

**Minutes of Meeting of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee
held on Monday 6th November 2023, at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall**

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

In attendance: G Widdowfield online via Zoom (GW)

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 J Irwin.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no new declarations.

4. Matters arising from previous meeting

AF gave an updated from the last meeting on the presentation given by the Central Beds Council Neighbourhood Planning Officer. Copies of her slides were shared with all members on 20th October, for information.

5. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2023

The minutes were approved.

6. Review of the full Draft Neighbourhood Plan

JF was thanked for all his efforts in pulling the draft Plan together.

The Housing Needs Survey Report, Green Infrastructure Plan and Design Guide will be appendices to the main Plan and are summarised as part of this and in the associated Policies. Members went through the Plan thoroughly to review the contents and make suggested amendments, as necessary.

7. Feedback from the Community Engagement Stall at the Barton Rovers FC Fireworks Event 3rd November

AF & JF undertook a consultation at the Firework Event on 3rd November, to engage with younger members of the community. 85 responses were received. A summary of the responses was provided by AF:

- 92% of residents had no intention of moving away from the Village.
- 90% of those who would move away, said they would like to return someday.
- 63% of those asked would like to see more rental options.
- 62% of those asked used the Village Green Spaces at least weekly, with less than 8% never using them.
- The majority of those asked said that the Parks and Recreation Ground were their favourite Village amenity, with the Springs/Reserve, Football Pitches, Pubs, Football Club, Library, Shops, Village Hall, Tennis Club and Restaurants all getting votes.
- 60% of respondents were female, 33% were male.
- 20% of respondents were under 18; 25% were 18-30yrs; 28% were 31-45yrs; 11% were 46-60yrs and 8% were 61+yrs.

Costs incurred at the event were £50 Amazon voucher Prize drawn from those entering a questionnaire and £22.50 for sweets given out from the stall.

In addition, a straw poll was undertaken regarding preferred Bedford Road Crossing Points, to gage opinion as part of the Parish Council's evidence gathering to support a request for an additional crossing point in the centre of the Village for road safety. The feedback will also be incorporated into the traffic management section of the Plan.

8. Agree next stage

It was agreed that JF and CC would update the Plan based on the feedback provided. Prior to Regulation 14, it was suggested that an independent proof-read is undertaken.

ACTION - CC to contact BRCC to see if they could assist with the proof reading.

9. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Monday 18th December 2023 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall.

ACTION – Clerk to book the Committee Room.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm