

Appleton with Eaton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

MINUTES

When: Monday, 23rd January 2017 @ 7:30pm

Venue: Appleton Village Hall, Committee Room

Present: John Adams, Susan Blomerus (Parish Clerk), Mary Carey, Tim Davis, Jane Dymock, Kerrie Gaughan, Liz Gilkes, James Mansfield (Chairman), Fiona Mullins (Community First Oxfordshire), Mark Richards, Claire Salmon

NP66 Apologies for absence: Elen Andrew, Richard Dick, Roger Mitty, Annewen Rowe, Anna Yalci

NP67 Declarations of interest: None

NP68 Signing of minutes: The minutes of the 5th December 2016 were signed as a true record

NP69 Matters arising from the previous meeting and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda: None

NP70 Allocating land in the Neighbourhood Plan: Fiona Mullins informed the group that land with 5 houses or fewer can't be allocated as sites in a Neighbourhood Plan neither can land in Greenbelt. Therefore it was concluded that the Appleton with Eaton Neighbourhood Plan can't allocate sites in their plan as the land surrounding both villages is in the Greenbelt.

NP71 Objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan:

Fiona Mullins mentioned that it is important to engage with the whole village and obtain evidence to back up policies. Policies need to be written in a simple format and Fiona Mullins will have an expert rewrite the policies in planning speech. The policies will be in place for 15 years so it is imperative to be realistic when drafting these policies. It is important to bear in mind what you can include in a Neighbourhood Plan like the look and feel of both villages, village character assessment, protecting green space and showing which views in both villages are valued by the community.

Here are some policies that were discussed:

Biodiversity – There is no point in repeating the Vale of White Horse's biodiversity policy. It would be advisable to look at the Vale's before drafting this policy.

Design policies – It is a good idea to have what the community does not like rather than what the community would like as you can stifle the policy.

Village facilities – shop, pubs, village hall, sportsfield, tennis club, church, school

Access – river crossings, footpaths between the village and the bus stop.

Business and employment – village hall, sportsfield and shop. Preschool – mentioned in the survey

Preservation of Green Spaces

James will divide each policy out for subgroups to research before next steering group meeting.

NP72 Open meeting: As the Neighbourhood Plan can't allocate sites for housing it is important to inform the parishioners. It was agreed that it will be beneficial to hold an open meeting on a Saturday morning towards the end of March. It was suggested to hold two sessions, one in the morning followed by another session in the afternoon. Fiona Mullins will send information and examples to Mark Richards to consider for the open meeting.

NP73 Community Annexe: The survey highlighted a number of issues of interest and concern to the community that cannot be the subject of formal policies in a neighbourhood plan because they do not relate directly to planning. These issues can be summarised and included in the Neighbourhood Plan, called the Community Annexe. The steering group agreed that it would be beneficial to include this annexe in the neighbourhood plan. John Adams volunteered to draft this annexe.

NP66 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: The report has been circulated and comments have been made by steering group members. The Evidence Subgroup will look at the comments and amend the report accordingly.

NP67 Report back from subgroups:

1. Evidence Group: The scoping report will become part of the Neighbourhood Plan and will be a helpful foundation to the plan. The final draft should be sent to Will Sparling, Planning Policy Officer. The scoping report can be continually updated throughout the process of drafting the Neighbourhood Plan.
2. Survey Group: Nothing to report
3. Communication and Events Group: The group has been sending Hattie all over the village. Hattie has been to the WI supper, Carols under the Stars and there are plans to send Hattie up to Eaton village. When weather improves Hattie will be outside community shop. Photos have been taken of Hattie at her various outings. There was a suggestion of taking Hattie to the Appleton Primary School. Fiona Mullins will send information regarding the consultation document.

NP68 Date of next meeting: 27th February 2017 @ 7:30pm venue to be confirmed. Fiona Mullins was thanked for attending the meeting and for all her input and support.

Meeting ended at 8:57pm