

MINUTES of the meeting of the NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN LOCAL COUNCIL JOINT COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Monday 18 April 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT Cllrs: Tricia Dendle (Bradpole Parish Council) (Chair), Ian Bark (Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council), Paul Bowditch (Allington Parish Council), Amanda Streatfeild (Symondsburry Parish Council) and Sarah Williams (Bridport Town Council).

Also present: Bob Gillis (Clerk to the Joint Committee), Richard Nicholls Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Margaret Toft and Colin Baker (Bradpole Parish Council).

1. APOLOGIES

There no apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on 10 February 2016 be approved.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. PROJECT UPDATE AND REVIEW

The Town Clerk presented the project update report and specifically the update on the working groups.

Richard Nicholls also provided further information on the work of the Environment Working Group.

At this stage, the working groups were coming to the end of their evidence gathering and it was expected that reports would be ready for publication and consideration soon although more time may be needed to complete the work for the Land Use and Community Facilities groups.

In discussion of the report, the Chairman reported on the need for improved communications between the Joint Committee and the Steering Group and the importance of ensuring that the Plan was in conformity with the Local Plan, whilst allowing it to be bold and innovative.

Members generally agreed that the Plan should aim to be “creative, bold and innovative” whilst ensuring it was in accordance with the advice of officers and the technical consultant. It was important in particular at key stages to have the advice of the West Dorset Planning Policy officers.

It was emphasised also that the working group reports were a work in progress until the recommendations had been adopted.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

5. PROJECT MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

The Clerk reported that the post of Project Manager and Community Initiatives Officer in the Town Council had been re-advertised. It was hoped that an appointment could now be made and to have someone in post as soon as possible. The post would cover project management of the Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

6. FUNDING

The Town Clerk reported on the latest funding position.

In terms of the Locality funding, just over £6,500 had been spent on the consultant prior to the end of the financial year. The remainder of the £8,000 would be returned and the intention would be to claim an additional Locality grant for 2016-17 to meet the future consultancy costs. The Town Clerk would meet the ongoing costs of the consultant from the existing budgets, pending the receipt of the further grant from Locality.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted and endorsed.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Members were pleased that Bradpole was to remain in the Neighbourhood Plan and hoped that a representative would come forward to be on the Steering Group.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

8. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was asked if a future meeting could look at section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions and consider inviting the relevant District Council officer to that meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Joint Committee should be held June.

The meeting closed at **11.05 p.m.**