



Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Group ('NPG') remote meeting held on Thursday 26th August 2021 at 7:30 pm via Zoom

Members present: Barry Ratcliffe (BR) – Meeting Chair, Adam Hedley (AH) – Project Leader, Sally Hordern (SH), Nicholas Kenealy (NK), Sally Kenealy (SK), Gaye Langham (GL), David Stuart (DSt).

In attendance: Alice Turner ('AT'), Parish Clerk

1. Welcome

AH welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

None received.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 29 July 2021 were agreed as an accurate record (NK proposed, GL seconded, all in favour).

4. Declarations of interest

Members were asked to declare an interest if relevant to the discussions.

5. Public speaking time

No members of the public wished to speak.

6. Matters arising

6.1 Housing – update of status of WDBC's infrastructure study

NK reported that, following West Devon Borough Council ('WDBC') site inspections in July, Duncan Smith ('DS') aims to reply by the end of August.

6.2 Housing – to discuss landowner consultation and next steps in developing site allocation policies

NK gave a resume of his recent discussions with DS. DS had advised that initially – and before consultation with stakeholders – the NPG should consider the types of dwellings needed in Exbourne, bearing in mind the principles set out in the Joint Local Plan ('JLP'), Supplementary Planning Document ('SPD') and other Local Planning Authority ('LPA') guidance.

NK had written to (i) Alex Rehaag at WDBC about updates (if any) to the facts, figures and assumptions in the AECOM Housing Need Assessment report and whether the advice provided in the report would be an acceptable basis for determining housing type in site allocations; and (ii) to Steve Blakeman about the process for reconsidering settlement boundaries should the need arise. It was suggested that NK should also keep DS in the picture as WDBC are likely to be a stakeholder.

AT reminded NK that, as a matter of form, any questions addressed to the Parish Council should be channelled through her (as Parish Clerk) in the first instance.

6.3 Regulation 14 preparation – to discuss Plan status, policies, areas for further work and resource allocation.

6.3.1 Roads etc.

AH thanked GL for her work. He thought he might have some additional evidence which might be added. If so, he will send it to GL.

6.3.2 Alice Turner's role

AT set out her role in helping the NPG. She was not a voting member of the NPG. The scope of the NP itself and its wording is solely the responsibility of the NPG. She could collate and format and give a personal view on the overall structure and coherence of the Plan and its parts but that was all. She would refer any issues she had identified as significant to the NPG for their decision. SH would act as proof reader. AT would set up a separate email account for the Exbourne NP for GL to send papers to her.

6.3.3 Sustainability and climate change

GL spoke on these issues. It was recognized that they had assumed much larger national significance and importance over the last 2/3 years and would have been understated when the Plan began and in earlier consultations. AT referred to coverage in the Winkleigh NP. BR said that WDBC had a lead in the Hub dealing with these aspects (Lynn Daniel Lead Member for Natural Environment & Councillor for South Tawton). DS would be the person to talk to in the first instance.

7. Any other business and future agenda items

DSt is meeting AT on Wednesday next to discuss financing.

8. Date of next meeting

Thursday 30 September 2021, 7:30pm via Zoom (an earlier meeting may be arranged if WDBC's response on infrastructure requires it).

IF YOU ARE READING THESE MINUTES AND INTERESTED IN JOINING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP, OR MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO THE GROUP'S WORK, THEN PLEASE CONTACT ADAM HEDLEY ON 851648