

GURNARD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Report on the 37th meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, held in the Garden Room, All Saints Church, Gurnard on Wednesday 8 December 2015 at 19:00

Present

Councillors: Javaid, Fuller (7.30pm) and Nolan

Messrs, Bede Townsend (Chair), Richard Cobden, Jon Pearson (7.45pm), Carl Blenkinsop

Apologies

There were apologies received from Joss Bleriot.

Minutes

The minutes of the 4 June were agreed.

Landscape Assessment

The Landscape Assessment produced by Mr. Martin Cobden had previously been shared with members by email. Several hard copies were printed by the clerk for discussion. Everyone agreed that this was an extremely good document providing professional, independent evidence to shape policies within the Neighbourhood Plan. A few typing errors were pointed out which will need to be changed. The main discussion was about potential development sites – particularly within the Jordan Valley. The sites identified by the LA, provide only possible locations which do not have a detrimental impact on the landscape. Within the plan, these sites will be mentioned and reasons for and against development on each one considered.

ACTION: Richard Cobden to speak to his dad and update the various points identified by the group. An updated version will be presented at the next meeting.

Response to the Medina Valley Area Action Plan public consultation.

The MVAAP draft document had been shared with members by email and a few hard copies provided at the meeting by the clerk. There is confusion about the inclusion or not of Gurnard due to the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. Several key points were identified as requiring a response to the Parish Council when they are considering their own response. Therefore it was:

RECOMMENDED

- 1 That further Green Open Spaces should be identified within the Plan (as only Northwood Park has been included). For Gurnard these would be: The Green, The School Playing and East of the new flats along Princess Esplanade.**
- 2 That a Strategic Green Gap between Gurnard, Cowes and Northwood needs identifying – especially the Jordan Valley to prevent settlement coalescence.**
- 3 That the settlement boundary is removed.**

Timescale

It was acknowledged by all present that the timescale had slipped again, but it was worth the wait for such an excellent Landscape Assessment.

Other issues

- 1 The clerk advised that there was £7,000 ring-fenced in the Parish Council budget to fund the completion of the Plan. CBA have quoted £5,123 for their outstanding work.**
- 2 The clerk has spent time on the project which is outside of her normal agreed contract, and further hours will be required to assist the group in completing the plan.**
- 3 A meeting with Ollie Boulter is not required at this stage. He will consult directly with CBA.**
- 4 The minutes of the Steering Group meetings have not been uploaded onto the website.**

- 5 Other possible development sites identified by previous research should be included in the plan, together with the evidence for very small scale developments at Rew Street, Comforts Farm and Hillis Corner.
- 6 Alyson is retiring next year from CBA – as she is the planning expert this may cause some issues.
- 7 The date of the next meeting will be 7 January 2016 at the clerk's home to enable the use of Skype technology for those members who are not available to attend in person.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the clerk is funded for allowed hours to a total of 20 by the end of April 2016 to assist the project.

ACTION:

- 1) The clerk will ensure that all minutes are uploaded to the Parish Council website.
- 2) Bede will establish the date of retirement for Alyson.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.