

Minutes of Meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee
held on Thursday 23rd February 2023, at 7.30pm
Online via Zoom

Present: Councillor A Fletcher (AF) (Chair), Councillors G Widdowfield (GW) and N Day (ND), J Fletcher (JF), A Knight (AK) and S Waller (SW)

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

AF welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no visitors in attendance.

2. Apologies for absence

These were received from R Sheen, J Irwin and S Oxley.

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/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.

Plan to be updated regarding Schools, as discussed at the last meeting.

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

5. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2023

The minutes were approved.

6. Update regarding the Green Infrastructure Plan and agree any further actions

On 2nd February, AF, JF, AK and CC visited the Woodland Centre to meet with the Greensand Trust and discuss progress with the plan and review the mapping, etc. in more detail. A copy of the notes from the meeting were shared with all members ahead of the meeting, for information. AF mentioned that she had seen signs on green spaces in another area, inviting residents to comment on the NP proposal to include them as green spaces. This and further consultation will be discussed once the draft GI Plan is completed.

7. Update regarding the Design Code

Initial online meetings have been held with AECOM. The next stage is a site visit to be arranged. Richard Sheen (RS) has offered to show the allocated officers around the Village to point out key design features. Unfortunately, the document will take 3/4 months to complete and so will delay the overall NP process.

Central Beds Council are also consulting on their revised Design Guide.

RS has also provided details of possible clauses to incorporate into the Plan/Code regarding housing mix and permitted development rights being removed from any new housing built.

ACTION – CC to email details to members for consideration. RS to discuss with AECOM to incorporate into the Design Code.

8. Review of Updated Plan

JF has updated the draft plan – a copy was emailed to all members ahead of the meeting to review. It was agreed that different sections will be considered at each future meeting to refine the content.

ACTION – AF/CC to agree sections for each meeting.

JF had provided two versions of the cover sheet for consideration. It was agreed that the version with some of the older houses shown as postcards was the preferred option, but to include the quote from the second sheet. The date of the NP to be just 2023, as it will be subject to regular reviews.

ACTION – CC to contact the house owners in writing for permission to use images of their properties on the cover sheet.

AF and JF were thanked for their efforts so far in helping to bring together the plan.

9. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at 7.30pm online via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.09pm