

## **Pirton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5 October 2015 in the Village Hall**

Members in attendance: Diane Burleigh(Chair,) Jonty Wild (Deputy Chair,) Lorna Sexton, Nick Parkin, Tom Gammell, Ann Webb, Jill Stuart, Gil Burleigh.

Public Participation: No members of the public attended. Diane Bailey, Chair of the Pirton Parish Council, attended as an Observer

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Michael Goddard

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no new declarations

#### **3. Minutes of the Meeting Held on the 8 September 2015**

These were approved unanimously after a proposal by AW seconded by JW

#### **4. Matters Arising and Actions Taken (if not on the agenda)**

All matters are on the agenda.

#### **5. Draft Neighbourhood Plan Updates**

DB referred to the documents circulated prior to the meeting. The meeting noted the latest changes. The discussion focused on the issue of housing numbers and village boundaries. Some members took the view that the only evidence from the community was the questionnaire which returned a figure of c. 48 houses to be built until 2031 (the expected life of the Local Plan; others took the view that the passage of time had rendered this figure unrealistic. DB and AW confirmed that NHDC officials thought it highly unlikely that the NHDC would move on the proposed boundary changes or on the SHLAA sites/numbers. It was noted that the SHLAA sites may still not result in the number of houses that the developers currently propose. The discussion turned to the legal position. DB read from the advice of Maroon Planning which indicated that a NP could propose less housing than the planning authority allocated provided a robust argument could be made; although there would remain a risk that the examiner might not accept the argument, and that the part of the NP dealing with boundaries and numbers would become redundant when the new Local Plan came in to effect. DB opined that no one on the Steering Group was in a position to articulate an appropriately robust argument. She suggested that TG would seek advice from Maroon Planning and request that Mr Munro do this piece of work for us. On receipt of an estimate for any work, TG would apply for a grant. If Mr Munro did not think it possible to prepare a robust enough argument, the SG will consider the matter afresh.

AW raised the issue of designating a site for sheltered accommodation. TH will also ask Maroon Planning if this is possible.

JW proposed and NP seconded motion that Maroon Planning Consultants be asked (1) about the legal position regarding the need, if there is one, to deal with the SHLAA and boundary issues within the NP; (2) to request Mr Munro of Maroon Planning to draft a robust argument, if that is possible, for limiting housing development to 48 houses; and (3) whether it is possible to designate particular parcels of land for a specific purpose e.g. sheltered accommodation. The meeting approved the motion unanimously.

DB raised the need now to identify “views and vistas” that the community may wish to see preserved from interference or damage due to development. DB will email all SG members for their opinions.

## **6. Forward Planning**

Diane Bailey asked about the process for the PPC to conduct its consultation with the community. DB offered to do a brief paper for the PPC. **AW offered to give links to a couple of approved NPs so that the PPC could start familiarising themselves with the type of policies, and the language used in NPs.**

## **7. Liaison with PPC, NHDC and other bodies**

DB and AW reported back on their meeting with Clare Skeels and Louise Symes of the NHDC Planning department. DB had earlier circulated her notes of the meeting. It had been a very cordial and positive meeting. They had discussed the NHDC’s process for dealing with NPs. It was confirmed that the NHDC does not yet have a process, but that it was assumed that as all strategic decisions had to go to Cabinet and Council, this would be the process. The officials advised that it was unlikely that the SHLAA figures or proposed boundaries would change as a result of the consultation. However, the SHLAA will be reviewed after 3 years (2016) and a further call for sites is likely to be made then as sites were continually coming in to and out of the SHLAA. The officials agreed to review our policies and make observations on them. In this way both the NHDC and the PPC will be alerted in good time if any issue arises that will cause the NHDC sufficient concern as to reject the draft NP.

There were no other reports.

### **Working Group Reports**

- a. Communications and Website: Nothing to report
- b. Facebook etc: AW reported that MG had stood down as administrator and GB had taken his place, so there are still 2 administrators. little change in the number in the Facebook Group

- c. Evidence Base: Nothing to report. DB noted the urgency now of the Evidence Base Group getting together. She will email with dates.
- d. Public Consultation: Nothing to report
- e. Community Assets: JW apologised for not making much progress; he will do so for the next meeting.
- f. Land ownership, use etc : Nothing to report
- g. Production of Neighbourhood Plan; see item 5 above

**8. Finance Report**

TG had nothing further to report.

**9. Latest updates on NHDC Local Plan etc**

No further updates.

**10. Date and Time of next meeting**

9 November at 8pm.

**11. AOB**

There were no items.