

**MINUTES OF MEETING NO 39  
OF THE BOURTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP  
HELD AT SANDWAYS FARM AT 7 30pm ON MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2015**

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

**Apologies:** F Gillett

**15.69 Minutes of Meeting No 38**

These were accepted as a true record.

**15.70 Matters Arising**

**Item 15.60** In connection with the SEA site selection, MW reported that NPG members had already had a meeting with representatives of one landowner of a short-listed site and they had confirmed that they would prepare an appraisal and plan to confirm their offer on the site.

MW said that he had explained the NPG history to date to this landowner, including the publicity, adverts and letters which had been prepared to publicise the information collection process for the NP. No comments or requests for meetings had been received by the NPG from that landowner in response to these publications until very recently.

Meetings with other short-listed site landowners had been arranged for later in the week.

**Item 15.61** DS had sent the draft PC Chairman's statement and the NPG Chairman's introductory notes to BM for incorporation in the draft NP.

PO/GO and NH showed the group some work in progress they had prepared to try to make the draft NP more reader-friendly. They will continue to work up their ideas.

**Item 15.66** MW had updated the PC on the position of the NDDC Local Plan as part of his monthly report.

**15.71 Declarations of Interest**

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

## **15.72 SA/SEA Report**

MW said that he was concerned about the seeming reluctance of our contact at URS (AECOM) to get involved with preparing the Phase 1 Environmental Surveys on the short-listed new village hall sites. However, Liz Beth is meeting NPG members on 24<sup>th</sup> June for discussions and site visits. These site visits have been arranged with permission from the landowners involved. LB will prepare an initial visual report and take into account all the work prepared by the NPG on site selection scores and matrices to date. She will be given a package comprising maps (provided by BM), photographs (provided by NH) and a copy of the matrices and site score sheets which had been completed by the individual members of the NPG during the short-list selection process

It is hoped that these site visits will provide sufficient evidence to avoid the £2,500 fee for a Phase 1 survey on each site. Our aim is to satisfy the NP Examiner. BM said he believes, from his understanding of what comprises a Phase 1 Environmental Survey, that a 'look-see' by a professional (e.g. Liz Beth) will suffice.

MW had sent the group the meeting notes from the first site owner interview, which had gone very well. Following subsequent meetings with short-listed site landowners, a meeting would be arranged with NDDC to discuss the current situation on site selection and to obtain their comments on the draft NP.

BM asked how the Scoping Report, which contains a list of criteria, will be incorporated in the SEA Report. PW suggested that was hopeful that URS (AECOM) may help with this. MW said he would discuss with NDDC what aspects of the SA report should be included in the SEA Report.

NH asked whether there had been recent contact with NDDC and MW replied that he had tried to arrange a follow-up meeting but all he could say was that NDDC had confirmed receipt of the draft NP. Philip James is in charge now that Nick Cardnell had been promoted to another department within Planning and this has left us without a NP contact at NDDC. MW said that he intends to apply pressure to get things sorted out and a meeting arranged but he fears that NDDC are in a sorry state and it is hard to see that they are likely to be very helpful in the near future.

## **15.73 Neighbourhood Plan**

As discussed above, MW said that we are awaiting a response from NDDC and he was pushing for a meeting with them.

## **15.74 Basic Conditions Statement**

It was noted that it is still too early in the process for this to be prepared and MW said that this was something that Planning Aid (Liz Beth) had offered to write.

### **15.75 Consultation Statement**

PW reported that she is keeping the consultation notes and file up to date so that the Statement can be prepared once we have sent out the draft NP for consultation.

### **15.76 Programme**

Whilst we hope that the programme remains unchanged, we are experiencing further delays from NDDC. However, we will continue to do all we can to present the draft Plan for consultation this Summer.

### **15.77 Budget/Funding**

This stays unchanged. GO reported that we are waiting for further information before we can submit an application for further external funding.

### **15.78 Communications**

MW said he intended to prepare and present a report on the site selection meetings at the next PC meeting. DS drew attention to the Minutes of Meetings 36 and 37, which referred to the initial response received from the landowner of the VHMC's preferred site.

BM suggested the production of an update on the offers received but MW said he would prefer to wait until appraisals and plans had been submitted to the NPG, as promised at the site selection interviews. AS said that, as it is all still work in progress, it would be premature to make any details available. GO agreed that, as we have nothing yet in writing, we must wait.

NH reminded the group that comments (from NH/DS) on the notes of the first landowner meeting need to be sent to MW. They will then be circulated to the other NPG members. The notes from the subsequent meetings will be attached when these draft minutes are emailed to NPG members.

### **15.79 Any Other Business**

NH gave an update on the VHMC position following their AGM. HP is to stand down as Chairman and BR to stand down from Treasurer. They both wish to remain as VHMC trustees.

GO reported on the latest speed-watch deployment, with a couple of incidents of note.

DS raised a number of issues which had been dealt with in the first questionnaire but didn't necessarily warrant the generation of policies in the NP. He suggested that they might merit a mention, as topics of interest to the community, or could be included in Part 2 of the Plan. He felt they should be discussed further.

DS then referred to LB's suggestion that we should list specific locations of habitats of national or local importance for protection within the NP. In his view, the protection policies for wildlife and habitats should be generic and, as there are no such sites identified in the NPA, there isn't any real option. Part 2 of the Plan could, however, generate a project to research specific habitat locations which might be undertaken by the Wildlife and Habitats Group.

AS said that she is planning to promote a water vole survey sponsored by the Wildlife and Habitats Group.

MW mentioned the field above Bourton Fencing as a possible site of interest to look at as potential a habitat area.

### **15.80 Date of Next Meeting**

This has been arranged for Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July at Sandways Farm at 7.30pm

### **Neighbourhood Planning Group - Action List from Meeting No 39**

**Item 15.72** MW to apply pressure on NDDC, to arrange a meeting to discuss the current situation on site selection, to obtain their comments on the draft NP and to indicate what aspects of the SA report should be included in the SEA Report.

**Item 15.78** MW to prepare and present a report on the site selection meetings for the next PC meeting.

**NH/DS** comments on the notes of the first landowner meeting to be sent to MW and the finalised copy to be circulated to the other NPG members. The notes from the subsequent meetings to be attached when these draft minutes (NPG Meeting No 39) are emailed to NPG members.