

**Wolston Neighbourhood Plan  
Minutes of Steering Group meeting  
Via 'Zoom' 7pm 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

NUM		Action
<b>Open Forum</b>	No matters were raised. Cllr TB gave a notice that she is organising the making of large poppies this weekend, all proceeds for the Royal British Legion.	
<b>20.50</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b> were received from Lesley Blay (SG), Debbie Pritchard (SG).</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Cllr Tracie Ball, Cllr Bob Grainger, Cllr Tim Harvey-Smith, Roger Ingles (SG), Paul Jennings, Clare Malyon (SG) (vice-chair), Kevin Payne (SG), Jock Rainey (SG) (chair), Graham Tyler (SG), Gillian Waddilove, Tim Willis (SG) (Project Manager), Cllr Laurie Wright (SG).</p>	
<b>20.51</b>	<b>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda</b> – none were made.	
<b>20.52</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> of the Steering Group held 28th September 2020 and the extra meeting held on 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 were circulated. <b>LW moved approval, seconded by GT, agreed unanimously that these were a true record.</b>	
<b>20.53</b>	<b>Correspondence Received:</b> JR had received an email from the new Parish Councillor, Sian Dobbinson, asking him to give her a briefing on the work of the NDP team.	
<b>20.54</b>	<p><b>Finance:</b> Cllr TB had nothing to report. She has checked and there are plenty of hours' work available for our use with APS.</p> <p>JR asked if Cllr TB had started work on the budget for 2021/22; she has, and will report at the next SG meeting.</p>	
<b>20.55</b>	<p><b>Report on progress and next steps:</b> TW reported that at the CG meeting, the feeling was that until the outcome of the RBC Planning committee is known, the CG cannot move forward and the dilemma remains.</p> <p>If the planning application R19/1411 is approved, how do the NDP SG and CG proceed? Evidence was gathered in support of designating the whole allotments site as a Local Green Space.</p> <p>JR asked if all sections of the Draft Pan had been submitted as requested at the meeting of the SG on 7<sup>th</sup> October. GW responded that the sections (4 &amp; 5) had been received, but not as yet the Housing Technical Supplement.</p> <p>JR checked round the meeting on how SG members felt in view of the dilemma:- the Housing Policy as currently written does not allocate the allotments site for housing and the Natural Environment section designates the allotments site as Local Green Space, while the PC supports a planning application to build up to 48 houses on part of the allotments site. There was robust discussion but no resolution could be found. Cllr LW quoted a minute of the PC in June 2019 when it was stated that there was a need for affordable housing and that need could be met by allocations in the Draft Plan. Why has that position changed?</p> <p>The response was that at that point, the PC understood that the housing need quantified by the HNS could be provided on the 2 sites to be taken forward by RBC, at either end of Manor Estate, and the Linden Tree nursery site. It is now known that the former two sites will support fewer houses than assumed at that time, and the Linden Tree nursery site is not being put forward in the short term.</p> <p>Cllr LW asked some questions based on the most recent Highlight report, particularly asking for an explanation of the paragraph on the last page titled 'Explanation of any difference between planned and actual events': TW explained</p>	

that this is our current position; there is slippage on the timetable for the draft Plan, partly caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, but in part through the NDP/PC meetings & exchanges re LGS1 and planning application R19/1411; this is our problem. Borough councillors are not of the same view as the PC; the NDP team is a sub-group of the PC, but is not in agreement with the PC view.

JR moved on to the request at the last SG meeting for completion of the next draft Plan, to submit to APS, and asked if he understood correctly that the CG is advising pausing work on the draft Plan until the decision of the planning committee re R19/1411 is known? TW and other CG members agreed this is their position. JR asked TW to report back on behalf of the CG after the next CG meeting.

JR checked with the SG that they were content not to hold a vote tonight, and to agree informally that work on the draft Plan is paused for now. There was general agreement from SG members.

CLlr TB wanted to note that she is extremely disappointed that 5 years down the road we are at this point of waiting for a decision on a planning application.

CLlr LW proposed a vote of confidence in the Project Manager and the team supporting him. This was seconded by Graham Tyler and agreed by 4 SG members; none voted against and the proposal was accepted.

20.56	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b> (i) TW thanked the SG for their ongoing support.  (ii) LW asked all to join in to watch the RBC Planning committee meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November, to support the residents of Wolston and to view what goes on.</p>	
	<p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19.59pm.  Next meetings: <b>Steering Group:</b> via Zoom, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2020 7.00pm  <b>Co-ordination Group:</b> 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020, via Zoom, 6.30pm.</p>	

Correspondence received since previous SG meeting:

Date	Details	Via:
nn/10/2020	Email from CLlr S Dobbison	Email