

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group
MINUTES
Monday 22nd February 2021

- 229. Attendance:** Cllr Souter (ES), Karen Addison (KA), Janet Herring (JH), Paul Lee (PL), David Angwin (DA),
- 230. Public Attendance:** The Parish Clerk (Gail Foster-GF) was in attendance along with Councillor Cotterell and two members of the public.
- 231. Welcome and introduction:**
231.1. ES welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 232. Apologies for absence:**
232.1. Wink Hanbury, Richard Eastman, Ivan Royle, and Jeremy Dawkins had sent apologies.
- 232.2. To note the Declarations of interest received and any other changes.** Janet Herring had given the Clerk her signed form and it had been uploaded to the website and sent to the Monitoring officer at Test Valley. Juliette Gerrard had decided to volunteer for the Working Groups rather than the Steering Group and a form would not be required for her. Forms would be resent to Wink Hanbury, Paul Lee and David Angwin.
Action: Clerk.
- 233. Points from the floor:**
233.1. None.
- 234. To approve the minutes of the last meeting:**
234.1. It was Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 25th January be approved. They would be published on the website. It was noted that Juliette Gerrard had volunteered to join the SG, but since meeting had decided to join the working groups only.
- 235. To review progress made on the Vision Statement:**
235.1. Good progress had been made on the Vision Statement by PL and DA. Introductions in other villages' plans had been reviewed and it was noted that the other examples had not appeared to meet the brief of detailing the uniqueness of the villages they described. The challenge in writing the statement would be to ensure that it was very specific to Nether Wallop. More reading and research would be undertaken and hopefully a draft would be ready for the next meeting. **Action: PL and DA.**
- 236. To review progress made on Policy WB1: (JH, IC, JD)**
236.1. JH had sent an update of information gathered from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and the Wallop Farmers and River Valley floor documents obtained from TVBC. Further review on the survey responses regarding the spirituality of the Brook needed to be carried out.
236.2. It was felt the policy needed to be advisory to care for brook and the water flow, and to protect houses and wildlife. A balance is needed between maintaining tidy areas and the requirements of wildlife.
236.3. GF had asked the Environment Agency if the brook was classed as a main river and would advise the answer. **Action: GF.**
236.4. There are specific times of the year that the weeds can be cut and left to flow downstream into the Test. At all other times the maintenance of the banks and river was the responsibility of the riparian owners. The guidelines would be circulated. **Action: GF.**

- 236.5. The policy should detail what steps should be taken to protect the brook as chalk stream. It should also describe what is so special about this particular chalk stream that makes it deserving of a separate policy.
- 236.6. A resident noted that the snowdrops growing along the stream should have mention.

237. To review progress made on Policy VE2 - Views: (ES)

- 237.1. A little progress had been made and the design of drawing on the maps was being reviewed. RE would be asked to comment on two different options. **Action: GF.**
- 237.2. The original survey would be reviewed again to ensure that all views were taken into account. **Action: GF.**
- 237.3. The SG noted that the views could not be protected in the Plan in the same way as Local Areas of Green Space.

238. To review progress made on Policy Village Design Statement (VDS) review:

- 238.1. The working group had put a copy of the VDS into the Dropbox folder. It was agreed that the entire document contained information and guidance which was still very relevant today. The group had highlighted the guidelines which may need strengthening, such as light protection. An open mind might be kept regarding building only being feasible below the 79m contour line as this may result in high visibility in some areas, and no external visibility in others. The updated document would be sent to the consultant. **Action: GF.**
- 238.2. A separate action to come out of the discussion, was to make a list of all dwellings built since 2004, and to compare them to the VDS criteria to see if they have complied or not. The list can then be reviewed by the Steering Group to see if non-compliance has had a detrimental effect that should be protected (if possible) by the new NDP. A list of "new" dwellings would be compiled. **Action: GF.**
- 238.3. The Conservation area maps had been re-assessed since the publication of the VDS. The latest maps needed to be taken into account.

239. To review the draft list of important buildings in the Parish:

- 239.1. ES had provided a comprehensive list of the important buildings in the parish. These had been taken from the Conservation Area Character Appraisal and English Heritage's list of Listed Buildings.
- 239.2. It was noted that the following buildings were not listed, but were mentioned in the Character Appraisal.
- 239.2.1. Gerrards Farm
- 239.2.2. The Mill
- 239.2.3. The Manor
- 239.2.4. The Old Chapel
- 239.2.5. The Blacksmiths Shop
- 239.3. It was agreed that they should be included in the list of important buildings for the NDP and should be sent to the consultant. **Action: ES.**

240. To review progress made on Policy VE1 Design:

- 240.1. This would be deferred until the next meeting.

241. To review progress made on the Farming Community inclusion in the plan:

- 241.1. The following phrases had been sent to the consultant as suggestions for themes in the policies:
- 241.1.1. Farms are essential to NW and are a major part of our landscape and structure. We wish to reinforce farming as a core economic and landscape activity.
- 241.1.2. At the same time promoting and recognising conservation and wildlife for example wildlife corridors.
- 241.1.3. Whilst we do not wish to encourage large scale building or change of use we are also keen to encourage and allow farms to go about their essential work.
- 241.1.4. We are keen to allow for some diversification to allow them to survive in changing times both now and in the future.

- 241.1.5. A farm policy that promotes diversification, for example encourages small retail outlets (e.g. direct sales farm shops), allows conversion of outbuildings to guest houses or key worker accommodation, allows small offices and/or workspaces to be developed in under-used buildings. In essence, managing the diversification of an economic activity
- 241.2. Policies would be drafted and circulated, but also be subject to public consultation before approval.

242. Any other business for consideration at the next meeting:

- 242.1. None

243. Points from the floor.

- 243.1. A landowner had been informed that some of his land had been designated as LAGS and asked why he had not been formally advised of this. KA explained that the sites had been added as a result of feedback to the public consultation in August 2020.
- 243.2. The consultant had been asked to update the LAGS booklet so that the website could be updated.
- 243.3. KA advised that no landowners of any LAGS had been written to.
- 243.4. A resident had asked if policies could be drafted to apply to certain areas inside the Parish but not others. An example had been raised regarding a section of the Village Design Statement. "Housing should if possible be kept below the 79m contour so that it is not visible from the surrounding area, thus preserving the valley nature of the villages." It was felt that this may be suitable for the village area, but may not be suitable for the whole parish. The question had been raised with the consultant and the response would be circulated.

244. To confirm the date of the next meeting:

- 244.1. The next meeting would be held on Monday 22nd March.

245. The meeting was closed at 20.23pm.

Date of next monthly meeting: Monday 22nd March at 7.00pm via Zoom.

This a draft pending approval at the next Steering Group meeting.