

Minutes of Meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee
held on Thursday 17th November 2022, at 7.30pm
Online via Zoom

Present: Councillor A Fletcher (AF) (Chair), Councillor G Widdowfield (GW), J Fletcher (JF), S Waller (SW), J Irwin (JI), A Knight and S Oxley (SO)

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

AF welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

These were received from T Wall.

3. Declarations of Interest

AF reminded members of the procedures regarding declaration of interests. There were no new declarations.

4. Matters arising from previous meeting

CC/AF have completed the application for the Locality Grant for Technical Support funding towards production of a Design Guide, to support the Neighbourhood Plan. A response is awaited.

CC/GW still to arrange a meeting with the local Doctors Practice to discuss the Plan.

ACTION – CC to arrange a suitable date with the Practice Manager/GW.

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

A Fletcher **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes from the meeting held on 4th October 2022, **SECONDED** by J Fletcher and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

6. Review Green Infrastructure Plan Map

The Greensand Trust have provided a draft map, detailing the green spaces and rights of way within the Parish Boundary. This was reviewed by members and several additional areas were highlighted for inclusion.

ACTION – CC to provided details of the additional green spaces agreed to The Greensand Trust to update their map. She will also query the situation with regards to the small pockets of green amenity land around the Village and various pockets of woodland to see whether these should also be included.

AK to arrange a date for The Greensand Trust to meet with members to review progress with the Green Infrastructure Plan.

7. Confirm arrangements for Christmas Lights Switch-on Event 27th November 2022

The Greensand Trust have agreed to attend the Christmas Lights Switch-on event on Sunday 27th November between 4-7pm, to reach out to the whole community for the consultation on the Green Infrastructure Plan. It was agreed that CC would arrange and set up the stall, including the Neighbourhood Plan banners. AK, SO, JI and GW all offered to help at the stall at some point during the event.

8. Update from meeting with Governors and Trustees of The Pyramid Schools Trust

AF and CC met with the Head of The Pyramid Schools Trust, which covers all the local schools, and the new Head at Arnold Academy, on 11th November. SO was also in attendance as both a Governor and a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Group. It was a useful meeting, highlighting shared frustrations with the lack of information being provided by Central Beds Council regarding both the Schools of the Future strategy and the new school planned on the Taylor Wimpey development, east of the Village. Both these projects pose lots of questions and would require planning over several years, affecting not only Barton but the wider area including feeder schools. It was agreed that the key communication links now established between the Schools, Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Group will be vital going forward.

The use of Arnold Academy Sports facilities was also discussed to confirm that both the indoor and outdoor facilities are regularly hired by Community groups as a Village amenity.

ACTION – AF/JF to draft section on Schools for the Plan.

SO to provide an update once the meeting with the Schools of the Future Team has been held with Arnold Academy.

9. Update from the History Society on the Introduction to the Plan

The History Society are still working on information to be included within the Plan. They have provided some historic photos of the Village and details of its listing within the Doomsday Book. JF suggested that the information he has put together already be shared with the History Society for their information and to assist them in pulling together their submission.

10. Feedback from Draft Plan document circulated

JF had previously provided a copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan for members to review. Amendments were agreed in sections 11, 19, 32, 34.7 and 112.2.1.

Additionally, it was suggested a section listing all local community groups be included in the recreation section.

The Census data included in the Plan is from the 2011 Census – this can now be updated following the release of the 2021 data.

Any Other Business

An update on the situation with the Greenwoods potential development site was provided. Issues concerning the reliability of the Stagecoach MK1 new bus service were raised. This has already been picked up by the local MP.

11. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Thursday 19th January 2023 at 7.30pm online via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.43pm