

MINUTES

Steering Group Meeting Tuesday 17th October 2017 at 7.45pm, The Parish Church Room

Present: Martin Livermore, Rob Foden, Emma Powlett, Ashley Arbon, Sophie O'Hara Smith, Tim Stone, Rob Cassels (resident), Jo Denny (Administrative Assistant)

Apologies: Ken Winterbottom, Alan Oswald, Pam Freeman, Arthur Greaves, Amanda Thorn, Peter Topping

1. Landowners meeting Friday 20th October. Arrangements.

PT, PF, EP, SOS, ML, TS all attending. Format, PT to present all slides from workshop, introduction and policies for each group.

ML – Friday is not about providing all the detail at this stage, an overview of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and then follow up meetings can be arranged afterwards. For further detail refer landowners to the website.

Croissants and tea and coffee to be provided.

AA mentioned the low number of residents that attended the workshop on the 28th September. SOS made the point that it is important to ensure that all future public meetings/consultations are fully advertised with at least 2 weeks' notice.

JD raised whether we want to put the current working draft plan on the website. In the letter to landowners we said we hoped to be able to do so by the meeting. ML - we should wait until the working draft NP has been reviewed by AT and following her advice.

2. Draft Plan

We have a draft plan but there are areas of disagreement within the steering group. It was agreed that it was necessary to get the external views of an expert/consultant.

JD – PT is arranging a meeting with South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) to discuss the draft plan. JD to chase this.

ML – it is now good that we also have AT with her planning expertise involved again who is reviewing the draft plan too and can advise.

SOS suggested headings might be useful on the draft to make it clearer.

SOS – There has been discussions that a master plan is needed for the Whittlesford Bridge area. The plan should cover in more detail what could happen in the future and the facilities needed.

EP – Should the plan be more radical, what happens in the next 20 years?

TS – Histon and Impington have Policy E/8 in the emerging Local Plan. That details the sort of developments they would like for their station area. They say in this Policy that they prefer to operate through a masterplan.

ML – Whittlesford Bridge does seem to cut across the whole plan, we can allude to it in the plan. We missed out on preparing a master plan that could be included in Local Plan.

TS – There are very different proposals likely to come forward for Whittlesford Bridge. Cambridgeshire County Council, Highways England, Abellio, the Genome Campus and SmithsonHill are all looking for different things. We can put in the plan that we want development holistically. We should look into this.

AA – Did the Parish Council or Peter Topping object to the third and final public consultation draft of the Local Plan dated July 2013 by the closing date in 2014? The point being that if they had, we could write a letter to the Plan Inspector, Laura Graham, saying that a great deal had changed since 2014, both in national planning law and the emergence of very large unforeseen prospective applications that will have a significant impact around the Whittlesford Bridge Area. Further, would it be possible to meet with her to discuss these changes so that a masterplan can be generated and added to the emerging Local Plan. The purpose being to properly integrate these proposals with the existing facilities and businesses, so that the outcome is sustainable and the most efficient possible as far as access, traffic movements and medium/ long term car parking are concerned?

ML – Did not have the answer to this, but would look into it, but nothing more can be done until the Local Plan is reviewed.

TS – If Abellio put in for a second storey car park now the planners will have to judge it in isolation and cannot take into account what other applications might be made by others. The NP can mention the need for a master plan as Histon and Impington have done.

ML – A planning application is unlikely to be put forward before we have an essentially final draft of the NP, in which we will make the point that development around the station must be considered holistically.

3. Applying for a grant, instructing a consultant, SCDC reviewing draft plan.

JD starting grant process (expression of interest application to get the main application form). Consultant to be considered once SCDC reviewed. This should tell us whether we will want "Health Check" or more advice.

4. Timeline

This is now dependent on the meeting with SCDC.

5. Update following transport meeting on 11th October 2017

PF sent an email earlier in the day with a summary of the meeting.

SOS who also attended the meeting said that it was raised that the "wish list" in the plan should be worded more strongly i.e. cycleways.

EP – Residents will want to see that the issues raised at the early workshops have come out in the draft plan.

AA – Queried if the Transport Group had an up to date record of all the road accidents in the village. He thought that this aspect would have been an integral part of the necessary research for the NP i.e. looking for actual records rather than the usual perceived problems such as Duxford Road and the Guildhall Corner.

6. Maps update

What do we need? TS to chase the facilitators of each group for clarification of what they want exactly in the draft plan.

EP – Are maps going in the main plan or the evidence/background section?

JD – If we work out what we need and see what SCDC can supply. A decision can then be made as to whether we need additional maps dependent on costs.

7. AOB

Next steps clarified, following RC query - What steps are planned to ensure that the overall plan will be consistent across the 4 workstreams?

ML – EP has tried to do this in the current draft plan, but that there would be a further opportunity for a wider review of this point once the plan had been consolidated after SCDC etc input. Following advice further discussions can take place on the draft plan, policies and consultants.

AA – Has a list of smaller projects in the village that although not NP issues, the NP is a good place to record these for village use. He will prepare a list.

8. Date for next meeting

To be arranged following advice from AT and SCDC. Members of the steering group would like the policies to be discussed in detail.