

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

Southwick Village Hall @ 7:30PM
Tuesday 5th February 2019

Minutes

Present:

Cllr Eaton, Cllr Noble, Cllr McCaw.
Mr. King, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Player, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Jones. Mr.
Aaron Smith from Fowler Architecture.

Apologies:

Cllr Curry.

There were four members of the public present.

Welcomes:

The Chair welcomed all Steering Group members for attending. The steering Group (SG) formally welcomed Aaron Smith from Fowler Architecture into the group, in the capacity of Planning Consultant and was duly registered as a co-opted member of the SG

Declaration of Interests:

No interests declared.

New Steering Group Members:

The SG has received two written applications to become co-opted members of the group and these are being considered by the Chair.

Cllr Noble has prepared a draft letter for distribution to potential new members. The draft was generally well received by the SG members present.

3) Finance and Administration - Grant Application Report:

The Chair confirmed that notification from Groundwork's that the Parish Council been granted a further amount £3250 to the end of this financial year.

However, the formal acceptance of this grant is via an IT process, which is proving to be painful to complete. Steven King is enduring with this, supported by the SG Chair and SPC Chair.

4) Communication and Marketing.

To get the ball rolling, the Chair walked through a series of ideas and potential initiatives for consideration as an effective communications framework.

Action: Cllr Noble to arrange a working party during the coming days/asap to work through these ideas and deliver an outline communications strategy for the next SG meeting.

5) Planning: - Assurance Review

To clarify, Aaron's Smith's first job as consultant will be to conduct a detailed review of our existing document set. This process is likely to take 2/3 weeks to complete.

In this respect and in anticipation of Aaron joining us, a full qualitative assurance review has been conducted on the NDP document set. This review was based on contributions from members of the SG and from colleagues at WC.

There were **three** significant issues identified as a result of this assurance review:

Firstly, the scope of this review included the Land Gap report produced by Indigo. Our Link Officer at Wiltshire Council is suggesting that Indigo's report does not go far enough to protect Southwick from coalescence. The Link Officer's comments have been passed to Aaron Smith for consideration as part of his own review, but it is almost certain that this part of our document set will need updating.

Secondly, the assurance review discovered a significant issue with the number of SHLAA sites that have been selected for survey so far.

The sites that our previous consultant initially put forward for survey were based on known Southwick SHLAA sites. According to Wiltshire Councils Map of SHLAA Sites, there are a total of 12 SHLAA sites in Southwick.

Finally, a number of suggestions have been made by residents regarding potential sites, (mostly brownfield) which could be considered for future housing development. These sites are:

- Heli-Beds on A361/Frome Road
- Brownfield site at corner Hoggington Lane
- Brownfield site(s) at New Pool Farm
- Land/buildings behind Bluebarn Farm

It appears that these site suggestions were never followed up.

To ensure compliance of process, our standard Call for Sites letter has been distributed to the landowners/agents of all these sites, including the SHLAA sites 315/327 & 3341.

6) Ecology:

The seriousness of the report produced by Wiltshire Council's senior Ecologist was discussed. The Chair re-iterated that Southwick lies within the amber impact zone of endangered (Bechstein) and rare species of Bat and that the matter needs to be explored further by the SG.

Our co-opted member, Barbara Johnson, came forward and will to produce a report detailing the likely impact to our existing plan.

We also need to clarify if we can divulge where the single roost is in Southwick.

Hopefully an initial draft will be ready in time for the next SG meeting.

7. AOB – No further subjects raised.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

Date of next Steering Group meeting – 26th February 2019.