



## **PULBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

**NOTES OF THE STEERING GROUP MEETING  
MONDAY APRIL 18<sup>th</sup> 2016.  
10am PARISH MEETING ROOM,  
SPORTS PAVLION, RECTORY CLOSE**

### **PRESENT:**

Martin Ellis (ME)  
David Hurst (DH)  
Richard Keatley (RK)  
Ray Quested (RQ)  
Peter Jones (PJ)

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Sally Cooper (SC) N P Administrator/Co-Ordinator

#### **1. Welcome and Update**

RK welcomed all attendees and thanked them for their time. RK also welcomed SC who has taken over the role of administrator/co-ordinator for the NP.

Members reviewed the notes of the last meeting (22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016) and agreed with minor typographical amendments.

Since the last meeting of the NPSG, HDC have stated that, in their opinion, The Willowmead Site (parts of) and the New Place Nursery Site should be classified as greenfield, and that they are reluctant to allow Pulboroughs Neighbourhood Plan to proceed to examination. RQ has written to Barbara Childs for clarification of what regulation this refusal is based on. RQ has also written to our legal advisors ?????????????? for their comment. Replies are still awaited from both. RQ to chase again 18.4.16, prior to Full Council on April 21<sup>st</sup>, where an update will take place. Drovers Lane Residents Group will be speaking on behalf of residents. RQ will be speaking on behalf of the NPSG. This leaves the NPSG having to consider the options moving forward. Options identified were:

1. Abandon The Plan.
2. Push On with existing plan.
3. Revise the existing plan.

All members of the group felt that too much hard work and effort had been put in by so many people for the plan to be abandoned at this stage. The Group needs to feel that HDC are committed to moving forward, and have accepted responsibility for not raising the issue of site classification, which now seems to be impacting on the ability of the Plan to be progressed, at Regulation 14 stage. The following proposals to be put to Full Council:

1. PC to write to HDC indicating their disappointment at the length of time it has taken for them to reach this decision, and to make it clear that the Parish can only move forward with the NP if they agree to support the Parish with clear guidance .

2. PC to write to our MP, apprising him of the current situation, how in our opinion, the original concept of Neighbourhood Plans appears to have changed. Intended as an opportunity to give communities more influence over local development, (subject to compliance with NPPF and seeking to promote sustainable development), it appears NP are facing a level of scrutiny that was never intended. A request to be made for our MP to re assert this on a national level.
3. To authorise clear public announcements are made to the Community outlining what has happened.

It was noted that there is a meeting of the Pulborough Society on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30 in the Rother Room at The Village Hall where information could be shared. Also to produce posters, include information in next issue of Bulletin. RQ noted it should be publicised that we already have in the region of 150 homes already approved but still in the pipeline of development.

It was noted that in the HDC Interim Assessment of NP, about 50% of NP had been used as a tool to prevent housing.

RK & SC to re run the scoring system for identified sites, changing the classification of the Willowmead and New Place Nurseries to Greenfield, in order to assess the impact of this changed criteria.

## **2. Examination**

The group discussed and considered the Proposed Examiners Panel Members Details and determined their order of preference as follows:

1. John Mattocks
2. Clare B Wright or Andrew Ashcroft

No members showed a positive preference for Paul McCreery.

SC to e mail Maggie Williams and Barbara Childs with the above information.

## **3. Date of Next Meeting**

tbc

**Meeting Closed 11.45am**