Arger (MA)(Chairman), Colin Love (CL), Adele Sharp (AS).

Apologies for absence: Cllr. John Perry

1. **Membership of Group.** No changes.
2. **Minutes of Meeting on 25 July, 2018.** No comments or matters arising.
3. **David Wilson Homes (DWH) Land north of Marden Road.** The Chairman thanked Colin Bowden and Robin Oakley for the work that they had undertaken in examining and reporting on the David Wilson Homes layout drawings for surface water and foul water drainage systems. She reported that the Parish Council's Planning Committee had considered the DWH planning applications for drainage systems and road humps on the Marden Road and had recommended refusal. RK stressed that in those areas which were to become wildlife areas it was important that the topsoil is not disturbed. TB stressed the importance of removing bulrushes from surface water storage ponds.
4. **Reported Planning Decisions by MBC.** The outline planning application for construction of 6 new bungalows on the East side of Maidstone Road has been refused by MBC. Planning permission has been granted for the use of the former Spuds and Buds shop as a tattoo parlour, and for the Royal Oak, (Helen's Coffee House) to revert to its original use as a public house.
5. **Review of Staplehurst Neighbourhood Plan.** As requested at the last meeting, group members came armed with suggestions for revisions and amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan. These were discussed and will be detailed on a separate paper which will be attached to these minutes.
6. **Lodge Road and Station Area Regeneration.** It was reported that work continues on the car park extension at the railway station although it was noted that it bears no relationship to the Neighbourhood Plan, which is disappointing.
7. **The Parade.** The brick pavements have been relaid and the vegetation on the two beds has been stripped. Whilst it is now bare it does not look as unsightly as it did.
8. **Sainsbury's.** Nothing to report.
9. **Register of Listed Buildings and Parish Assets.** JB reported that the parish council is going ahead with the registration of the public library and the King's Head public house as public assets. It was further agreed by the group that the public toilets in Bell Lane and the defibrillator on the external wall of the public library should also be registered as community assets.
10. **Dates of next meetings.** 26 September, 31 October