

Wolston Neighbourhood Plan
Minutes of Co-ordination Group meeting 10th Nov 2020, 6.30pm
Held via Zoom online platform

Present: Cllr Tracie Ball (Finance & Communications), Cllr Bob Grainger (Housing), Clare Malyon (Built Environment & Natural Environment), Debbie Pritchard (Community Sports Leisure & Well-being), Gillian Waddilove (secretary), Tim Willis (Project Manager & CG Chair).

Under the Corona virus pandemic restrictions, this meeting was held via the Zoom video conferencing platform, using the Parish Council's account, facilitated by the PC Clerk and recorded.

1. **Minutes of Meeting 13th October 2020** having been circulated were agreed as a true record. TB proposed and CM seconded. All agreed.
2. **Next Steps – Options post Nov 4th 2020 RBC Planning Committee:**
 - (a) TW proposed that we press on with the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, now that planning application R19/1411 has been refused. Cllr RG seconded the proposal, and all agreed.

(b) TW stated that following Cllr RG's involvement in supporting on behalf of the PC, the planning application R19/1411, TW finds it difficult to work with Cllr RG as the Housing wg lead, and therefore a member of the Coordination Group.

TW summarised the options for the applicant in R19/1411 as being (i) to submit a different proposal on the 'free go' basis within 6 months, or (ii) to submit an appeal within 12 months.

TW had been impressed by the number of references to the Draft NDP for Wolston, from councillor members of RBC planning committee.

Regardless of those options, going forward, TW believes that the credibility of the Plan is being eroded by Cllr RG's two positions.

TW pointed out his right of appeal, to the Steering Group in the first instance.

Cllr RG advised that the decision notice from RBC concerning refusal of planning permission on application R19/1411 (attached to these minutes) cites two reasons for refusal, in summary loss of public open space therefore contrary to Policy HS4 of the Local Plan, and being significantly in excess of the residential allocations detailed in Policy DS3 of the Local Plan and therefore contrary to that policy. The second point makes it very difficult for the applicants to appeal, within the life of the current Rugby Local Plan.

Cllr RG stated that neither he nor the PC has had contact with the Wilcox Trust or Rosconn since the planning committee decision.

TW accepted these comments were helpful. He will seek the professional opinion of our Planning Consultant, APS, as soon as possible. TW also expressed surprise that RBC Planning Officers had not been advised of these matters by the RBC policy unit.

Cllr RG stated that secondly, he is fully committed to the development of the Plan, and wants to get on and get the Plan finished. He would agree to not speak further for the PC in support of the particular application should there be any appeal.

TW suggested that we do not discuss this further tonight, but that CG members can contact him after the meeting if they wish.

TW stated three action points following this discussion:

- A. We need a discussion with the SG on the matter raised above concerning future work on the Plan. TW/GW/JR asap
- B. TW will discuss with APS' NP at the earliest opportunity, the planning decision notice and the options going forward. TW 13/11/20

C. There is still a question over the position of Cllr RG having spoken for the Parish Council in support of that application, and his position in relation to the continuing work on the Plan and the credibility of the Plan going forward. ?? SG Nov mtg

Cllr TB commented briefly on the PC meeting held 5th November, concerning an item on the allotments that was deferred to a future meeting, and a request from a member of the public for inclusion of an item on a PC agenda.

TW concluded this item saying that we need to press on with the Plan to honour the views of all the members of the village community who responded in our surveys.

3. **Next Steering Group meeting:** this meeting was planned for 24th November but the PC's Zoom account is being used by another group that evening. GW was asked to canvas all SG members and usual attenders for their availability on 23rd, 25th or 26th November before arranging the meeting with the PC clerk. GW 11/11/20
4. **Avon Grapevine article** due 16th November for the December / January issue: DP suggested introducing Jess Pinson of Coventry Grapevine who can help develop projects to promote community well being. This idea was accepted and DP will liaise with Cllr TB on wording. TB/DP 16/11/20
5. **Any Other Business:** (i) Budget Time: Cllr TB will consult NP on need for further work in 2021/22, and will probably put in a budget for the NDP wg of £2,000 similar to the current year. Most of our budget allocation for 2020/21 will be returned, as need has not arisen. Cllr RG advised that there would be expenditure on housing policy in the Plan, and that he estimated £350 cost for this. Cllr TB asked for details of this to be emailed to her. TB
RG 13/11/20
(ii) Cllr RG is composing a list of changes needed to sections 4 & 5 of the draft Plan and to the Housing Technical Supplement re changes to 'Use Classes'.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.07pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 8th December, 6.30pm.