

Notes of an INQUORATE meeting of the NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN JOINT COUNCILS COMMITTEE (NPJCC) held in the Committee Room at Mountfield on Thursday 29 February 2024 at 10.00am.

PRESENT: Councillors: Jim Basker (Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council), Paul Overall (Bradpole Parish Council) and Dave Rickard (Bridport Town Council).

Also present: David Dixon (Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer).

In the absence of JCC Chair Cllr Bark, the meeting was chaired by Cllr Overall.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ian Bark (Bridport Town Council), Will Austin (Town Clerk, Bridport Town Council) and Phyllida Culpin (Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group). No representative of Symondsburry Parish Council attended the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RECOMMENDED: that the minutes of the meeting of the NPJCC held on 30 November 2023 be agreed, and that the Chairman should sign these as a correct record.

4. BANP GOVERNANCE FROM 1 APRIL 2024

Bothenhampton & Walditch and Bradpole Parish Councils both reported that they had tabled and approved the governance arrangements as proposed in the report, with a quorum of three members being the only amendment.

5. PROPOSAL FOR LIGHT REVIEW OF BANP 2024

Consideration was given to ENCL: 3877, setting out the background to a review of the Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan 2020-2036 and the recommendations from the BANP Steering Group meeting held on 26 February 2024:

BANP Steering Group Recommendation – 26 February 2024

- A simple, light review should be undertaken in 2024/25 to take account of factual changes to the document, as it enters its fifth year of operation.
- The proposed light review would be undertaken by the BANP SG, with support from BTC staff. Logically, it would follow on from the Annual Monitoring Report produced in June each year. The light review will update the BANP and focus on the changes brought about by:
 - Community Governance Review;

- Updates to NPPF, especially around Community Led Housing;
 - Updates to data held in the BANP evidence base;
 - Delivery of BANP projects.
- Work on the opportunities for strengthening neighbourhood plan policies resulting from changes to NPPF will be a valuable piece of work, that can be drawn on to inform the JCC response to the consultation on the Dorset Local Plan, expected December 2024.
 - An updated version of the BANP would be presented to Dorset Council by March 2025 (latest). As noted above, **minor (non-material) updates** that would not materially affect policies, may be made by the LPA, with consent from the neighbourhood planning group. In these circumstances, there is no need to repeat Regulation 14 consultation, examination and the referendum.

BANP SG does not anticipate undertaking any significant community consultation work around the proposed light review, other than keeping residents informed about progress with the update and publishing dates.

Consideration of a more fundamental review of BANP will need to take place in 2025/26, once there is a degree of certainty about the policy content of the Dorset Local Plan.

RECOMMENDED: that the proposal for a light, factual review of the BANP presented by the BANP Steering Group be approved. The proposed review would be a valuable exercise in preparing for and responding to the Dorset Council Local Plan consultation, expected in early 2025.

6. **OTHER INFORMATION UPDATE ITEMS**

Members discussed the need for a robust Construction Management Plan, to cover both the works on the Miles Cross roundabout and the start of the Foundry Lea development. Members requested information regarding the date of the Foundry Lea Working Group meeting. [The next Foundry Lea Working Group meeting was scheduled for 20 March 2024 at 14:00].

The Project Manager & Community Initiatives Officer reported that work on two new heritage trails funded through the Dorset National Landscapes Sustainable Development fund has been completed. Downloadable trail leaflets and accompanying podcasts can be found at:

<https://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/streetscape-heritage-interpretation-study/>

Print versions of the leaflet will be available for Easter, from the TIC.

RECOMMENDED: that the updates be noted.

Meeting closed at 10.44.

The next JCC meeting is scheduled for 10:00 on 13 June 2024