

**Wolston Neighbourhood Plan**  
**Minutes of extra Steering Group meeting**  
**Via 'Zoom' 7pm 07<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

| NUM               |  | Action |
|-------------------|--|--------|
| <b>Open Forum</b> | This was an extraordinary meeting with a single purpose agenda, so no Open Forum session was held  |        |
| <b>20.46</b>      | <p><b>Apologies</b> were received from Lesley Blay (SG), Clare Malyon (SG, vice-chair), Debbie Pritchard (SG)</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Cllr Tracie Ball, Cllr Bob Grainger (from 7.15pm), Cllr Tim Harvey-Smith, Roger Ingles (SG), Paul Jennings, Kevin Payne (SG), Jock Rainey (SG) (chair), Graham Tyler (SG) (from 7.20pm), Gillian Waddilove, Tim Willis (SG) (Project Manager), Cllr Laurie Wright (SG).</p>   |        |
| <b>20.47</b>      | <b>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda</b> – none were made.   |        |
| <b>20.48</b>      | <p><b>To hear a report of PC meeting held 1st October 2020, and to discuss the way forward for the NDP team:</b> JR opened the meeting with a short account of the NDP team's position: by minute 20.44 the SG resolved that the allotments site will be included in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan for designation as a Local Green Space, and will not appear in the Housing section as being under consideration for development, and that a letter be sent by email to the PC, advising them of this position, hoping that it might be considered in correspondence received at the PC meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020. RG as Housing team lead could not resolve the conflict existing between this position and the Parish Council's support for a housing development proposal for the same site, the subject of a planning application to be heard at RBC's Planning committee on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020. JR asked TW to comment as Project Manager for the NDP whether this statement of the position was correct. TW agreed that it was, and elaborated on the complications re being overtaken by the event of this planning application concerning the allotments site. JR concluded his remarks and asked Parish Councillors present to report on the PC meeting held on 1/10/2020.</p> <p>Cllr TB was disappointed that the PC did not recognise the NDP team's dilemma. Cllr LW spoke of a letter sent to the Planning Officer on 2/10/2020, from the PC, composed by (consultants to PC on allotments matter), stating that the PC could offer support at Planning Committee stage and if the application was not accepted it was likely that a draft NDP would be submitted before any appeal could be heard.</p> <p>Cllr LW asked where the draft Plan is up to? Have there been deliberate delays? He is losing confidence in some of the working group leads. TW fully endorses that our position is as stated – the dilemma still exists, and until we get a clear directive from the PC, we cannot proceed. There seems to be a perception that if the planning application is passed at Planning committee on 14<sup>th</sup> October, then the PC will not have to make a decision.</p> <p>JR reiterated that the NDP team has only one mandate, from the village community to designate the site as Local Green Space. Other SG members agreed with KP's statement that the allotments site has been selected as LGS by the people we represent, and we are obliged to carry that forward.</p> <p>JR asked if TH-S wished to comment. TH-S said that as chair of the PC he has no personal view.</p> <p>JR asked if the Housing section for the draft Plan can be completed by the end of the week – RG responded yes, by the end of the week (later clarified as Sunday</p> |        |

11/10/20).

RG wished to stress that the draft of the Housing section includes the North section of the allotments as LGS and not available for development. He also referred to min. 2019/184 of the PC, agreed at the extraordinary meeting with the NDP team.

JR asked if with the Housing section as described, can TW carry forward the draft Plan. TW was not content that the question was framed in those terms – whatever is now submitted as the Housing section, RG is to speak at the Planning committee meeting on behalf of the PC in support of the application.

Cllr LW expressed the frustrations of SG members in seeing no progress on the draft Plan, because of this dilemma, which the PC on the whole do not accept. He asked a number of questions about support offered to working group leads, in particular to Cllr RG as Housing wg lead. TW has kept the matter of resources before the SG and the PC by way of his highlight reports. Cllr RG felt lack of support was not a factor in his missing deadlines.

RI asked if after 14/10/2020 we will get a clearer mandate from the PC; if we don't get it clear, we will be going on and on without direction.

The SG cannot resolve this matter. TW will use the planned CG meeting on 13/10/2020 to ask if the CG members have any appetite for taking the draft Plan to the next stage in these circumstances, and the CG will hope to make a recommendation to propose to the SG at their next meeting.

**20.49**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Next meetings: **Steering Group**: via Zoom, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2020 7.00pm

**Co-ordination Group**: 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020, via Zoom, 6.30pm.