

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CRANBROOK & SISSINGHURST  
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
2020

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Smith

Cllr. Warne 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. Warne declared an interest under the site assessments regarding site 122 which had been put forward by a relative. Cllr. Warne, June Bell, Annie Hopper and Lee Hatcher declared a personal interest as members of the CVLT (Crane Valley Land Trust). Matt Warne declared an interest as a board member of the CVLT. June Bell, Annie Hopper and Liz Daley declared an interest as members of Hartley Save Our Fields Action Group. Members of the various Advisory Groups declared an interest as necessary.

**1. Election of Vice Chairman:**

Cllr. Warne nominated Cllr. Pethurst as Vice Chairman to represent Cranbrook, seconded by Liz Daley and agreed. Cllr. Warne nominated Cllr. Smith to represent Sissinghurst seconded by Cllr. Meewezen and agreed.

**2. Liaison with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council:**

Cllr. Warne agreed to contact Deborah Dixon from TWBC Planning Department, who had been assigned to liaise with parishes on Neighbourhood Development Plans. It was agreed to set up a meeting in July/August. Members of the Committee were asked to contact Cllr. Warne with any questions which needed to be raised with Deborah Dixon, particularly on how to go forward with the Draft Reg. 14 consultation during Covid-19. In answer to a question raised by Cllr. Meewezen, the difference between TWBC Local Plan and the NDPs was explained.

**3. Draft Reg. 14 Document:**

Cllr. Fletcher had read the draft which had been circulated and he congratulated everyone at the amount of work which had been undertaken and much of the content was really good. However, he felt that it needed to be slimmed down and be more specific and less general. Cllr. Warne proposed that if the Committee agreed she was happy to write and introduction using the Lewes Neighbourhood Plan as a template which had circulated prior to the meeting. This would bring the vision and objectives together. Discussion then ensued at the length of the document and Liz Daley commented that the content must not be compromised.

It was noted that the draft document was compiled using information gathered from the community and it is important to keep information in until after Reg. 14 consultation had taken place as this would be the time to give valid reasons why proposals put forward had been removed. June Bell asked if the amendments carried out in February had been

forwarded to Richard Eastham for inclusion in the draft document. Cllr. Warne confirmed that these had not been forwarded. Cllr. Warne informed the Committee that these amendments would be made and an introduction written which she would then send out for further comment. This was agreed by all present. Cllr. Fletcher pointed out that it was very obvious that policies had been written by different groups and these needed to be consistent. Cllr. Meewezen offered to assist with writing the document if required. Annie Hopper reminded everyone that prior to the Reg. 14 being distributed a letter had to be sent to the statutory consultees and a questionnaire needs to be formulated. It was understood that Richard Eastham had templates which could be used for both. June Bell asked that as the current Neighbourhood Plan does not contain site allocations is it still necessary to have SEAs (Significant Environment Assessments).

#### **4. Project Timetable/Public Consultation:**

Cllr. Fletcher informed the meeting that the copy date for the next edition Parish Cake was 1<sup>st</sup> August. He hoped that information about the Reg. 14 consultation would be available for this issue which would be published in September. Many ideas were put forward regarding the consultation, including online consultation, zoom meetings, power points. It was also suggested that hard copies could be viewed at various places i.e. churches/farmers markets. Deborah Dixon would also be asked for her views on this matter. After further discussion it was hoped to start the consultation period from beginning of September.

#### **5. Stakeholder Engagement:**

Cllr. Warne reported that no meetings had taken place. She had however, contacted Ryan Johnson from Turley regarding the site off Frythe Way, Cranbrook to arrange a meeting as previously agreed by the Committee. Cllr. Fletcher forwarded her an email he had sent to Taylor Wimpey for information. Stephen Baughen encouraged consultation to take place at the very beginning of any potential development as this is when local input is most important and changes can be made, even if the development site is not supported by the Parish Council.

Cllr. Warne reported that the Section 106 application regarding provision and delivery of Parish Council Community Services – Land Adjacent to Turnden, Hartley Road, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3QX. TW/20/00815/FULL had received a lengthy negative response from the developer.

#### **6. Comments on Planning Applications:**

Liz Daley informed the Committee that she had written several letters to Vicky Herbert, KCC Highways regarding the dangerous access points on to the A229, particularly in relation to the Turnden Site. She had also written to Goudhurst Parish Council pointing out that Goudhurst would be a potential pinch point from additional traffic. Cllr. Fletcher raised concern at the amount of new housing applications along Angley Road/Hartley Road at the back of existing dwellings which are creating additional vehicle accesses. Cllr. Meewezen commented that there was too much back garden development on A229 which was increasing.

It was noted that Hawkhurst Parish Council had been granted permission for a Judicial Review regarding the White House planning permission granted by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for 43 dwellings.

#### **7. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020