

Witherley Parish Council

Atterton, Fenny Drayton, Ratcliffe Culey and Witherley

Minutes of the WPNDP Committee, Friday 24th July 2020, 7.00 p.m.

Online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Councillors: G Robinson (chairman), D Flude, B Conway, M Cook; K Conway (Steering Group Chairman)

Other Attendees: two members of the public

The meeting started at 7.03p.m.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME: A resident offered their assistance in analysing comments that will be received as a result of the Regulation 14 consultation. They stated that they were the expert within Witherley parish on the ecology and environmental aspects of the Plan. The Chairman thanked the resident and noted the offer.

WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: The Chairman formally welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councillor Simpson had sent his apology for absence, which was accepted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest.

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

CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO HERITAGE ASSET LETTER: Cllr Flude had drafted amendments to the entries where residents had provided additional information or corrections to the property descriptions which was much appreciated. The amendments were accepted.

Following discussion of those properties where objections to inclusion in the heritage asset list had been received, it was agreed to respect the respondents' submission and not include the properties in the list. Cllr Flude had drafted a response to the resident who had had appeared to misunderstand the implications of their property's inclusion in the list. Amendments were suggested to allay their fears and Cllr Flude agreed to incorporate them and circulate a revised letter for Committee approval. Cllr Conway agreed to draft a letter to those residents whose properties were now being deleted from the list informing them of the decision and to circulate to the Committee for approval.

In the light of the decisions on the heritage asset list that had been taken, it was agreed that YourLocale would be asked to make the necessary changes to the text of the draft Plan and Appendix 9.

Cllr Flude raised the apparent inaccuracies in the supporting documentation regarding the omission of Bridge House, Witherley as a listed building. Given the conflicting opinions of public bodies as to whether the property was situated within Witherley Parish or Mancetter Parish, it was agreed nevertheless to include it.

REGULATION 14: Cllr Conway explained that the formal process of obtaining an opinion on the need for screening had now started. However, the Borough Council had confirmed that Regulation 14 could not begin until it was decided if a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was required.

With regard to establishing who the statutory consultees were that would have to be informed of the Regulation 14 consultation, it had been confirmed that the Rural Community Council would be able to provide the definitive list.

With regard to the offer of help by the resident, Cllr Conway explained that each response would first be logged by the Parish Clerk and, as agreed at the Extraordinary Meeting, YourLocale would then provide a

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professional assessment of the responses on which the Committee would take a view before the final decision was made by the full Council.

The Chairman asked if there was any estimate of how long the screening process would take. Cllr Conway said that for other Plans it had taken up to three months, but Hinckley & Bosworth was now in control of the process and it was impossible to prejudge the outcome. It was hoped that, if the screening opinion was that a formal SEA was required, alternatives could be put forward to avoid it.

Kay Conway wished to record her thanks to the Committee for its efforts in bringing the Plan to this stage.

There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.03pm.