

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP HELD ON 22nd
JANUARY 2018.

PRESENT: Cllr. Warne (N.W - in the Chair), Cllrs. Fletcher (K.F) & Veitch (B.V), Annie Hatcher (A.HA), Lee Hatcher (L.H), Liz Daley (L.D), Nem Goodman (N.G), Tally Wade (T.W), Jeremy Boxall (J.B) and Matthew Warne (M.W)

Attendees: Cllr. Swann (B.S) & Marion Cranmer (M.C).

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Kemp (T.K) & Smith (J.S) Annie Hopper (A.H) & June Bell (J.BE)

The Chairman read out the following statement:

Members are required to declare any interests, dispensations, predetermination or lobbying on items on this agenda. Members are reminded that changes to the Register of Interests should be notified to the Clerk.

Cllr. Veitch on behalf of the Parish Council declared an interest under the site assessments agenda item with regards to the site 398

Cllr. Warne declared an interest under the site assessments agenda item with regards to site 122

T.W declared an interest under the site assessments agenda item with regards to site 430.

1. Budget 2018/19:

N.W reported to the Steering Group that the budget has been set and ratified at the last Full Council meeting.

2. Public Engagement:

November Exhibition – T.W had uploaded the map exercise on the NDP website. A discussion was had around the postcard comments received from parishioners and ways of publishing them on the NDP website. As the comments are anonymous the Steering Group felt it was important to highlight what the parishioners would like to see within the Parish. K.F suggested to leave the comments as raw data and an explanation into the process of developing the task groups and policy headings and how these comments may be incorporated. T.W agreed to upload the details on the NDP website.

Landscape Character Assessment – N.W advised that the Vestry Hall has been booked for Wednesday 7th February 7:45pm – 9:15pm for a presentation and workshop with David Scully, Landscape & Biodiversity Officer, TWBC. A presentation on Landscape Character Assessment will be delivered. N.W asked for volunteers to assist for this event L.D, J.B, A.HA, M.C and B.V volunteered.

March Exhibition – N.W informed that Vestry Hall has been booked for Friday 16th March 6:30pm – 10pm and Saturday 17th March 9am – 5pm to display the draft policies for parishioners to view and make comments on. N.W reported there had been some encouraging movement with the majority of the tasks groups, however some still require input. Richard Eastham (R.E) will be present at the event to assist. T.W suggested R.E addresses the attendees at the Friday event to give an update and overview on progress thus far. N.W advised a brief update on the site assessments will be presented explaining the criteria and process.

Regulation 14 Consultation Draft will need to be highlighted at the March event as this will be the next stage and will be submitted to TWBC. A questionnaire will need to be distributed within the

Parish, encouraging responses on each of the policies. T.W highlighted the costings should the steering group want to use Royal Mail to deliver door to door could be up to £2,000 dependent on weight and size of the letter/booklet. B.V suggested volunteers within the group complete the door to door letter drop. Leaflet drops for past NDP events had taken place and it was felt it was not always advantageous.

A discussion was had around what the content, design and layout of the booklet. It was important that the booklet contained the seven chapter headings and the twelve policies that the NDP will focus on, along with a comments box for parishioners to respond. J.B suggested that R.E should be approached on how best to design the questionnaire/booklet and its target audience e.g. stakeholders.

N.W proposed to spend up to £4,000 on the production and distribution of up to 3,500 leaflets detailing the chapter headings and policies and publicity in various local publications promoting the booklet. This was seconded by J.B and agreed.

3. Engagement with Key Stakeholders:

N.W reported that a meeting is planned for Tuesday 23rd February with Nic Taylor and Louise Burgess from the Brook Learning Trust to discuss the future plans for HWA. A meeting had already taken place with Cranbrook School with regards to their master plan. Cranbrook School were happy to engage and to share their ideas with N.W.

4. Vision & Objectives:

N.W read out the following vision that has been devised from the meeting on 17th February –

THE VISION

The future parish community we wish to create is one which celebrates and maintains our rich heritage whilst ensuring a sustainable and vibrant future for the greatest benefit to the community, its schools and businesses.

