

MINUTES of a meeting of the NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN LOCAL COUNCIL JOINT COMMITTEE held at the Salt House, West Bay on Tuesday 25 April 2017 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT Cllrs: Ian Bark (Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council), cl), Phil Lathey (Allington Parish Council), Sarah Williams (Bridport Town Council), Amanda Streatfeild (Symondsbury Parish Council) and Cllr Colin Baker (Bradpole Parish Council).

Also present: Bob Gillis (Clerk to the Joint Committee) and Katy Graham (Project Manager and Community Initiatives Officer).

**1. APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Cllr Tricia Dendle (Bradpole Parish Council)

Cllr Ian Bark was elected Chair for the meeting.

**2. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2017 be confirmed.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. PROJECT UPDATE AND REVIEW**

There was an update on the Project.

The draft Intentions documents were with councils for comment and all were aiming to respond by the end of May. It was asked whether the working groups wished to ask any “Trigger” questions for councils to consider when looking at the documents and this would be checked.

In terms of site allocations, at this stage no decision had been taken on whether to prioritise any sites. The next steps were to meet with the District Council’s officer to discuss the Strategic Environmental Assessment and also for the Steering Group to consider the need for sites. If it was decided to progress any sites, there would be further consultation with the relevant parish or town council. As with the general site assessment review, it would be important to ensure a consistency of approach in the consideration of any sites.

The Housing Needs Assessment was with the District Council and comments were expected at the end of April.

It was still proposed to embark on public consultation in June. It was proposed to use Royal Mail to circulate the consultation documents to all households, to ensure full coverage with all households receiving the information at the same time.

The Joint Committee would receive a report on the process, before the consultation starts.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

**5. BUDGET**

There was no further update on the budget although it was reported that the initial figure for the distribution of the consultation documents to all households in the area was £500, plus costs for any design work and printing.

The update was noted.

**6. OTHER INFORMATION UPDATE ITEMS**

The Bridport Local Area Partnership meeting on joint working, in the light of the unitary proposals, had gone well. All local councils had been contacted with details of a further meeting.

The Neighbourhood Plan Bill was due to receive royal assent this week, which should give more weight to Neighbourhood Plans.

The definition of when a Plan can be considered to be “emerging” and given weight in the planning processing was dependent on the stage it had reached. Until a plan had gone through formal community and stakeholder consultation, it holds no weight in planning decisions.

**7. FUTURE MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: that the Joint Committee meet next on Tuesday 23 May 2017 at 10am at Mountfield.

The meeting closed at **11.17 a.m.**