

Witherley Parish Council

Atterton, Fenny Drayton, Ratcliffe Culey and Witherley

Minutes of the WPNDP Committee, Wednesday 6th May 2020, 6.30 p.m.

Online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Councillors: Geoff Robinson, Maureen Cook, Dayle Flude, Brian Conway

APOLOGIES: Councillor Simpson

The meeting started at 6.30p.m.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

It was proposed by Cllr Cook that Cllr Robinson be elected chairman, seconded by Cllr Flude. All agreed.

CO-OPTION OF WDNP STEERING GROUP CHAIRMAN:

This was proposed by Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Conway. Cllr Flude set out her concerns about the proposal. After further discussion, the proposal was put to the vote and agreed by majority. Kay Conway, Chairman of the WPNDP Steering Group then joined the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ASSESSMENT REPORT FROM YOUR LOCALE:

The Chairman led a discussion on the assessment document submitted by YourLocale. He felt that Your Locale were the experts who had been involved with some 38 Plans and should be allowed to get on with pulling together all the information already submitted by the Environment Theme Group in order to produce a Draft Plan fit for the next stage of the process. Cllr Conway believed that only when YourLocale had done its work would there be a professional benchmark which the Parish Council would be able to assess, including all the appendices and supporting material. Cllr Cook said that it was in YourLocale's own interest to get this Plan to the Secretary of State and approved. Why would they not be telling us what the right road was to go down? Cllr Conway referred to the YourLocale document that said that the local heritage list remained outstanding as the paper was being written. He pointed out that if this wasn't received by the end of the week, a further cost would be incurred as the quotation for the work did not include consideration of that part of the environment chapter. Cllr Flude responded that this was not ready to her satisfaction. Cllr Cook didn't want Cllr Flude to be under any further pressure and recommended that the material be sent, ready or not. After further discussion, Cllr Flude agreed to send the local heritage list to YourLocale by close of play Friday.

Cllr Conway then proposed that we agree the proposal as set out in the assessment document. This was seconded by Cllr Cook. All agreed.

The Chairman raised the issue of email communications continuing to be sent from the Environment Group to YourLocale requesting further additions and amendments to their chapter. It was agreed that this should stop and any further communications with YourLocale should be via the Chairman.

Cllr Flude said that the Environment Group believed that they had found errors in the other chapters of the Draft Plan that they hadn't picked up before. Should these now be communicated to YourLocale?

The Chairman said that YourLocale may have already picked any errors up and we should wait until they had completed their work. This could then be checked when the Parish Council considers the Draft Plan that YourLocale is charged with producing.

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting ended at 7.10pm.