

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE KINVER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING STEERING GROUP OF KINVER PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022 AT 7pm**

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Present: Councillors Mrs C Allen, G Sisley, E Simons and E Lord and District Councillor Mrs L Hingley; P Jones for item on Potter's Cross; Mrs H Barter (consultant).

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Councillor K Hosell and Miss E Stokes, Mrs L Roche and Miss A Roche sent their apologies.

2. To receive the minutes from the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022

The minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on the above date, having been circulated previously, were approved as a true record of the proceedings.

3. Local Green Spaces - changes to site list following consultation; next steps

The Green Space consultation has been completed. The final list is down to 30 sites proposed for designation. Certain sites were removed because in the light of additional information it was found that they did not qualify, or existing protection was deemed sufficient to protect the amenity.

4. Policy document and interpretation

District Councillor Mrs L Hingley left at this point.

Mrs Barter will provide an updated policy document shortly, taking on board recent queries/suggestions on policies and their interpretation from the Steering Group. It was agreed that Councillor E Simons would speak to Dave Chetwyn of UVE consultants, about strengthening the policy for protecting the Burgage Plots..

The policy document, including the Green Space proposals, and the associated Background Document will go forward for Screening by South Staffordshire DC (Ed Fox) once amended/completed.

5. Screening document: progress towards submission to SSDC

The target date for submission for screening was agreed as first week of April. To achieve this, the Parish Council at its meeting on 6 April must approve the draft Policy Document for submission for Screening for SEA and HRA (i.e. Strategic environment Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment). This needs to be an agenda item for the PC meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April and the draft Screening Policy Document needs to be circulated to the PC by 30<sup>th</sup> March.

The opportunity for changes to policies will be limited after submission for Screening, although there is more flexibility to modify the interpretations. Screening is expected to take about 14 weeks. The next step is Regulation 14 submission, by which time policies should be set.

Work required to complete Screening documents by 30 March:

The Policy document will contain the updated policies; brief background information about Kinver; and for each policy, brief rationale. The Background Document contains more detailed policy and factual evidence.

Councillor E Simons agreed to contribute the required text for the Historic Environment and Conservation areas policies in the Policy Document, and also to contribute additional background information, including a map of the historic extent of the burgage plots, for the Background document. He will emphasise the repeated harm of accumulated changes to the Burgage plots, which means that the Plan needs to take a hard line to stop losing any more.

Councillor E Lord and Mrs C Allen will work on both documents, and will meet with Hannah Barter on 25 March to sort out remaining details for finalising the documents.

Action:

The Clerk to ensure agenda item for KPC meeting on 6 April re Screening Submission

Councillor E Simons: Heritage and Conservation Area rationales and evidence by 29 Mar

Councillors Mrs C Allen and E Lord: Zoom call with Hannah 25 March 8 am

: Screening documents to Clerk by 30 Mar;

6. Staffs Wildlife Trust: making best use of their report

The draft report has been received, and the final copy is awaited. The mapping data is to be used in the Plan, with any data that backs up the wildlife corridors for example. The National Trust may have some useful data that could be used, as they had to collect it for the tree felling licence.

The report and maps will be of value particularly in responding to planning proposals, to avoid damage to wildlife corridors, important habitats etc.

7. AOB

The final Design Code has been received, and was seen by all as an excellent document, much improved.

*Potter's Cross junction.*

The Plan transport policy includes reference to safety and traffic issues at the junction / area of Potters Cross, and the potential aggravation of problems by new developments.

While the Plan cannot put forward road system changes as policy, it would be possible to include proposals within the non-policy section of the Plan, as an appendix. This approach has been used successfully by other Neighbourhood Plans. Discussion with Highways could inform the drafting of such a solution, and its potential take-up. Evidence would be required including traffic and accident data.

Mr P Jones joined the meeting by request. He outlined potential improvements to the Potters Cross junction, based on a mini-roundabout at the junction between Enville Road and Meddins Lane. This would slow traffic, and improve safety. Mr Jones has already discussed his thoughts with Mark Keeling of Highways. It would be nice to include the street scene in this area, as SSDC did in the High Street. This could be an ideal project for a S106 fund. Additional data on traffic flow as well as a traffic count would help to make a case. Also look at the collisions / crash data on the road. Mrs Barter will share with the group information on sourcing more detailed accident statistics which can be passed to Mr Jones.

The SG agreed that this option should be pursued in more detail, with Mr Jones' help. Since the option would be outside the Policy part of the Plan, it need not to be included until Reg 14 submission, probably late summer.

Action: Councillor E Lord and P Jones to discuss next steps .

*Allotments:* The SG considered that there was a demand for allotments as evidenced by the Consultation, and that the PC should seek to find land to provide these. It was agreed to add this

to the list of desirable infrastructure in the Plan. Such provision could potentially be part of a planning condition or developer contribution.

*Light Pollution:* Councillor G Sisley stated that he was not entirely convinced of the suitability of bat lighting, having visited a site. It was agreed that the policy on minimizing light pollution should not at this stage specify types of lighting, pending further assessments.

*Grant:* The final grant claim has been submitted to Locality.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 4 April, 7pm, at Council Offices