

Notes of an INQUORATE meeting of the NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN LOCAL COUNCIL JOINT COMMITTEE held at Mountfield, Bridport on Thursday 13 December 2018 at 10.00am

PRESENT: Councillors: Colin Baker (Bradpole Parish Council, CB), Paul Bowditch (Allington Parish Council, PB), Ian Bark (Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council, Chairman, IB), and Amanda Streatfield (Symondsbury Parish Council, AS).

Also present: David Dixon (Project Manager and Community Initiatives Officer), Will Austin (Clerk to the Joint Committee), and Phyllida Culpin (Chair BANP Steering Group, PC).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Sarah Williams (Bridport Town Council) and Dave Rickard (Bridport Town Council). It was noted that the meeting was inquorate, and that any decisions would need to be ratified at the next quorate meeting of the JCC.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

RECOMMENDED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th November 2018 be agreed as a correct record, and be approved, subject to the following amendments:

- a correction to show that Paul Bowditch attended on behalf of Allington Parish Council; and
- an amendment to agree that the final draft WORD document submitted to AECOM for the 'Health Check' be copied to participating councils.

4. REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION – Revisions and Additions

The Project Manager summarised the draft revisions and additions to the NP following the Regulation 14 consultation, and feedback to date from AECOM. Key points were:

- Heritage – this had been separated out from the Landscape document and a draft circulated prior to the meeting. This enabled the characterisation of the Plan area to be separated out from design matters
- A character description for Pymore was now included as a specific settlement straddling Bradpole and Symondsbury.

. Following discussion it was: RECOMMENDED: that Symondsbury Parish Council discuss whether they wanted Eype to be described as a separate settlement in the character section of the NP.

- Heritage Policies – the WDDC Conservation Officer had provided a re-worded version, which was displayed at the meeting. There was no specific list of local heritage assets within the policy and a decision was required as to whether such a list should be shown as an appendix to the NP, or referred to in the NP as a separately maintained list.

RECOMMENDED: that the list of local heritage assets should be separately maintained, and that Policy HT1 be updated to reflect this.

RECOMMENDED: that subject to the changes agreed above the Heritage document be approved as drafted.

- Responding to AS, the Project Manager confirmed that a separate Design section would still appear with some additional photos, but with some content moved to the Heritage section. The wording had been agreed at the previous meeting.
- Housing/Centre of Bridport – these had not yet been looked at due to late receipt of the AECOM advice on the Centre of Bridport, which had been circulated to members. The Steering Group and Working Groups had considered the advice and would be responding to AECOM. CB queried the reference in the draft to the report being final. The Project Manager confirmed that this document remained a draft. He further advised that the AECOM report had suggested some changes to Housing and Centre of Bridport policies. PC said that the Steering Group had accepted some changes to Centre of Bridport policies, but more evidence was required on existing retail floor space, and car parking. CB asked whether further public consultation was needed, and it was confirmed that it was not required. There would however be a need for councils to consider the policy wording.
- Housing – the Project Manager advised that this was a complex area in terms of responding to AECOM. Evidence would be required to support some policies if they were to be retained. AECOM had been asked how this evidence might be obtained. They had advised that they had some evidence, but that survey work would be required for others such as housing need. This would be supported by Locality funding, and could be completed by the end of January. Steering Group had recommended this approach. PC added that political pressure might be required in order to obtain timely follow-on advice. CB said that the AECOM advice agreed with Bradpole PC that the second homes policy should be withdrawn. PC advised of her concern that Steering Group members may not want to continue participating if policies were withdrawn. After discussion of this issue, the Project Manager advised that further AECOM and Steering Group work would enable the JCC to decide whether or not to proceed with the policy. He further advised that clear guidance and a JCC decision were needed on whether to pursue Locality funding, or whether to proceed based on the current AECOM advice.

RECOMMENDED: that revised Housing and Centre of Bridport policy wording be sent to participating councils when drafted by the Steering Group.

RECOMMENDED: that the Project Manager should liaise with AECOM and Locality as necessary to provide additional evidence work from AECOM and provide a revised timetable to JCC members by Christmas.

- Referendum date – IB noted that it had been intended that a referendum had been timetable for May 2019 to coincide with local elections. The PC advised that WDDC had queried where this assumption came from, and had said it could not be guaranteed.

AGREED: that the report of the Project Manager on revisions and additions following the Regulation 14 consultation be noted.

5. REGULATION 15 SUBMISSION

Regulation 15 submission issues had been considered as part of the previous agenda item.

6. BUDGET

The Project Manager reported that there had been no change in the budgetary position since the previous report.

AGREED: that the latest position on the budget be noted.

7. OTHER INFORMATION UPDATE ITEMS

AGREED: that the next meetings of the Joint Committee be held on Monday 7 February 2019 at 10am.

The meeting closed at 11.33am.