

Witherley Parish Council

Atterton, Fenny Drayton, Ratcliffe Culey and Witherley

Minutes of the WPNDP Committee, Thursday 25th June 2020, 3.00 p.m.

Online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Councillors: G Robinson (chairman), D Flude, B Conway, M Cook; Kay Conway (Steering Group Chairman) **Other Attendees:** Gary Kirk (YourLocale) and six members of the public

The meeting started at 2.03p.m.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: A member of the public speaking on behalf of a number of Ratcliffe Culey residents read a statement regarding the potential development of Redhouse Farm and requesting that specific clauses be added to the NDP windfall policy and to give notice that a petition will be presented to the Parish Council at its July meeting. Other residents added their support to the request. Gary Kirk explained how what was being requested was not a windfall policy but more appropriate as a site allocation, the process for which had already been completed. The Chairman stated that the matter could not be considered any further at today's meeting but a response to the request from the Committee would be made and that it would be put forward for discussion at the July Parish Council meeting.

WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: The Chairman formally welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councillor Simpson had sent his apology for absence, which was accepted. Cllr Cook intended to join the meeting but had been delayed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest.

APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES: The draft minutes of the previous meeting were amended, agreed and signed as correct.

Before the Committee dealt with the remaining agenda items Cllr Flude sought reassurance that amendments she had put forward would be considered before the Plan was submitted to the Parish Council for approval. The Chairman confirmed that they would.

COMMUNITY ACTIONS: Cllr Conway had circulated the revised Community Actions for consideration by the Committee following receipt of the views of Parish Councillors. Cllr Flude proposed that three more Community Actions were added to the circulated list. Gary Kirk explained that there would be ample opportunity for additions to be made at Regulation 14 and that there had to be a cut off point for changes which should have occurred six months ago. The Chairman proposed that only the Community Actions as previously circulated be agreed, seconded by Kay Conway. Agreed by majority.

Councillor Cook joined the meeting at 3.28pm.

HERITAGE ASSETS: Cllr Flude sought clarification from Gary Kirk regarding inclusion of properties within the Witherley Conservation Area that had already been designated by HBBC. He confirmed that their inclusion would not add to the level of protection they already had. He advised not to waste time and concentrate on those assets that had not already been designated by either the Borough or County Councils. He added that it was the norm for only 10-15 properties to be designated in a neighbourhood plan. In answer to a question from Cllr Conway, Gary Kirk confirmed that during the Regulation 14 consultation, other properties not on the asset list could be put forward by consultees.

After further discussion about the planned communication with the relevant property owners outside the Witherley Conservation Area, Cllr Flude agreed to produce the letters and contents (previously circulated covering letter, draft property description, stamped-addressed envelope for replies) by the following Tuesday. Cllr Conway proposed that Committee members should share hand-delivery of the letters to save time and the cost of postage, seconded by Cllr Cook. All agreed.

Witherley Parish Council

Atterton, Fenny Drayton, Ratcliffe Culey and Witherley

LOCAL GREEN SPACES: Gary Kirk explained that the inventory scoring had uniquely classified some 200 fields as special. He said he had never seen this number in the sixty or so neighbourhood plans he had been involved with and the Examiner would see this classification as an attempt to prevent development and could delete the whole policy. As previously agreed, YourLocale's solution was to moderate the scoring in such a way as to provide a more accurate map of the special features whilst also retaining the integrity of the scoring system.

Cllr Flude sought clarification on whether it was appropriate for a green space to have more than one designation if they were already protected by other means. Gary Kirk confirmed that it was. Cllr Conway then proposed that YourLocale be instructed to complete the work as proposed and in the timescale agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Cook, all agreed.

SITE ASSESSMENTS: Cllr Conway outlined the amendments in the final report that had been made in the light of the inconsistencies spotted by Cllr Flude. She identified other typos that needed attention.

NEXT ACTIONS:

- to ensure that YourLocale has all the information it requires to complete its work
- letters to residents are delivered.

An additional £1,000 had just been made available from Locality to compensate for additional work as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Cllr Conway suggested this could pay for a NDP summary leaflet for distribution to every household when the Regulation 14 consultation started to improve public participation. Gary Kirk agreed to submit an expression of interest to Locality in the additional grant on the Committee's behalf.

The meeting ended at 3.29pm.

