

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP HELD ON 23rd
OCTOBER 2017.

PRESENT: Cllr. Warne (N.W - in the Chair), Cllrs. Hartley (M.H), Kemp (T.K) & Veitch (B.V), Lee Hatcher (L.H), Annie Hatcher (A.HA) Liz Daley (L.D), Annie Hopper (A.H), Jeremy Boxall (J.B) and Matthew Warne (M.W)

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Cook & Smith, Nem Goodman & Tally Wade.

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.

Liz Daley and Annie Hopper declared an interest as members of the Brick Kiln Action Group.

Cllr. Warne declared an interest in the site assessment item, as her family had put a site forward for consideration.

1. Grant Application:

N.W reported the Parish Council are now in receipt of the £9,000 grant. The grant is to be allocated as follows £8,000 towards consultant's fees and £1,000 towards the publicity & advertising of events in November and February.

N.W advised that she and M.W will meet with Cllr. Swann to discuss the NDP 2018-19 budget in the coming weeks.

2. November Event:

N.W listed the planned dates arranged for November's event –

Wednesday 22nd 6pm – 9:30pm & Thursday 23rd 9am – 4pm, Vestry Hall, Cranbrook. Thursday 23rd 4pm – 8pm & Friday 24th 9am – 4pm, Village Hall, Sissinghurst.

From Friday 24th it will then be displayed at Cranbrook Library, for up to two weeks.

Content –

A discussion took place around the content and what the boards should display. It was allocated to members of the steering group to get the following display boards completed by Monday 6th November –

- Historic, Call for Sites & TWBC Local Plan, Housing Needs Assessment & Site Assessment, Development Opportunity Sites, Housing Design & Build – T.K & M.H
- Business & Employment – L.H & K.F
- Sissinghurst – J.B
- Land Use & Infrastructure – M.W, J.B & D.C
- Landscape – N.W
- Heritage – has already been completed
- Community & Culture – A.HA & A.H
- Cranbrook Town Centre – covered by Heritage
- Comments board for Parishioners.

Richard Eastham (R.E) has advised the Task Groups to compose their draft policies for the November event, however he is happy to be contacted for guidance on this matter. A discussion took place around what information did they want to relay to the Parishioners with regards the work of the task groups, draft policies & the findings from recent questionnaires.

It was highlighted housing was a key topic for Parishioners and both T.K & M.H will discuss the best way to display/map out the current situation around future housing.

N.W to contact R.E to ask how much assistance his team will provide for the event.

Publicity –

A.HA has agreed to meet with N.W to design a poster to advertise the forthcoming event. N.W to further publicise through an advert in the Wealden Advertiser and listings in local publications.

N.W to ask T.W to send invites out to the list of contacts that had been created from past NDP events, inviting them to the November event.

Cllr. Warne proposed to spend up to £500 from the grant towards the publicity of the November event. This was seconded by L.D and agreed.

3. Task Groups feedback:

Task Group C – Consultation and Engagement – N.W, L.D & T.W.

L.D reported both she and N.W had a meeting with David Huggett (D.H) from Persimmon last week there were three items discussed, encouraging local employment – how is that evidenced, could local apprenticeships be possible? Affordable housing & how the forthcoming Housing Needs Assessment will give a clearer indication of the housing mix requirement for the parish. L.D & N.W asked D.H if a meeting with the design team is possible, D.H seemed happy with this. A discussion was had around the allocated section 106 agreement and a further clarification is sought. At this stage L.D & N.W be the point of contact for further meetings. Overall it was positive that there was engagement with Persimmon, however it was suggested notes are written after the meeting as a record of what was discussed.

Task Group D – Design & Architecture – T.K and M.H

Nothing to report.

Task Group D - Cranbrook Town Centre – L.H & K.F

L.H reported that there had been some positive and negative comments received from the Enterprise questionnaire. The feedback there gave a clear idea on what the businesses feel with regards to housing. L.H was yet to speak with Sissinghurst Castle, however he will compile the findings thus far.

Task Group E – Education & Employment – D.C & K.F

Nothing to report.

Task Group F – Infrastructure – J.B, M.W & D.C

M.W reported that he had completed the policy and had looked into the broadband speeds for new developments that should meet the Government targets of 24 megabytes per second. M.W will look to consider mobile phone masts as part of the policy.

