

Neighbourhood Plan Working Party

Wednesday 18th November 2015 at 7:30PM

Cricklade Town Council Chamber

Notes

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|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Cllr Mark Clarke (Chairman) MC | Phil Bowley (PB) | Lesley Cowley (LC) | Duncan May (DTC) |
| Cllr R.Jones (RJ) | Tim Russell (TR) | | |

Also in attendance: One Member of the public

1) **Apologies for absence:**

Cllr J. Coole, Cllr R. Szybiak, T. Clements.

2) **To consider and approve notes from the meeting held on 4th November 2015.**

WP approved the notes held on 4th November. One amendment was required.

3) **To consider the action points from the above meeting where not a separate item on the Agenda.**

The proposal for a nursing home in Cricklade by Sebert Lane was discussed by the WP. The WP members commented that this plan if it came to completion would be a valuable asset for the town. Sebert has been given a list of developers or their agent including contact details by DTC and will be progressing this proposal and will report back to a future NP meeting.

4) **To note the proposed response by CTC Planning, Conservation & Transport Committee to the request for information by Wiltshire Council as part of their updated Site Allocation DPD process.**

The proposed response by CTC was noted by the NPWP this has been AGREED by PCT at their Committee meeting on 16th November 2015 subject to some minor changes. These include more consistency about the information on size needed for any community benefit required in Cricklade.

On allotments the WP needs to be clear on the size and number of allotments required. At present in Cricklade there is a queue for allotments, though it was pointed out that when offered a allotment some people decline and the allotment is often given to the 3rd or 4th person in the queue.

The NP needs to state the area measurements needed for allotments not numbers.

With a nursing home the NP needs to state what ratio of spaces will be privately funded and what number will be funded by the public sector. This could be crucial in achieving planning support from WC.

The NPWP noted that in surveys people often are healthy when asked about nursing homes so the responses to questions about elderly persons accommodation is not always accurate data.

Vulnerable older residents in Cricklade need care not just smaller homes.

The WP continued the discussion about nursing home provision in the relevant policies section.

5) Continuing work on Draft Policies

Draft policies are ongoing. The last set of policies have not been added to since the last meeting. The Vision Document has been sent to the WC Linkworker and a response was expected by this meeting. PB is currently liaising with the WC Linkworker about a totally separate subject and is willing to speak on behalf of the NP with the Linkworker to clarify any issues the WP might have on the draft policies.

6) Update on the Project Plan

The Project Plan is ongoing. The draft plan is supposed to be finished by Christmas 2015. This was thought by the WP to be unrealistic but this is seen as no reason not to have it completed ASAP. The WP felt it was important for the recent momentum on the completion of the draft plan to continue.

7) Working with Alison Eardley

The NPWP has had no further contact with the Consultant Alison Eardley. MC commented that he had not followed up as yet the document the WP had asked her to comment on.
Action MC

8) To Consider the appointment of external consultants

The WP discussed the need for an external consultant to assist with the draft plan. MC has contacted a consultant who was working for Greensquare but she was unable to assist the WP. Other consultants have been contacted but these proved to be planners but had little experience of NP's.

The NPWP has received quotes from a Swindon based firm but the reservations about these firms persist, some of which are:

- They often work for developers.

- Income from NP's very small for them, so lacking commitment.

- Might leave loopholes that developers can exploit to bring forward developments

- Very aware of grant funding available and charge accordingly.

- Charge for a daily rate is hidden in a fixed price.

An ideal solution would be a recently retired or semi retired local Govt planner who is local, aware of NP's and was committed to the cause. But, if a local planner exists in Cricklade they have not so far made themselves known to the WP. The NP draft policies need to be 100% safe, so it is vital the consultant the NPWP hire is a suitably qualified planner and can be trusted.

LC offered to do some research into acquiring suitable consultants as used by other local districts who are writing or who have recently submitted NPs. And look into recent case studies.

Action LC.

9) To Note the procedures for applying for further DCLG funding and decide the next steps.

The application for further grant funding is being investigated and will be applied for by DTC. Funding is issued for a 6 month period. As the WP would be applying for a grant to pay for a consultant to complete the draft plan, the WP to try for the full amount.

10) To receive an update on:

a) **Nursing Home** : None

b) **Culverhay Steering Group** : The timescale for the Culverhay development is up to 2021.

c) **Developer activity – Beechcroft (Purton Road)** - None

Stones Farm – None

Hannick Homes . The WP did discuss what it considered a suitable community benefit for a development site.

Bloor Homes (Horsey Down) – None

e) Dialogue with NEW-V NP - MC . Commented that the NPWP has had discussions with NEW . V NP but there is no written arrangement. There is the possibility of a large development on a brown field site in Lyneham.

11) Any items for recommendation to the Planning Committee

None

12) Any other business and items for future agenda

None

13) Date of next meeting

2nd and 16th December 2015. Future dates agreed 13th January 2016, 27th January 2016 & 10th February 2016.

Meeting finished at 20:35 pm

Duncan May
Deputy Town Clerk
27th November 2015