

**Little Milton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**  
**Minutes of meeting held on 31st January 2017 at The Old Stores: Haseley Road**

:

**Attendees**

Barry Coward (Parish Councillor) - Chairman

Bertie Bright (Councillor)

Raymond Fergusson (Parish Clerk)

**1. Apologies**

The Chairman informed the meeting that apologies had been received from Elizabeth Swabey-Collison, Ian Dennis and Kate Daunt.

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2017 were accepted as true record of the meeting

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**4. Community First Oxfordshire**

Raymond reported that he had responded to Locality who had requested a more detailed breakdown to support the grant application of £3000. He stated that Fiona Mullins had provided the necessary information to support the grant application. It was hoped that the steering group would receive the result of their application w/c 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

**5. Feedback on 20th January NPD Conference**

The Chairman gave a report on the NPD Conference chaired by John Howell MP on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at Benson Village Hall that he and Raymond had attended. The conference was attended by a number of parishes that were at various stages of developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Chairman expressed the view that it had been a very useful meeting. A copy of the notes prepared by the Chairman are attached to the minutes for reference.

**6. Impact of Chalgrove proposals on NPD**

The Chairman referred to the Enquiry by Design Boards Day 1 on the GVA website in which it referred to the provision of a new airstrip for Martin Baker. The Chairman was concerned that this would be costly and could reduce the amount of other monies available for infra-structure. The Boards also refer to the drainage and sewerage system and he stated that he had registered his concern that this could have an adverse impact on the Haseley Brook and the surrounding area that was already prone to flooding. A full report of Day 1 can be found on the following link. <http://chalgroveairfield.gva.co.uk/docs/Enquiry%20by%20Design%20Boards%20-%20Day%201.pdf>

**7. Village Survey**

The Chairman stated that the final report received from Simon Purfield had been circulated to Steering Group members. The Chairman stated that he was happy with the report and Steering Group members concurred.

**8. Progress on outstanding consultations**

The Chairman stated that he was still waiting on a response from OCC Highways in respect of the impact of road developments that might arise out of the new strategic settlements at Chalgrove or Harrington.

## **9. Evidence base-Background Document-progress**

The Chairman updated the Steering Group on the status of the Evidence Base in respect of the background documents:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| • Baseline Information                      | Updated and complete |
| • Planning Factors                          | Updated and complete |
| • Planning History                          | Updated and complete |
| • Environmental Factors                     | Updated and complete |
| • Landscape Character & Capacity Assessment | Updated and complete |
| • Infrastructure & Capacity                 | Updated and complete |
| • Housing Needs Assessment                  | Updated and complete |

The following documents are still under review

- Village Character: This is being expanded and is currently awaiting comments from Ian Dennis, Kate Daunt and Raymond Fergusson
- Housing Needs Assessment: This has been reviewed and is awaiting housing values data
- Roads. As reported this is with OCC awaiting comment
- Local Green Spaces: This is currently under discussion and a preliminary paper is attached to the minutes for completeness.

## **10. Aspects of the plan that are currently unclear**

There was a discussion on the designation of Local Green Spaces within the Plan. The Chairman reported that he had contacted Ricardo Rios on a number of matters including Local Green Spaces. The Chairman referred to the National Planning Guidance Policy that states the key aspects that need to be considered when designating Local Green Spaces. It was against this background that the steering group identified three options for consideration

- The recreation ground
- BBOWT field
- Allotments

The Chairman reported that he had contacted Fiona Mullins in respect of Ditchend Farm with regards to whether the Neighbourhood Plan should make any particular reference to the site. The Chairman stated that the advice given was the need to write down what we would want to achieve without detailing any specific proposals. Our statement of need would be translated into appropriate planning language within the Plan.

The Chairman outlined the concept of Protecting Views within the village and incorporating them within the Plan. He stated that he had received advice from Fiona Mullins and a number of options were outlined for consideration. The initial list were

- Views of the church from South and West of the village
- 2 views out of the village to the Wittenham Clumps
- A view of Fletchers Farmhouse
- A view of Great Haseley windmill
- Some linear views along part of the High Street and the Haseley Road

This matter will be discussed more fully at a future meeting.

The Chairman reported that the advice he had received from SODC was not to attempt to include affordable housing outside the Green Belt. This is because the policies and proposals within the neighbourhood plan needs to be deliverable. If the land owner is not in favour of developing the site for affordable housing the neighbourhood planning examiner might view the policy as undeliverable since the site would not be made available by the land owner.

You can have policies referring to rural exception sites but the advice was that you should not identify/allocate the sites we consider suitable as rural exception sites.

#### **11. Shape of the Plan**

The Chairman referred to his draft paper on Vision Aims and Objectives. The Blewbury approach appeared to offer a way forward. It was agreed that over the course of the next four weeks we needed to have in place our Vision Aims and Objectives that can be shared at the consultation meetings in April.

#### **12. Village consultation**

The Chairman confirmed that the village hall had been reserved between 16.00 – 22.00 on Tuesday 25 April and Thursday 27 April. The Chairman stated that in conjunction with First Oxfordshire we need to develop a programme for the evenings to maximise the opportunity of engaging with the village. This will be the focus of the meetings over the next few weeks so that we can firm up on the structure and content for the consultation evenings.

#### **13. Overall progress**

The Chairman took the group through a couple of flow charts that demonstrated the sequence of events that have happened and projected forward the steps and timetable to deliver a successful Neighbourhood Development Plan. The referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan is currently forecast to be in February/March 2018.

#### **14. Any other business**

There were no matters raised.

#### **15. Schedule of meetings**

The next meetings are scheduled on Thursday 16 February at Pear Tree Cottage and Wednesday 1 March (venue to be determined)

#### **16. Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 16th February 2017 at Pear Tree Cottage, Haseley Road** at 7.30 p.m.