

## Neighbourhood Plan Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - 7 pm The Village Institute Ticehurst.

**Present:** J Pilcher (JP), S Carmichael (SC) C Hughes (CH) L Young (LY) T Killeen (TK) D Studholme (DS), D Goodale (DG), J Poole (JPo) J Robson (JR) A Lloyd (AL), A Cook (AC) R Tait (RT) – Parish Clerk in attendance.

JP suggested to the meeting that the 'Call for Sites' Group needed to be amended due to the resignation of S Barrass and the conflict of interest of S Burley. It was proposed and accepted that AL and JR join JP and FN on this group. JR pointed out that his proximity to one of the 'Call for Sites' – Villa Flair – might compromise his position, but it was unanimously felt by the committee that, as this had already been considered and categorised as a red site, they did not feel this would be the case.

2. **Apologies** were received from P Sewell, Peter Reeves and S Burley.

3. **Minutes of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017** – The minutes were circulated in advance of the meeting - unanimously adopted as a true record of those proceedings.

4. **Proposal for Development at Flimwell:** Moved to start of the meeting – address by C Stanfield.

5. **Update on Project Plan:** TK asked for comments on the previously circulated paper - she explained that the timings were not set in stone due to the various elements of uncertainty and dependency on external bodies. It was felt that monthly updates were sufficient. SG requested RT to put this document on the web site. JPo expressed concern about the delay in the completion date and the perception of the public, but it was argued that the reasons for any delays have been explained through the web site and within the regular N & Vs articles. Examination of other Neighbourhood Plans progress has shown that a two year process would be an excellent achievement. Ticehurst started the plan in the autumn of 2015, when the designated area was approved by Rother. (Added note: Hawkhurst started in the spring of 2014 and are still awaiting the result of the independent examination before going to referendum; Robertsbridge started in the spring of 2015 and are about to go into the independent examination; Rye started in November 2013 and have not yet got to Regulation 14.)

6. **Vision and Objectives:** SC distributed the latest version of the Vision, Aims and Objectives. She reported that Feria had advised that all three villages should have their own vision. She explained that this had been a rather a retrospective task as this should have been done prior to drafting the policies. Feria have generally approved of the current document but suggested that more detail is needed on the objectives. All draft policies to date have been mapped against the vision and objectives to ensure that everything is covered. It was agreed to alter the wording to the present tense within the three draft vision statements. The four major aims were agreed without alteration. The objectives were also agreed although they would be expanded upon to

ensure that the values would not be diminished. RT felt that the objectives were quite far reaching - this is needed to encompass the principle that the village amenities should be protected.

It was recommended to the group that the flow and contents of Newick Neighbourhood Plan are a good example of a completed plan as a reference. There have been two court cases by developers challenging the Newick Plan, both of which have upheld the principles within Neighbourhood Plans - this is encouraging for local communities. ([http://www.lewes.gov.uk/Files/Plan\\_Newick\\_Neighbourhood\\_Plan\\_Adopted\\_July\\_2015.pdf](http://www.lewes.gov.uk/Files/Plan_Newick_Neighbourhood_Plan_Adopted_July_2015.pdf))

**7. Update on Strategic Environmental Assessment:** SC reported that there are three stages for the SEA process - the screening (is it needed?), the scoping (what should it include?) and finally the SEA itself. Rother combine the first two, and our application was sent to RDC at the beginning of April. SC had spoken to David Marlowe (DM) at RDC about what is happening as the screening bodies (Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England) have an obligation respond to the council within 5 weeks. Roger Comerford (RC) – the Planning Officer responsible for SEAs - has been off sick, and will not now be returning to work. This has resulted in our application remaining with Rother and it has not been sent to the outside agencies. Meanwhile, as suggested by DM, CH and SC have worked on a set of SEA objectives based on the SEA objectives which RDC will be using for their DaSA (Development and Site Allocations) plan. DM has asked for a copy of our document. To move forward, the responses from the screening bodies are needed. Fera are saying that we should not go any further until this is received. It was suggested that the SEA Group bypass Rother and go directly to the agencies. It was agreed that CH should contact DM to ask if we can send it to them directly. She was also requested to ask at what point DM would be able to read the SEA proposed objectives. It was agreed that, if confirmation is received that the objectives are acceptable, we could move forward and assess the 17 sites (12 sites in the call for sites, plus the 5 that already have planning permission).

JP reported that the Singehurst Farm appeal has been dismissed. App/U1430/W/16/3150796

**8. Review of Annual Assembly:** JP thought it went well - a lot of people had visited and shown a lot of interest. The colouring of the sites on the maps had led to some disquiet and it was disappointing that there were not too many written comments. LY reported that comments for the Square were good and positive. It was agreed that the photos should have been labelled.

**9. Village Fete – Saturday - 17<sup>th</sup> June 2017** - It was felt that displays and consultation at this event might reach a larger selection of people, particularly young ones. SC asked for Volunteers. It was agreed that DS will contact the organisers to secure a good busy spot for the stand. SC/TK/LY will choose a couple of the Bill Talbot (BT) posters for use on the day and ask BT to print them off.

Stall to be set up from 11.30 onwards - DG, DS and AL offered to man the staff. SC to circulate a list of jobs. Volunteers will be needed to pack up. LY to provide marquee.

**Development boundary** – It was agreed that the Call for Sites Group would consider the recent request for the movement of the development boundary to include the curtilage of a garden and would then make a recommendation to the Parish Council.

**Conflict of Interest** - JR mentioned his potential conflict of interest as he might apply for planning for one property - however, colleagues felt that this would be considered as a wind-fall dwelling and outside the remit of the NP.

**Edited Policy Statements** - SC, TK and LY reported that the drafts received from Feria still need amending and are discussing changes with them before circulating to the Steering Group.

**10. Date of the next meeting:** 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017. 7.30 pm Ticehurst Village Institute.