



STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes 29th January 2018

A meeting was held in Ashington Community Centre, on Monday 29th January 2018 commencing at 8pm.

Present: Nigel Spiers, Di Clarke, Tiena Currell, Mary Davis, Tony Moss, Mike Humphrey

Neighbourhood Plan Clerk: Karen Dare

Apologies for absence: Graeme MacPherson, Clare Barker, Brian Clarke (all personal).

Karen Dare (Neighbourhood Plan Clerk) had previously prepared and circulated an agenda.

Karen Dare updated the committee on activities since the last meeting:

- a. Site Assessments following Site Promoter feedback: the amended spreadsheet had been circulated. Committee members had a couple of comments and the NHPlan Clerk would pass these to the planning consultant. The document was agreed by all.
- b. SEA Scoping report: three minor amendments were suggested and the NHPlan Clerk would pass these to the Planning Consultant. The document was agreed by all.
- c. HRA report: The document was agreed by all.
- d. Update meeting with HDC: the NHPlan Clerk had met with Norman Kwan at HDC for a catch-up. He was very pleased with progress and the approach that the Steering Group was taking to the Site Assessment work. It was suggested that Regulation 14 and Regulation 16 consultations were achievable within 2018.
- e. The Planning Consultant had suggested that an audit of Community Facilities be prepared. This would define existing assets and their condition and identify future needs. It would be prepared using the evidence gathered during the Community Consultation phase of the NHPlan (State of the Parish report, Assets & Treasures, other surveys & consultations) plus any HDC HDPF Supplementary Planning documents and any other 'evidence'. Once agreed this would be presented to all Site Promoters so that they could make 'offers' ahead of any formal Planning Workshops/Site Assessment exhibitions etc. The NHPlan Clerk had drafted a document and circulated it to Steering Group members. It was agreed that 'benches and bus shelters' be added to the 'noticeboards' category and that this should be sent to the planning consultant for comment.

The following next steps were agreed:

- a. Policies – now that the Vision & Objectives had been agreed and circulated widely it was important to begin formulating Policies in order to help achieve the V&O. It was agreed that the NHPlan Clerk circulate a draft for discussion.
- b. Both HDC and the Planning Consultant had suggested that it might be worthwhile to seek to define the existing ‘centre’ of Ashington. Ashington has no village centre as such but there are areas that residents would consider to be more important than others. It was agreed that Steering Group members give this some thought and feedback their ideas to the NHPlan Clerk. One of the NHPlan Objectives is to ‘seek opportunities to create a village centre’ and this could be achieved through thoughtful planning.
- c. The Chairman had received a letter from Wiston Parish Council wishing to be consulted during the Planning Workshop stage of the NHPlan (particular concern was a potential increase in traffic along Hole Street). The NHPlan Clerk confirmed that adjoining Parishes had been consulted during the early phases of the Ashington NHPlan but that Wiston, at the time, had been in a cluster with Steyning, Ashurst and Bramber and may not have been aware of the consultation. It was understood that the cluster had now broken up and that Wiston were seeking to create their own NHPlan. It was confirmed that all adjoining Parishes and other stakeholders would be very much involved in the Planning Assessment phase of the project and that one of the Visions of the NHPlan is to ‘reduce reliance on the private car by enhancing sustainable transport options’. It was agreed that the Chairman respond.

The next meeting will take place in February.

Signed:

Date: