

**IVINGHOE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
STEERING GROUP MEETING**

12th December 2016, CRABTREE FARMHOUSE

MINUTES

Present: Malcolm Stubbs (Deputy Chair in the Chair), Sheena Bexson, Stephen Booth, Rikki Harrington

In attendance: Kirsty Macpherson (Natural England Lead Adviser for Buckinghamshire)

Apologies: Richard Freeman (Chair)

1) Introduction

Sheena introduced Kirsty Macpherson, Natural England's Lead Adviser for Buckinghamshire. Natural England has a statutory duty to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

2) Minutes of last meeting/action log

The minutes of the meeting of 24th October were approved. In the absence of the Chair, consideration of actions and update of the action log were deferred until the next meeting.

3) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

The SEA Screening Report prepared by David Broadley (AVDC) was considered. The conclusion that an SEA was needed was queried on the basis of the flowchart and associated commentary. Kirsty agreed that there was some ambiguity but, given the environmentally sensitive nature of the Parish, strongly recommended that an SEA be prepared. The Plan will be examined in relation to compatibility with EU and UK environmental legislation. Whilst our proposed sites do not include legally protected areas, it is important to record assessment of visual impacts of any proposed development on views to and from statutory habitats such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and rights of way, and that Alternative Site Assessments have been done. We should state that we are not interested in releasing any Green Belt land for development.

Natural England is especially interested in climate change issues, for example providing green infrastructure to help wildlife adapt to climate change. Natural England would want to see biodiversity net gain in any development, and such should be quantified as far as possible in the Plan.

It was clear that Natural England's interests closely match those of our community and that preparation of an SEA would be a useful exercise, improving the chances of the Plan passing examination. With Kirsty's support it was agreed that we could produce an SEA without the help of paid consultants.

Actions: Rikki and Malcolm will take photographs to and from the proposed sites whilst the trees are leafless.

Rikki will look through the draft Planning Consultation: SEA document prepared by Kirsty, produce a list of proposed actions and ask Kirsty to review them. Rikki will then lead on those actions and on the preparation of the SEA. A draft will be shown to Kirsty, who will advise on its suitability.

4) Project plan

No further action is appropriate until we have a decision from David Broadley on the suitability of our proposed sites (due 19th December).

5) Draft plan

Stephen and Rikki have begun working on formatting and pictures. Stephen will prepare a version without pictures in order to facilitate exchange by email (smaller file size).

Action Stephen

Malcolm has obtained several photographs from Bob Corn, primarily of architecture and meetings.

There needs to be a paragraph on why the suggested sites were chosen. Stephen is willing to write this.

A brief summary of the SEA will be necessary, and the full document will need to be presented as an appendix.

6) Any other business

There was no further business.

7) Next meeting

The following alternative dates are suggested: 30th January morning, 1st February afternoon, 6th February morning, 8th February afternoon.

Thanks to Sheena for her hospitality.

Minutes prepared by Rikki.