

**MINUTES OF MEETING NO 30  
OF THE BOURTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP  
HELD AT SANDWAYS FARM AT 7 30pm ON MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2014**

**Present:** M Withers, P Withers, G Overington, P Overington, D Scott, A Scott, N Hall,  
B Martin

**Apologies:** F Gillett

**14.124 Minutes of Meeting No 29**

These were accepted as a true record.

**14.125 Matters Arising**

PW had found nothing relevant in the Blackmore Vale Magazine to report on.

Interim meetings to work on the SEA had taken place and work has continued over three meetings, on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 25<sup>th</sup> September and 6<sup>th</sup> October, with input from the all members of the group.

MW has been in touch with Liz Beth at Planning Aid and she is looking at how best they can assist.

BM is working on the Policy writing and DS felt that, as previously discussed, this should be done by one person for the sake of consistency and continuity. BM agreed.

NH said that he remained keen for FG to assist with his assessment of Infrastructure issues.

MW reported that he has attempted to extend the funding deadline with no success, however, Planning Aid may help with this.

MW had not been able to trace the NP which had been challenged by a developer.

**14.126 Declarations of Interest**

NH as a member of the VHMC, MW and PW as neighbours of the VHMC's preferred new village hall site.

**14.127 Strategic Environmental Assessment**

MW reported on his work on the SEA saying that the document may well be bigger than the NP itself. He felt we are still on track to complete work on the SEA by the year end. The main structure is now in place, but it needs a few add ons. He is keen to get the draft SEA to Nick Cardnell, the NP Officer at NDDC prior to the meeting with him on 10th November.

MW asked that the group provide their further comments/amendments asap: he wanted a critical review of the document, to ensure all are happy with it. Once it has been accepted in principle by NDDC it will go out for six weeks public consultation.

**BM** is to continue to write up the policies which means that progress is being made on two fronts.

MW pointed out that the meeting at NDDC on 10<sup>th</sup> November could only accommodate four group members, along with Nick Cardnell and Nicola Laszlo from NDDC. It was agreed that MW, DS, PO and NH would attend and PO agreed to take notes in the absence of PW. It was also agreed that the draft SEA should be sent to Liz Beth at Planning Aid.

NH asked which documents had been used as references for the draft SEA. MW said that he had used the Levitt/Therivel/URS DIY guide, the ND Emerging Plan, the ND Sustainability and Scoping Report for the ND plan, and the Woodcote NP which also tackled a site selection process.

MW highlighted the need for graphic work and maps to be added to the draft SEA document once we knew if we were on the right track.

#### **14.128 Policy Writing**

It was agreed that the policies should be based on the VDS and the community's views as expressed in response to the two Questionnaires. **PW** agreed to draft the Consultation Statement.

MW suggested that the Plan could be implemented in two phases with a review, possibly after five years, to enable an assessment of what development has taken place and to determine whether further site allocation is necessary.

**BM** asked for input from all the five Plan Focus Areas. These are the Built Environment, the Natural Environment, Health and Wellbeing, Infrastructure, Business and Economy and Housing/Development. **BM** said he had received input on the Natural Environment but was not sure it was complete. **DS** said he felt that it contained most of the references from the VDS and questionnaires but undertook to review it. **AS** said that she had collated all the relevant references on Health and Wellbeing and would provide these.

**BM** was asked to resend his policies based on the VDS info and also the policy for the new village hall on the Sandways Farm site. There was also a need to look at Building Design and Industrial Heritage.

#### **14.129 Programme**

MW thought we would know more about timing after Monday's meeting but he is confident that the SEA can be completed by the year end as previously reported.

### **14.130 Budget/Funding**

GO handed out her draft Audit Report for our funders and suggested that we should seek help from a professional to complete this task. GO suggested getting a quote from Jenny Trim for the printing of the final document and the SEA report. It was agreed to ask for a quote for stapled books, as per the VDS, for 50 and 100 of each. DS recalled that someone in the village, who visited our display at Bourton Fete, had offered to help with any complex document design and production problems. PW agreed to research our notes to obtain his contact details.

### **14.131 Communications**

A discussion ensued about whether to put out a newsletter but it was felt that we should wait for the SEA consultation.

### **14.132 AOB**

The group discussed, at length, a pre-planning proposal for housing development on a designated IOWA site. The group's unanimous view was that the proposal could not be supported on three main grounds. These were:

- a. It is against NDDC's current and emerging policies.
- b. NDDC has not placed any housing growth targets on Bourton.
- c. The results of the Questionnaires showed that a clear majority of respondents were in favour of restricting further housing development other than for a small scheme to assist in the delivery of a new village hall.

A further consideration, although not itself a reason for not supporting the proposal, was that, if it were to be taken forward, other landowners (particularly those with designated SHLAA sites) would feel that their sites should be considered for similar development in the same time frame, with the need for each to be assessed through the SEA process and with the potential to delay the Neighbourhood Plan process by up to a year. Among other effects, this would be likely to impact on the new Village Hall project.

Despite the proposal offering to provide two further affordable homes and a more user-friendly route for Footpath 11, it also "filled" an open space between two sets of buildings which was also not favoured by the majority of residents. The last NDDC Housing Needs Survey concluded that six further affordable homes were needed in Bourton and these are proposed to be provided in the Mill development. Additionally, if the Rugby Cottage redevelopment proposal for 10 houses is approved by NDDC, which seems likely, then a further four of these would need to be affordable houses.

### **14.133 Date of Next Meeting**

This will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm at Sandways Farm.

### **Neighbourhood Planning Group - Action List from Meeting No 30**

**Item 14.127**            **BM** is to continue to write up the policies.

**Item 14.128**            **PW** agreed to draft the Consultation Statement.

**DS** to review Natural Environment references in the VDS and questionnaires.

**AS** to provide the relevant references on Health and Wellbeing.

**BM** to resend his policies based on the VDS info and the policy for the new village hall on the Sandways Farm site.

**Item 14.130**            **GO** to get a quote from Jenny Trim for the printing of the Scoping Report and the SEA report.

**PW** agreed to research our notes to obtain contact details.