

Minutes of Meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee
held on Tuesday 24th May 2022, at 7.38pm
Online via Zoom

Present: Councillor A Miller (AM) (Chair), Councillor G Widdowfield (GW), J Fletcher (JF), S Waller (SW), R Taylor (RT) and R Sheen (RS)

In attendance: E Keep (EK), Central Bedfordshire Council Neighbourhood Involvement Officer

Minutes: C Callen (Clerk, Barton-le-Clay Parish Council) (CC)

1. Welcome and Introductions

AM welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Central Beds Council (CBC) Neighbourhood Involvement Officer was introduced to the Group.

2. Apologies

These were received from Councillor N Day, A Knight, S Oxley, T Wall, J Irwin and T Pattenden

3. Declarations of Interest

AM reminded members of the procedures regarding declaration of interests. There were none.

4. Matters arising from previous meeting

The Parish Council ratified all the items from the last meeting.

The Greensand Trust have been engaged to complete the Green Infrastructure Plan – further information is awaited once the preparation work is completed.

More resident feedback forms have been received at the Parish Council Office to add to the evidence already collected.

AM/CC still to contact local Schools regarding the Plan.

CC has spoken to the Practice Manager at the Doctors and a meeting will be arranged with them and GW to discuss the Plan. Everyone agreed it was important to engage with these vital services for the Community, particularly now that the Greenwoods development application is at consultation stage.

CC to chase up the local History Society regarding a suitable piece for the Plan.

5. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2022

A Miller **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes from the meeting held on 4th April 2022, **SECONDED** by G Widdowfield and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

6. Acknowledge receipt of the Draft Housing Needs Survey and discuss the results

The Draft HNS was shared with members ahead of the meeting. The results were as expected and were in line with the feedback already provided by local residents, particularly around affordable housing/retirement home provision.

ACTION – CC to check with BRCC regarding key-worker provision and also that the table regarding house prices was correct.

7. Update from meeting with CBC Neighbourhood Involvement Officer regarding policies

RS/CC/EK met on 17th May to discuss the draft policies for inclusion in the Plan. A copy of the notes from the meeting were shared with members. RS provided feedback.

EK agreed to provide suitable wording to amend the statement regarding driveways into policy format (BLCNP/EP/2).

Members agreed that the Tree Policy example provided would be appropriate, with an amendment to cover any additional tree preservation orders. Members to consider any trees considered assets to the community (can include new trees planted).

EK agreed to provide details on the Article 4 Direction process for members and the Parish Council to consider with regards to restricting permitted development rights on bungalow extensions.

The Bungalow Policy (BLCNP/HP/2) could be included as more a statement of intent in the Plan rather than policy, including wording around 'resisting conversions'.

EK had recommended seeking a grant from Locality to include a Design Code to supplement the Plan (max. £8k is available). EK agreed to provide details of 'Aecom' who have been used by other parishes to produce their Design Codes. RS would be happy to work with them on this document. CC to investigate application requirements for the Grant.

Members discussed possible sites around the Village that could be redeveloped and included within the plan. This will be discussed further at the next meeting, once members have considered the options.

ACTION – EK to provide information/wording as detailed above.

CC to investigate Grant funding.

8. Update from the consultation with local Businesses

The Business Newsletter was sent out in mid-May via email – a few responses have been received. The Olde Watermill were disappointed not to have received a mention in the Newsletter – CC has acknowledged their complaint and responded accordingly.

No responses have been received yet from the businesses based on the Faldo Road Industrial Estate. Members felt that this was partly due to its disconnection with the rest of the Village. A possible link to the Village has been discussed in the past but would be costly. EK suggested it could be put into the Plan as an aspiration for a footbridge, subject to developers contribution – she will provide suggested wording.

ACTION - AM agreed to hand deliver remaining newsletters to the Village businesses where email addresses are not known.

EK to provide wording, as above.

9. Consider attendance at the Big Jubilee Picnic Lunch 5th June 2022

The Parish Council have organised the Jubilee Picnic and will have a gazebo at the Recreation Ground, including the Neighbourhood Plan banners. Members were encouraged to volunteer to do a stint on the stall to promote the Plan to the Community.

10. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 8.00pm online via Zoom.

AM and JF agreed to draft an introduction to the Plan for discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.43pm