K.F suggested if the word medieval could be added as this would identify the true heritage and roots within the parish. It was agreed to add medieval and earlier to the paragraph.

N.W then listed the objectives that had been formed –

OBJECTIVES

1. Support and encourage a diversity of land uses. (9, 7, 6)
2. To encourage sustainable quality developments which reflect the rich heritage to support community and business use. (3, 6, 9)
3. To ensure that development reflects and enhances the distinct historic characters of both the built environment and the rural landscape. (3, 4)
4. To support the development of a mixture of type and tenure to reflect local housing and business needs and encourage the use of brown field sites. (7,9)
5. Support the delivery of the community, health and education infrastructure necessary for a growing population (5,8)
6. To encourage access and movement networks that promote well-being, increase safety and protect the environment. (5, 8)
7. To support development of infrastructure and schemes that encourage tourism.

A.HA then read the chapter headings that have been associated with the above objectives.

Policy Chapter Heading numbers

Heritage 3

Landscape 4

Culture and Community 5

Business and Employment 6

Land use and social infrastructure 7

Access and movement 8

Development opportunity sites 9

5. Policy Development:

N.W reported two policy workshops are planned for Wednesday 7th and Saturday 10th February in the Council Chamber 2pm – 5pm. N.W encouraged as many of the Steering Group to attend to help evaluate the policies listed under the chapter headings.

6. AECOM:

Site Assessments – N.W invited the steering group to raise any amendments to the site assessments document that was produced by AECOM.

The following amendments to the document were suggested and agreed.

- 157 – The Tanyard, Woodyard - remove the comment in the availability column mentioning cross – referencing to site 385 and a sentence in the summary column to also be removed as the comment was not factual.
- 385 – Providence Chapel – under key evidence for decision to accept or discount site - to remove the word housing. B.V suggested the detailed survey commissioned by TWBC should be crossed referenced to this site. N.W felt this survey only listed its viability not suitability for redevelopment.
- June Bell (J.BE) had made the following observations from AECOMs report on the risk of coalescence on sites 129,131 and 430 and grasslands of importance on sites 54 and 68, which supports the NDP to preserve and enhance green spaces and rural landscape between settlements.
- 269 – Cranbrook Museum – N.W suggested it was changed from amber to red under the assessment for suitability for allocation column and J.BE comments incorporated to support the change. ‘This site is not suitable for redevelopment for housing because of its historic significance and its value to the tourist economy and community’.
- 130 – Cranbrook School main campus – to add the following comment ‘The part of this site may have additional constraints under the requirements of the molenbiotoop assessment for new development in specified proximity to the windmill.’
- 131- Jaegers Field – to add the following – ‘However a small portion of the southern part of the site may be suitable for sensitive development.’
- 430 – Turnden - T.W in the absence of T.K wanted the following information noted. The CVLT intend to promote this site with a grant from TWBC as a rural exception site for community development with the possibility of re-instating a farm steed for mixed use on a bigger scale. The CVLT hopes to meet with the new owners to look into the prospect of a joint venture and master plan on the affordable elements.
- Page 74 – under heritage considerations to take out shop names as they are no longer current, to say grade II retail sites.
- Page 75 – under availability remove the CSPC comment. Significant infrastructure crossing the site i.e. power lines/ pipe lines, or in close proximity to hazardous installations column – to add ‘note the close proximity to underground Victorian culverts’.
- 409 – High Weald Academy – Existing social, community or amenity value column to add ‘and school farm. In addition an alternative site should be found’.

Housing Needs Analysis – nothing further to report.

N.W proposed to extend the meeting after reaching its 2 hour limit. This was seconded by T.W and agreed.

7. TWBC Liaison:

N.W reported that she along with T.K hope to meet with Kelvin Hinton on 25th January to review the progress on the site assessments and the work of the steering group fits in with TWBC. B.V stated that it is hoped she will speak with Marie Bolton over the Brick Kiln site and will look at the possibility of discussing this particular site at either a planning or full council meeting.

Next meeting: Monday 26th February 7pm