**MARDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP**

**Minutes of meeting held on Monday 19 May 2014 at 8 pm in the**

**Marden Parish Council Offices**

**178. Present:** Cllr L Mannington, K Kershaw, C & K Gibbs, Cllr M Brown, P Bowles, Cllr A Turner, (Chair), Cllr R Adam, P Court (Millwood Homes), C Alderson, P Taylor and Cllr D Reed.

**179. Apologies:** Cllr K Tippen, B Harvey, J Fryer and the Clerk. Mr P Taylor wished to record his absence from previous meetings.

**180. Declarations of Interest:** Mr P Court for Millwood Homes.

**181. Minutes.** There were no minutes of the meeting held on 28 April, since this was an informal ‘work in progress’ discussion.

**182. Meeting with Design Consultants.** The Chairman reported on a highly beneficial meeting on 1 May 2014 held with representatives of Design South East (formerly KAC) who had been retained by Maidstone Borough Council to engage with local communities regarding MBC’s proposed Local Plan.

The contacts and guidance gained would prove extremely useful in the completion of Marden’s Neighbourhood Plan as well as its submission to MBC.

**183. Draft MBC Local Plan Public Consultation.**  The MNPSG had submitted a comprehensive report to MBC, which had subsequently been endorsed by the Parish Council’s submission, on the MBC Draft Local Plan. Although the deadline for comments had been 7 May 2014, MBC were still accepting any further submissions on the draft document.

Those members who had attended the MBC exhibition at Marden relating to the draft Local Plan commented accordingly.

It was agreed that the Group’s submission regarding the Draft Local Plan should be up-loaded onto the MNP website.

**184. Meeting with Neighbouring Parishes.** The Chairman reported that an invitation had been extended to all those parishes neighbouring Marden to attend a joint meeting on 4 June 2014 to possibly share information and key issues regarding the formulation of neighbourhood plans. The meeting would be held at 7.30 pm in The Old School Room at the Memorial Hall.

**185. Marden’s Big Musical Picnic.** It was proposed to have a display about the MNP at this event on 7 June, 2014. It was decided to have a simple photographic display with the possibility of comment slips being available for members of the public to fill in. Thursday 29 May during the day would be set aside to design the display, together with setting up the display boards at 7.30 pm on Friday 6 June at the Parish Office. Several members of the Group were already committed to other aspects of the Musical Picnic, and it would be necessary to plan a rota for the display from about 2.30 pm.

**186. NP Policy on Flood Zones.** KK had attended the Flood Forum. Further information was still awaited from the Environment Agency who would be contacted urgently.

**187. NP Green Belt Policy.** It was felt that there needed to be some forward thinking regarding any further areas of development in the Parish once the NP had been approved and the possible requirement for green buffer zones. It was felt that this might be highlighted in display form at the forthcoming Open Day on 21 June to encourage community comment and suggestions.

**188. NP Policy for Village Parking.** This was another aspect which could be included in the Open Day.

There still did not appear to be any further information regarding MBC’s Transport Strategy.

**189. MNP Open Day.** The Open Day would be held on 21 June 2014 at the Memorial Hall from 09.30 am – 1.00 p.m. The format would be set up on 16 June at 8pm at The Parish Office.

**190. MNP Diary.** Cllr Brown urged members to peruse the diary aspect of the Draft NP to ensure that any meeting or event which had been attended in the course of formulating the NP was included.

**191. Dates of Meetings.** 29 May 2014 Arranging display for Musical Picnic

4 June 2014 Meeting with neighbouring Parishes

6 June 2041 Setting up boards for 7 June

7 June 2014 Marden’s Musical Picnic

16 June 2014 Arrangements for Open Day

21 June 2014 MNP Open Day Memorial Hall

The meeting closed at 09.30 pm.