

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 6.30pm
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

There were present: Joyce Moseley (in the Chair), Keith Greenberg, Charlotte Slater, Anne Fleming, Jill Reece, and Phillippa Welby (secretary).

1. Apologies – None as all present.
2. Minutes and Matters Arising from the meeting on 19th January 2022 – The minutes were accepted as a true record.
Education – Ruth Bishop (ESC) will attend when meeting set. ESC does not think there will be enough new houses built in Halesworth to justify a school.
3. Communications – The event at the Pear Tree Centre in Halesworth is mainly focussed on health and wellbeing organisations so not a suitable event for the NP to have a stall. EH will approach Sam Kenward (ESC Communities Officer) about a broader event that could include the NP.
JM would like to see the key messages worked out to use in communications prior to the referendum e.g. how much extra CIL money per new house Halesworth would get. KG has already completed these calculations – to forward to the group.
EH will draft a communications strategy and talk to Jo McCullum (ESC) to better understand their consultation.
JM will discuss with Chris Bowden (Navigus) the kind of publicity we can do leading up to the referendum. The exhibition boards would be good although the information will change because of revisions to the policies. Ways of helping people connect to the plan are needed.
4. Progress and timing on Regulation 15 – Regulation 15 is the process of getting all the required documents together, getting the revised NP and responses to the representations approved by the Council and sending them to ESC. When they have received them, they start Regulation 16 which is their 6 week consultation of our Neighbourhood Plan.
To sign off the Plan there will need to be a separate meeting of the Town Council. JM to arrange with Town Clerk.
5. Draft Documents.
 - The group have approved the consultation statement and appendices prepared by JM and CS.
 - Residents' comments have been overall positive in relation to the plan. The responses to these have been drafted and agreed by the group.
 - The Local Organisations responses have also been completed but still more to do on the Statutory Bodies.
 - KG has done the research to all for two more Non Designated Heritage Assets – The Southwold Railway and the New Reach.
 - CS needs to redraft the heritage trees criteria. Neither ESC nor SCC are happy with this currently. Lisa Simmonds will forward CS the paperwork she has on this to scan and include in the Evidence paper. She will consult CB on this. If an agreement cannot be reached, we may have to remove from Plan.

- JM is trying to strengthen the criteria on the Library as NDHA. Unfortunately, the building is not quite old enough but we have agreed to put it forward and try and argue the case.
 - CB has said the representations from Statutory bodies are few compared to many plans and thinks any changes are likely to be small ones to policy wording.
 - KG reported on a meeting with CS and a Hopkins Homes representative to discuss the Chediston Street development play space. There is a lack of connectivity to Duke's Drive to this space meaning local children will have to walk all the way down to Roman Way and enter the development there. There was access off Barley Meadow in the original application but this has been removed. The level of equipment in the play space and an improved crossing on Roman Way was also discussed.
 - KG will request a meeting with Phil Perkins and Ben Woolnough (ESC) to further discuss. The NPSG will also put in a representation to ESC regarding the planning application.
6. Signage Project – A group has been set up initially under the auspices of People and Places Action Plan group comprising reps from HTC, NPSG, HTG, Museum and ESC. Their first meeting is tomorrow. £15000 will be available to pay for design and planning of signage improvements to key places across town but this does not include road signs.
7. Date of next meeting – 16th March 2022