

Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan -Steering Group Meeting Minutes

1st August 2019, The Old Library Kingston Maurward College.

Present: Sally Cooke (Chair), John Mayo, Chris Mervik (part), Andy Stillman, George Armstrong, Keith Newton, Julie Martin, Mary Brennan (minutes)

Apologies: Theo Hawkins, Liz Crocker, Sean Derham, Mitch Stone

Minutes of last meeting 4th July 2019 were agreed and approved.

Action Updates:

1 SNP Finances

Sally, Michael and Andy had met to close off last year's Locality Grant in order that we might soon apply for more financial support. In summary there remains £550 for consultancy, £282 for fliers/q'aires, £300 for events and £74 for postage which should cover the residents' survey. Some Parish Council Funds are available to draw on but only for items not covered in the Locality Grant.

Action Closed

2. Lord Fellowes

Sally reported that Lord Fellowes had in fact agreed to attend a SNP event to garner interest in the Neighbourhood Plan in October/November 2019. There was a discussion about the purpose of the proposed event.

If held in November it would be to ask Lord Fellowes (or Lady Fellowes) to talk about the area and his/her connection with it. This would be followed by some refreshments and a separate section for us to present the findings of the residents' survey. Lord Fellowes would not be asked to endorse policies or to get involved in local politics. This would be an opportunity to get residents' engagement with policy development.

If neither speaker can make dates at in Oct/ Nov it was proposed that a date in March 2020 when the purpose would be to consult on the draft plan though there were concerns how ready the plan would be by that time.

Action: Mary to get dates that Pengelly Room KMC is available for evening meeting toward end of Nov.

Agenda Items

1. Progress on Drafting the Plan (Chris- present for this section only)

Chris reported that the plan is developing well. The main text will run to between 20-30 pages. There are separate on- line sections for appendices and supporting evidence.

His approach is to get as much as we can into the draft and do a final edit down (with reference to the drafters) to the required length. At present there are overlaps, duplications and some sections that will fall into appendices. The importance of a good executive summary was highlighted.

A map of view point photos from the plan has been circulated. It is suggested that we prioritise these views into 1. Essential to keep, 2. Prefer to keep and 3. Nice to have but not essential. These are spaces valued by Dorchester residents not just Stinsfordians.

Action All

Sally offered to talk to Martin Stephens (NT Manager) to find out the origins of visitors to the area

Action Sally

Housing Section

Andy has done work on the housing section which will be forwarded

Action Andy

Green Spaces

Sally tabled a draft section on Green Spaces with policy suggestions (attached). This document was developed after reviewing other NPs and info from sources such as Dorset Explorer in support of the objectives stated. It provides a summary of issues (as perceived by Sally) that policies should address and will be further informed by the outcome of the residents' survey. Please send comments to Chris & Sally

Action All

Next Steps in Plan Development

Residents' Survey data should be available from early October. Topic leads will then need to use survey results relevant to their area to develop policies further. It is anticipated that more than one policy per section will emerge. Better to take 'a completist' approach'/ over-prepare for the next 20 years of planning. We have the option to default to projects rather than policies in some cases.

Chris requests that topic leads continue to use the template to develop draft policies for their section. Examples are given in the Traffic section (and now the Green Spaces section).

At the moment documents are being circulated as PDFs so that we can all open them but when tracking- changes/ editing is required we must have an agreed format.TBC.

Action: Chris will continue to incorporate contributions into the Plan

2. Residents' Survey

Sally had a notice inserted in the Pilot this month informing residents about the survey and to expect it in September.

Residents' Survey should be distributed at the beginning of September with responses collected at end of September (allowing for second call for responses). A strong statement to encourage completion by the deadline date was requested.

Sean has done a tremendous amount of work on the survey and incorporated a lot of suggestions.

Some comments have already been sent directly to Sean.

There was consensus that the order of questions would need reviewing.

-The housing questions should come after some softer issues such as objectives.

-Density of text needs to be addressed and topics simplified

-Agreement to the objectives can also be simplified.

Note that participant demographics are to be collected in the survey but are not visible online

It was proposed that a direct question should be asked about how many houses should be built in the parish? (Not resolved?)

Other direct question from previous discussions 'How safe do you feel in Stinsford?'

For expediency Sally, Andy & Mary will meet with Sean on Wednesday 6th August to work on the survey.

Action: Sean, Sally Andy & Mary

3. Summer Events

Cycling event led by Theo & George takes place Tuesday 6th August at 6pm. Starts at Lower Bockhampton Playground Sally asked for volunteers to help with refreshments.

Wildlife walk takes place Saturday 10th August. Mitch will lead this walk. It starts at 2pm Meet at Pine Lodge Tea Rooms 1.45pm.

4. Report on Housing Meeting 31st July (Andy)

Andy Sally & George met informally with Dorchester council representatives Hilary Jordan, Mike Garrity and Terry Snelling.

They received clarification and assurances that awarding of funding from Homes England for Garden Village scheme development was only for preparatory work. The funding does not signify approval of Dor 15.

The approach being taken by all seems to be that **IF** you have to have 3.5k houses then use of a Garden Village approach would be highly desirable rather than developing 'an estate'. Strategic decisions on housing will be made in the new local plan. There is currently no draft plan but it is likely that elements from the historic local plan will re-emerge in the new plan.

Garden Village methodology does not resolve site specific issues but does provide legal rights with respect to land value. Any development would have to be self funding and council would need to ensure that developers provide funding for infrastructure.

It would be helpful to the council if SNP has values that reflect the Garden Village format to inform any new developments e.g. no use of fossil fuels, sustainability.

5. Dedicated Meeting to Discuss Housing

It was agreed that as Housing is such a hot topic that we should hold a special meeting outside our normal schedule to think through housing issues.

Andy will draft a discussion document for the meeting

Action Andy document

Action Mary book room

6, TO DO LIST- some topics still need someone to lead them.

Cycling- it was agreed that Cycling may merit its own section. **Lead?? Theo**

Community Aspirations. Lead? **Julie Martin** kindly agreed to take this topic. It will rely heavily on the outcome of the Residents' Survey.

Support for Local Businesses- small team needed Lead? **ANY OFFERS**

7. No AOB

Next SNP Steering Group meeting **Thursday 5th September Old Library KMC 7pm**

Special Housing Meeting **Tuesday 10th September Room T1 1st Floor KMC 7pm. All welcome**