

MINUTES OF THE WOOLPIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 30 OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.30 P.M. IN WOOLPIT INSTITUTE.

Present: Jane Foster (Chairman), Richard Mawhood, Caroline Blomfield, John Guyler, David Hughes, Alan Round, Jennie Denny, Tim Baker, Dr Richard West, Lisa Hicks, Ben Holden, Ian Poole (Critical Friend), 1 member of the public.

JF was asked to Chair the meeting as RM had a sore throat.

Public comment: there was none.

1 **Apologies for absence** were received from Jane Storey and Andrew Brain.

2. **To receive declarations of interest.** There were none.

3. **To approve minutes of the meeting 25 September 2017.**

The minutes were approved signed.

4. **To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.**

None.

5. **To receive accounts for payment.** There were none.

6. **To receive a report on the meeting with Pigeon Investments representative.**

Simon Butler-Finbow confirmed things are progressing but due to delays by MSDC the final outline approval has not been received yet. Pigeon have someone lined up to buy the site but not until issues have been finalised. It is hoped to put an application in shortly on land behind the school as Pigeon has had discussions with SCC infrastructure regarding extending the school and there would be approx. 30 houses included in the application. Pigeon were asked to provide a footpath though the development and SB-F was happy to put that forward. SB-F advised he is acting as an agent for land south of the school to Warren Lane. There are no proposals at this stage but if matters go further there could be a link road for Brickfields Business Park to relieve traffic on Heath Road.

7. **To receive a report on the analysis of the results of the Questionnaire and plan for publication and exhibition.**

A draft version had been sent out to a few asking for comments. JG had replied and his comments have been incorporated. Discussion pursued regarding comments in the community section which will now go in an appendix. Members felt this was an amazing piece of work and CB and LH were thanked for their effort. There will be a public exhibition early next year including a presentation from Alison Farmer on the Landscape Sensitivity Study. The Clerk was asked to check room availability at Woolpit Institute and Village Hall for 3 and 10 February 2018. *Action: the Clerk*
The exhibition will be advertised in both the December/January and February /March issues of Woolpit Diary. The Summary of the questionnaire will be published in the December/January Woolpit Diary.

8. **To receive a report on the application for a grant for the Landscape Sensitivity Study.**

A grant of £5670 has been received. JF has contacted Alison Farmer and sent copies of maps. There is a landscape character meeting 24 November and then the project should commence.

9. To receive a report from the Policies Group.

TB is writing policies with design criteria. Specific points regarding architecture in Woolpit was proving more difficult. JD is looking at retirement home provision and sheltered homes; there is a White Paper being published on this shortly. We need to look at affordable housing to purchase and need to look at exception sites adjacent to the village boundary. These sites tend to be used purely for social housing and joint ownership. Under Sect 106 agreement these have to be for local need in perpetuity. The Housing Needs Survey will need to be updated within the life of the NP. The current HNS showed 20 affordable homes required.

The Policies Group hope to have housing policies at the next NPSG meeting. IP to provide links to other NPs for differing ideas on design of NPs. The Village Design Statement could be useful to look at such as Cottenham and Stradbroke. The Policies Group is DH, TB, RM, JF and BH with Robin Pyle and Mike Meadows co-opted to the group.

10. To receive information BMSDC's Strategic Planning Team.

RM has emailed them and they have noted our request. There will be a clearer picture when the Joint Local Plan Consultation has finished and responses analysed. Any further direction from MSDC will be after MSDC has decided on their preferred plan. IP suggests we need to look at how many houses we think Woolpit needs and sites then go to MSDC with our ideas and arguments to support them.

11. Any other business

RM reiterated that lots of things in the NP will not be policies and has therefore made a list of possible projects which can be looked at by bringing in other volunteers for specific projects. These could be put to the public at the exhibition to determine if they are high, medium or low priority. All members were asked to look at the list before the next meeting.

Future meetings will be set for the last Monday of the month through to June 2018.

12. Date and time of the next Steering Group meeting – Monday 27 November 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Woolpit Institute. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....