

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP HELD ON
17TH FEBRUARY 2020

PRESENT: Cllr. Pethurst (in the Chair), Cllr. Hatcher, Annie Hopper, June Bell, Marion Cranmer, Jeremy Boxall and Liz Daley.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Smith and Warne

Cllr. Pethurst 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. Hatcher, June Bell and Annie Hopper declared a personal interest as members of the CVLT (Crane Valley Land Trust). Members of the various Advisory Groups declared an interest as necessary.

It was agreed that actions should be noted and read out at the end of the meeting identifying those responsible for those actions. Prior to the next meeting the Clerk to be advised of progress against those actions.

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:

A meeting had yet to be arranged with Taylor Wimpey regarding the site west of Frythe Way and Freight Lane.

Cllr. Warne had contacted Richard Eastham and a meeting will be held with him in March to consolidate and make the draft policies more locally specific.

Cllr. Warne had agreed to attend the next meeting of Hartley Save our Fields Group - date to be arranged.

Cllr. Pethurst reported that Cllr. Warne had contacted all members of the NDP Steering Group asking them if they wish to continue being a member. The following had forwarded their resignation: Laura Rowland, Rebecca Cassidy, Marcus Boret, Nem Goodman and Cllr. Kings. Recruitment could take place when the next NDP article appears in Parish Cake.

1 TWBC Draft Local Plan Comments:

Members of the NDP Steering Group had been working hard to extract comments relating to Cranbrook and Sissinghurst. Liz Daley stated that comments had been copied and pasted on 17 sites which was a very useful data reference. June Bell commented that a spread sheet had been compiled and the recent community responses could be used to enhance our own NDP. The names had been redacted, however any group comments had been left in. The issues raised regarding Brick Kiln and Turnden Sites would be raised with the developer when they meet next. There was still work to be undertaken in Section 5 and Cllr. Pethurst had been working on other elements of the TWBC Draft Local Plan which had a reference to Cranbrook and Sissinghurst and he would forward his document to members. It was generally felt that the responses endorsed the concerns previously raised by the NDP, namely: community transport, traffic in terms of volume and speed, lack of affordable housing and building in Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Liz Daley raised concern at the proposed 22% increase in dwellings on the development sites on the A229, with access to these sites

within a short distance of one another. This would bring the total number of houses up to 640. The Steering Group agreed that master planning was essential and they would keep pushing developers to liaise with one another.

Cllr. Pethurst reported that Cllr. Warne had spoken to Stephen Baughen and he had explained that the planning department is currently going through all the comments to identify the main issues raised and will review and consider altering the draft policies. The proposed changes will then be discussed with Borough Councillors after which the community representatives will be invited to review them. Cllr. Warne would be asked to contact Stephen Baughen requesting, in writing the process he would be following to allow further input from local community representatives.

2. Policy Development:

Richard Eastham had now consolidated the policies in line with the AECOM comments produced by David Carlisle in August 2019. This latest version of the draft NDP had been received and following discussion it was agreed to review the individual policy chapters within various Task Groups, with final agreement by the entire Steering Group. It was hoped to complete this element by 9th March, which will then go before the Parish Council to gain approval before going to Reg. 14 stage in May.

Task Groups:

Vision and Objectives	All
Access and Movement	Jeremy Boxall, Liz Daley
Business and Employment	Cllr. Hatcher, Cllr. Pethurst (Cllr. Fletcher?)
Culture and Community	Marion Cranmer, Cllr. Pethurst
Design and Heritage	Annie Hopper, June Bell, Marion Cranmer
Social Infrastructure	Jeremy Boxall, Liz Daley (Matt Warne?)
Housing	Jeremy Boxall, Liz Daley
Landscape and the Natural Environment	Cllr. Warne

There was a discussion as to whether any site specific policies should be included in the Reg. 14 pre-submission document. Annie Hopper suggested that NDP Steering Group should look at site specific policies after the policy chapters had been updated, which was agreed.

Liz Daley requested that Cllr. Warne contact Richard Eastham to find out how the documentation needed to be evidenced and presented for our NDP. Liz Daley was now unable to carry out this work and wanted all the paperwork removed from her house. The Clerk agreed that this could be filed in the Parish Office and when time allows, she could undertake this work.

3. Project Timetable:

Review Policy Chapters by 9th March 2020. David Carlisle, AECOM, and Stephen Baughen from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Planning Department had offered to review this document once completed. Pre-submission Presentation to Parish Council in May. Regulation 14 Consultation from middle of May to beginning of July. Completion date April next year. Cllr. Pethurst would circulate members with the new revised timetable.

Last year Matthew Warne had agreed to contact Richard Eastham regarding a sample questionnaire which the NDP could use during consultation. It was agreed to ask Matthew Warne to follow this up.

4. Stakeholder Engagement:

No meetings have been held since the last Steering Group meeting.

5. Correspondence:

Nothing to report.

6. Items for Information:

(a) Jeremy Boxall reported that he had attended a very interesting meeting at County Hall and the KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils) speaker had reiterated the importance of engaging with developers prior to a planning application.

(b) Jeremy Boxall made members aware that the Kent Design Guide will be updated by the end of the year and will be available via their own web site.

(c) Cllr. Pethurst circulated the TWBC Energy Policy Position Statement 2019 for information.

(d) Jeremy Boxall brought members attention to the fact that regarding the Dandara application for 44 houses at Mill Lane they had claimed that the Parish Council had supported a speed reduction and traffic calming measures, when they had not been consulted on this. Cllr. Hatcher agreed to raise this at the Planning and Preservation Committee due to take place the next day.

(e) Marion Cranmer had been in contact with Richard Eastham to track down the source of the information about Cranbrook being categorised as an urban area, which had been objected to in the Parish Council's response to the TWBC Draft Local Plan. She felt that this was particularly important to know, as Stephen Baughen had denied any such categorisation in the DLP when he came to an NDP meeting in the latter part of last year. Richard Eastham said that the source was page 33, footnote 19 of the 'Distribution of Development' topic paper for the TWBC Local Plan.

(f) Cllr. Hatcher drew attention to the Community Centre questionnaire. It was requested that it be publicised more widely, for example, through "Be In The Know".

7. Actions:

Meeting with Taylor Wimpey	CLLR. WARNE
Arrange meeting with Richard Eastham	CLLR. WARNE
Meeting with Hartley Save Our Fields Group	CLLR. WARNE
Contact TWBC re written process TWBC Draft Local Plan	CLLR. WARNE
Draft Local Plan Responses – Circulate Precis Work re Cranbrook & Sissinghurst	CLLR. PETHURST
Policy Development Update by 8 th March	TASK GROUPS
Contact Richard Eastham – How documents need to be evidenced	CLLR. WARNE
Project Timetable to be circulated	CLLR. PETHURST
Sample Questionnaire	MATT WARNE