Task Group F – Public WCs – D.C & B.V

B.V reported that both M.H & T.K had come up with an idea around offering public convenience facilities in a retail space on the High Street. There was a concern around the capital cost to this and

whether fellow businesses would support this. There was also a consideration of a coach drop in the High Street, however this is under KCCs remit. Once there was further movement on the Community Centre, it could be looked into siting WC facilities there. B.V welcomes any ideas to explore, whilst being mindful of implementation costs.

Task Group H – Heritage – Annie Hatcher A.HA & A.H (CCAAC)

A.HA & A.H had reported since their recent meeting with R.E they have since amended the draft of rationales and policies. They have been advised to separate Cranbrook and Sissinghurst, which has been done. A.HA & A.H will send the document to the Steering Group. It was noted there were crossovers with other groups on certain points, R.E has advised if it's important its best to repeat it.

A.HA mentioned that June Bell has collated a list of all the available halls for hire in the Parish. Parish Cake had been approached and it was suggested a link could be added to the Parish Council website. The Clerk raised concerns on how the list will be managed or kept up to date, if added as a link on this website. Halls for Hire website was mentioned as a more suitable location.

Task Group H - Providence Chapel – A.HA & A.H

Covered in above heading.

Task Group L – Landscape – M.H & N.W

N.W reported that work on these policies is ongoing and is yet to meet with Sally Marsh to discuss further. She had identified several crossovers with Heritage, Access & Movement, Land Use & Social Infrastructure & Business & Employment task groups.

Task Group M – Access & Movement – J.B & A.H

J.B reported had reported that a recent meeting had been held and minutes for this have been circulated to the Steering Group. Policies are yet to be written, it is hoped the group will reconvene soon. J.B has completed the Rights Of Way Improvement Questionnaire, which will have the NDP policies listed in it.

Task Group S – Sissinghurst – Brian Clifford (B.C) J.B, J.S.

J.B has taken lead on arranging a meeting, which is going to take place tomorrow evening. There will be up to fourteen people attending looking at site allocations & the policies covering Sissinghurst.

4. Housing:

Site Assessments & Housing Needs Analysis –

N.W reported that information on this had been sent to the Steering Group. AECOM is the organisation who has the government contract to provide technical support to Neighbourhood Plan groups. Their planners, Jesse Honey & Ivan Tennant will undertake both the Site Assessments and a local Housing Needs Analysis (HNA) respectively.

The latter is the demand side of the equation, whereby calculations are made on the estimated population projection which is then disaggregated from TWBC to parish level. A further calculation will also take into account average earnings against average house prices. This will give an indication to the level of affordable housing demand. The HNA is described as an unconstrained expression of demand. The parish –only HNA will add specificity and depth to TWBC calculation.

Site Assessment –

Looks at the 40 sites that have been put forward, plus other sites. Using a methodology used by Locality this takes into consideration supply-side factors such as infrastructure, environment and any other constraints. Public acceptability of the site could be considered in the methodology.

The initial work will involve Jesse Honey and no more than three others from the NDP Group and look first at the submitted sites.

The wider NDP Group will have the opportunity to input further when the initial report is complete. There is also a right for the NDP Group to promote their own call for sites.

Both the HNA and the Site Assessments will be done separately from each other but in parallel.

A discussion was had around the HNA questions. N.W will report back to I.T with the amendments of wording and clarify points raised on who should be answering the questions listed. B.V asked for further clarification around the tenure question, this question was to do around housing and if local parishioners are allocated housing.

It was suggested TWBC are looking to the NDP to work out the capacity for any future housing for Cranbrook & Sissinghurst. This will help them form their argument for future settlements.

5. Planning for Homes Consultation:

N.W reported that there is a Housing White Paper Consultation currently live looking at neighbourhood planning, housing mixtures & affordability. N.W suggested the Steering Group have a read through as there are parts that are relevant to NDP topics.

It was decided the response to the paper will be completed by N.W on behalf of the NDP before the 9th November deadline. N.W invited members of the Steering Group to provide comments so she can formulate a response.

Next meeting - Monday 6th November, 7pm – November Event Meeting
Monday 27th November, 7pm – Next NDP meeting