

Meeting of Handforth Neighbourhood Plan

Steering Group

Meeting of: Handforth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on Tuesday 21st March 2017 at 6:30pm, The Youth Centre, Old Road, Handforth.

Minutes

Present: A Comiskey Dawson, R Small, D Pincombe, R Higham, B Shenton, S Moore, G Aspinall, M Bishop, C Samson, A Murdoch.

Mrs Judith Watson, a resident, was also present as an observer to the meeting

40. To receive apologies for absence.

None.

41. Minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2017

R Small noted that Tom Evans from CEC had suggested that there was no need for a sustainability study in the Handforth NP, but some of the consultants interviewed as part of the tender process had suggested it should be included.

He also noted that after further investigation and on Kirkwells guide work programme, there is a need for a Strategic Environmental Screening Assessment. It was, at present, unclear as to who would pay for this, or would it be provided through the Cheshire East local plan. Would the Handforth Neighbourhood Plan need to do their own?

There was a brief discussion regarding the small package of non-strategic sites around Handforth and whether they would be removed from the greenbelt. This was to be discussed under a later item. D Pincombe noted that there had been a recent meeting at CEC during which CEC were guarded in their opinion of these smaller strategic sites and that they were still investigating these.

R Small drew the groups attention to a document received from CEC concerning a potential further £6,000.00 funding which could be obtained if the group was to allocate small non-strategic sites for development. It was noted that this incentive was being done through MyCommunity.

There was a brief discussion about an independent analysis of the results of the NP questionnaire. D Pincombe noted that Wilmslow town council had been provided a service free of charge by Dr Anne Gilcrest of Manchester University, to independently review the results of Wilmslow Town Councils NP questionnaire. D Pincombe agreed to contact Dr Gilcrest to enquire whether she would be willing to analyse the results from the Handforth questionnaire.

Minutes of last meeting were approved

42. The secretary reported that at the last meeting of Handforth Parish Council, the council had not discussed any issues relating to the neighbourhood planning group. The secretary noted that now that Kirkwells had been appointed as the groups planning consultants, it was good practice that all instruction and contact with Kirkwells go through himself as clerk to the council.
43. It was agreed to combine items 4 & 7 together on the agenda as both were report from meetings with housing associations. Both these associations were in a similar situation, in that they are both very keen to provide more social rented and affordable housing. They are both in a position to build more property for these purposes, however require land to build on. They can also obtain access to further government funding to provide social housing where necessary. Contour Homes have provided a deposition to the group explaining that they have a lot of people on their waiting lists for accommodation. They already have a lot of developments in the area, and they would be very interested, if approached over the NCGV scheme.
44. R Small gave an update on the meeting with Claire Bradley from Kirkwells. It was noted that this formed the bulk of the inception meeting, however, Kirkwells were going to attend the next steering group meeting. The visit lasted approximately 2.5 hours during which time the research into local and national planning policies was discussed, and R Small and A Murdoch took her on an orientation tour around the whole of Handforth. The overview was that at the present time they would undertake internet research from publically available sources to pull together the local and national planning policies. With a view to ensuring that the final format would have the greatest chance of a successful outcome with the CEC inspector.
45. R Higham had been asked to investigate the production of a policy so that in the event an urgent decision needed to be taken, the vote could be taken by email. R Higham produced a policy which was read out at the meeting. The policy required 75% approval by the group against a named action being debated and voted upon with a return in 24 hours. The outcome of which could then be actioned by the chair. R Higham proposed, seconded by C Samson, the group were unanimously in favour of the policy.
46. R Small has completed a preliminary analysis of the questionnaire results. It was agreed that the results (In the form of Bar Charts) would be placed on the NP website; a press release would go out to the paper and Wilmslow.co.uk, and also the results would be placed on the noticeboards in the village.

47. R Small suggested that a second questionnaire be produced. This questionnaire would incorporate a section on the smaller non-strategic sites around Handforth, and would question whether residents would like to see them developed or not. The majority of these sites are designated as greenbelt land. However after a discussion with CEC and Tom Evans, R Small found that CEC were guarded as to whether the designation of "Greenbelt" afforded suitable protection to these sites. D Pincombe noted that CEC were in the process of looking at these smaller sites, and it might be wise to wait until CEC had made decisions regarding them.

The group agreed to hold off on producing a second questionnaire at the present time, there was also some debate as to other questions which could be included in the survey, for example, an improvements list, and a possible community wants list which could make suggestions on how the potential CIL / S106 monies could be spent in the parish. It was also felt that it was possibly too soon to produce another questionnaire, as the first one had only just been returned.

48. R Small will now begin the process of starting the grant application to MyCommunity again, now the group has appointed a consultancy firm, the costs of the stage one payment can be covered by the grant. Costs of a second survey could be met along with possible printing costs for a first draft plan. It was also agreed that the secretary, R Small and A Murdoch look into the purchase of some new display boards, three quotes have already been produced, but it was decided to leave the decision on final purchase to the above three individuals. The cost of these would also be covered by the grant application.

49. R Small has been approached by Cllr M Thompson to provide a piece covering the neighbourhood plan to be put into a newsletter to be distributed by the parish council.

S Moore noted that a meeting of local business was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 28th March, the chair and secretary of the NP group would attend.

C Samson raised the issue that the 378 bus service was going to be discontinued by Stagecoach on 24th April, owing to CEC no longer subsidising the service. Stagecoach can no longer run this service without the subsidies, as it is losing money. R small stated that this action runs contrary to CEC's policy on sustainable transport.

D Pincombe raised the possibility of approaching CEC to continue the subsidies for another 12 months whilst a review could take place.

The date of the next meeting will be 18th April 2017

Close of meeting. At 20:51

Action	By Whom	When By
Disseminate Kirkwells quote	The secretary	ASAP

and the NP account balances to all members		
Review land ownership of smaller non-strategic sites	The Secretary / BS	27/03/17
Contact the University of Manchester	DP	ASAP
To complete the traffic sections of the draft introduction	DP	When Applicable
Press release of survey results, upload to website and place on notice boards	The secretary / RS	ASAP
Complete grant application to MyCommunity	RS / AM / The secretary	ASAP
Meet with Claire Bradley and representative of EoTN	RS / AM / The secretary	30/03/17
Speak to PCSO for deposition on policing priorities	The secretary	ASAP
Provide a piece for the parish council newsletter	RS	ASAP

Roger Small
Chairman
21st March 2017