

## **Joint St Helens Without and Wootton Neighbourhood Plan**

### **Minutes of the Steering Group held on Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 7pm at Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre**

**Present:** Carole Page (CP) Chair, Dennis Walton (DW), Jan Banfield (JB) Vice Chair, Cllr Laurence Brockliss (LB), Andrew Lane (AL)

**Members of the Public in Attendance:**  
Cllr Caroline Parking (CPa), Mr Osborne

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Richard Bahu, Kate Zarnecki, Rose Osborne (represented by her husband), John Ashton, Cllr Phil Painting

#### **2. Declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests (PoPI)**

None other than previously declared.

#### **3. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the July 2019 meeting were agreed and all were happy for them to be signed by CP.

#### **4. Matters Arising.**

There were none.

#### **5. Matters raised by Members of the Public**

There were none.

#### **6. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

The SG was updated and the following was discussed:

The final referendum copy was accepted by VWHDC and signed off by Cllr Emily Smith, Leader of the Council on 5 September 2019. Formal SG involvement with the NP now ends.

Referendum is due to take place on 24 October 2019. Activity until this date will be managed by VWHDC. It is thought there will be 3 polling stations for 24 October 2019 – confirmation of the sites is awaited.

Referendum guidance notes have been received – from 19 September 2019 neither the NPSG members nor Parish Councillors are permitted to show any bias with regard to the referendum and can only refer to facts.

SG members can use their connection with local networks to raise awareness of people for the need to vote at the referendum.

Hard copies of the referendum document will be available – locally - one at WADS and one at Prince of Wales Public House, Shippon. Residents will be able to see the document on line and there will be a leaflet (using NP Logo and factual information) produced which will be circulated with WADS newsletter or hand delivered.

CP referred to the fact that the PCs need to agree the draft leaflet, approve funding of the printing for publication and circulation of the same. The SG agreed that the leaflet be put before the PCs next week for discussion with a view to an agreement.

It is thought around 2,500 copies of the leaflet will be needed for circulation to residents. I Bristow will be involved in this. WADS newsletter will also contain referendum information including location of hard copy document and polling stations etc.

The referendum document will also be added to the PCs' and NPSG websites.

Discussion took place with regard to the possibility of disbanding the SG and members to form a campaign group – reference was made to this model which was used by Goring.

Q Has a NP ever been turned down?

A Yes - where the referendum was not successful (a no vote) or where a PC said no to a plan which had been changed significantly.

Once the result is known, if the referendum is successful, the NP will be made and will need to be considered in any planning applications.

CP was of the view that the leaflet will be available for circulation from early October.

It was noted and with formal thanks – Gwen Morgan had worked at short notice to produce the template leaflet. All of the SG who had been involved, particularly CP, in the production of the draft were also thanked for their efforts.

It was noted by the SG that Steve Corrigan from VWHDC had been very helpful to SG members in recent weeks.

## **7. LPP2 Update**

As yet this has not been formally adopted by VWHDC. CP referred to a letter that had been sent to the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government, by the VWHDC Cabinet, regarding the accuracy of the Oxford City unmet housing need.

It would seem that the NP will now be made before LPP2.

(LB left the meeting)

It was noted that the challenge made of the fact check on the NP was successful with regard to adding the plan with the buffer zone.

## **8. Next Steps/Timeline**

As discussed above under the NP update. The next date to note is 24 October 2019.

## **9. Communications and Media**

The leaflet discussed earlier in the meeting will be circulated in due course to residents with the next WADS newsletter.

It was confirmed that AL will arrange for communication with Boars Hill residents via e mail. A short article will be prepared for the WADS newsletter to accompany the leaflet.

## **10. AOB**

Foxcombe Hall Development update – the planning application has been withdrawn by the Chinese Peking University.

Next Meeting scheduled for 9 October will **not** be held.

**The next meeting of 6 November 2019, 7pm will take place to discuss result of the Referendum and implementation of the NP.**