



Witherley Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group Meeting

Monday 11th June 2018 at Witherley Church, 7.00pm

Minutes

Present from Steering Group: Derek Ridgway (DR), Kay Conway (KC), David Wilkins (DW), Mark Simpson (MS), Charlotte Ward Lewis (CWL), Laura Dyer (LD), Dayle Flude (DF), Brian Conway (BC), Helen Bullivant (HB)

Jhanvi Shukla (JS) – Neighbourhood Planning Officers

Carrie-Anne and Malcolm Sweet (members of the public observing)

1. Apologies

None received.

2. Declaration of interests

No interests declared.

3. Minutes from the last meeting

Point 10 – wildlife survey would rather children didn't report sightings as this could be misleading.

Point 6 (second page) – East corner rather than the south east of the parish.

4. Matters arising

Nature Spot website – David Nicholls. All sightings have to be verified. Keen for children to be aware of the website but he would rather spottings were verified first. Fast way of data recording but has to be accurate.

5. Financial report and grant information

£15.00 spend on room hire. Two outstanding room hires, not yet invoiced. This includes the stakeholders event at Witherley Parish Rooms. Spending currently is £230.15 from the £1,000 grant from the Parish Council.

6. Neighbourhood Planning Networking Event Report 22.5.18

Attended by Kay, Brian, Dale and Jhanvi. A lot of interesting information around parish plans. Most of the information is on the website. Lots of information around what should and shouldn't be put into the plan. Lot of good practice case studies, particularly around sustainability and carbon neutrality. Jhanvi will send the link to the website. Dave Statham (neighbourhood plan champion) – already has been through process and have had plans published. Volunteer advisors. He didn't use a consultant but it was hard work. They are on the Locality website. Not sure where we would stand legally without some form of advice. It was agreed that we would continue and use a consultant as we go further down the line.

7. Wildlife Survey – HB

Everyone present had read the proposed survey ideas. Helen has done a lot of research into this. Eleven sites have been identified for survey by Helen, across the parish. The grant can take up to 16 weeks but this will be too late from a time point of view because of the time of year. It needs to be completed quickly due to seasonal changes. Grants and payment of Dave Nicholls don't tie in with regard to timings. Helen has various contacts that could support us. Helen is meeting with someone who completed a survey for her parish plan. This could be difficult with regard to permission from landowners etc. The group looked at documentation from 2013 around proposed areas sited for development across the parish. These plans are due to be renewed and reviewed in August 2018. Some have already been developed some not. There was some discussion around which of these areas would need a wildlife survey in order to further protect them. 58% of the parish boundary is river or stream. Part of the Sense and the Anker are already LWS sites.

➤ 7a. Approval for Dave Nicholls as Habitat Surveyor

Question around whether the sites for development should be identified first and then surveyed or survey potential areas that have already been identified. There is no right and wrong way of doing it. It seems sensible that these most vulnerable sites should be surveyed by an expert. Helen would then be willing to survey the rest of the parish in her own time. This would then update all records at County Hall. The last survey was 2011 so is out of date. It was felt that wildlife and heritage surveys be vital as community feedback shows that the rural aspect/views etc. in the parish being of importance. We all agree that the wildlife survey should go ahead in the proposed planning areas as well as those areas identified on the community feedback map. It was agreed that we appoint Dave Nicholls should do this.

➤ 7b. Grant Application of £3,000

Jhanvi will investigate further for us with regard to timings etc. Suggestion that we speak to Locality about the issue with timings and financial year constraints on the grant. Mark to get approval from the Parish Council to apply for the grant at the next meeting. Kay thanked Helen for her hard work in the researching of this area.

8. Consultant Interview Dates

Clive Keeble – Monday 18th June at 7.30am (Dave, Charlotte, Kay, Brian)

Gary Kirk – Tuesday 26th June at 7.30pm (Helen, Laura, Kay and Brian)

Colin Wilkinson – Wednesday 27th June at 7.30pm (Charlotte, Kay, Brian, Derek)

All at 15 Kennel Lane.

➤ 8a. Questions for consultants

Presentation of what they can offer.

Laura will email some possible questions to the committee before the interviews and look at a scoring system.

We need to be sure what we want the consultant to do for us, although it was felt that this would come out through the interviews. Renewable energy should be part of the interview questioning as this will be a key element in the plan.

9. Key Issues Grid

Laura has sent a proforma to support us filling out our key grids. These need to be finished these off as far as possible and then Jhanvi will take the away for someone to have a look. The consultant will also be able to support us with this.

10. Date of next meeting

Monday 2nd July at 7.30pm, Witherley Church

11. AOB

Charlotte and Helen to go into The Market Bosworth School on 26th June.