

Minutes of Meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee
held on Wednesday 2nd August 2023, at 7.30pm
Online via Zoom

Present: Councillor A Fletcher (AF) (Chair), J Fletcher (JF), N Day (ND), A Knight (AK), W Rudd (WR) and S Waller (SW)

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

AF welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

These were received from S Oxley and J Irwin.

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

The Clerk has chased the Greensand Trust for the letter template to send to landowners, following approval of the Local Green Space sites.

5. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2023

The minutes were approved.

6. Review of the Green Infrastructure Plan and agree any changes, including Local Green Space allocations, in line with email from the Greensand Trust

The Greensand Trust presented their draft Green Infrastructure Plan to the group at the last meeting. A copy of the Plan and the proposed Local Green Space allocations were then provided to members after the meeting, with feedback requested to be provided by 21st July.

The Clerk has arranged to provide all the feedback to the Greensand Trust at a meeting on Monday 7th August, so that they can finalise the document. Members suggested an executive summary be provided for the GI Plan and requested clarity regarding various sections.

The draft Local Green Space currently lists 40 sites which have been assessed in line with the set criteria. Members reviewed these, based on knowledge of the sites and feedback provided by members. Final recommendations will be discussed with the Greensand Trust on 7th August.

Additional land to be included in the LGS was suggested: areas around the Old Water Mill and Brookend Farm and the triangle of land on Sharpenhoe Road, just past the entrance to the Football Club.

ACTION – Clerk to collate feedback for meeting on 7th August.

7. Review of the draft Design Code and agree feedback

A copy of the draft Design Code was provided to members following the last meeting and feedback was requested to be provided by 21st July. Several members submitted feedback and it was agreed for the Clerk to combine it all together and send it out to everyone for approval before returning to AECOM.

ACTION – Clerk to provide a copy of the combined feedback to members before submission to AECOM.

8. Update re Locality Grant Funding

The new Central Beds Council Neighbourhood Planning Officer has contacted the Parish Council to introduce herself. It was agreed to invite her to attend the groups next meeting. She has confirmed that the Government have now approved funding available for Neighbourhood Planning for 2023/24.

ACTION – Clerk to invite NP Officer to next meeting.

Locality have contacted the Clerk to confirm that further funding is still available for completing the Neighbourhood Plan, if required. The Group are unsure what additional expenditure is expected, with printing costs, advertising, consultations and referendum processes still to be completed and so will consider applying for further funding at the next meeting.

9. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Monday 25th September 2023 at 7.30pm online via Zoom, providing there are no Parish Council meetings that evening.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm