MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 23RD APRIL 2021 AT 7.00 PM

All NDP SG meetings will be held virtually via Zoom until further notice, in accordance with Government Regulations. Meetings are recorded for the use of the Minutes Secretary only.

PRESENT

Steering Group: Mr Jock Rainey (Chair), Mrs Lesley Blay, Mr Roger Ingles, Mr Paul Jennings, Mr Graham Tyler, Mr Tim Willis (Project Manager) and Cllr Laurie Wright.
Co-ordination Group : Cllr Miss Tracie Ball and Cllr Robert Grainger.
Plus: Mrs Maria Meede (Minutes Secretary).

OPEN FORUM

Mr Rainey opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
Mr Tyler raised some queries about the Asset of Community Value (ACV) on the allotments site. Cllr Grainger advised that if the appeal is successful, the land will be available for sale with planning permission, and if the appeal is refused, the owners have confirmed that they will not sell the land. This item is on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting to be discussed, and a decision will be taken about the next steps the Parish Council may take.

Cllr Wright confirmed his loyalties to the NDP, and said that at the Appeal Hearing he would be speaking on behalf of the NDP and not the Parish Council, and he won't necessarily work on behalf of the Parish Council if he doesn't agree with what has been agreed. The Chairman thanked him for his support.

Cllr Wright then noted that the Parish Council Allotment Working Group (AWG) had been looking at the draft Statement of Common Ground, and he had seen that the NDP was now being mentioned in the document. Cllr Miss Ball advised she had asked for the NDP to be included to show that the NDP was important, but she had not provided wording and Rosconn had therefore written the statement about the NDP. Following a discussion the Steering Group were generally in agreement that the statement did not reflect the current status of the plan. Cllr Wright asked if the statement could be removed, but Cllr Miss Ball confirmed she would try and get some amended wording to Rosconn instead, as she felt something should be included.

The Chairman asked for a discussion to take place at the next Co-ordination Group meeting about all members being aligned, as he felt differing views could be harmful.

The Chairman then advised that a new group of Trustees were being formed for the Brandon and Wolston Village Hall, and he felt it was important that there should be a representative from the NDP on the Committee, especially during the restructuring. Following a brief discussion, Mr Tyler proposed Cllr Wright, which was seconded by Mr Ingles and this was agreed unanimously. The Village Hall AGM will take place on 4th May 2021 at 7.30pm.

85. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The apologies of Mrs C Malyon, Mrs D Pritchard, Cllr T Harvey-Smith and Mr K Payne were accepted.

86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (existence and nature) for items on the Agenda

Mr Willis informed those present that his nomination as a candidate for Rugby Borough Councillor at the forthcoming local government election on 6th May 2021 had been confirmed. Therefore he felt it may be prudent to update his Declaration of Interests form to reflect this. Mr Willis advised that, notwithstanding that the purdah period is now under way, he would consider any work on the Wolston Neighbourhood Plan to be treated as Business As Usual (BAU). However, in order to avoid any potential challenge, he asked the Steering Group to assume his interest declared until such time as the result of the election has been confirmed.

The Chairman advised that members could declare an interest later in the meeting should this become apparent for any agenda item.

87. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 23RD MARCH 2021

All members of the NDP Steering Group had been given the opportunity to review the minutes of 23rd March 2021 prior to the meeting.

Mr Tyler asked if a letter had been sent from the NDP to the Planning Inspectorate to give them accurate and up-to-date information about the current status of the NDP - Mr Willis confirmed the letter had been sent. Mr Tyler then proposed approving the minutes, which was seconded by Cllr Wright and the motion was passed.
RESOLVED: The minutes of the Steering Group meetings held on 23rd March 2021 were approved for adoption by those who had been present at the meeting. The Zoom recording for the March meeting will now be deleted.

88. CORRESPONDENCE
There was no correspondence to note.

89. VICE-CHAIR REPORT
Mrs Malyon had given her apologies for this meeting, and so there was no report. The Chair confirmed that Mrs Malyon had not notified him of any concerns or issues, and as far as he was aware all was well.

90. FINANCE
Cllr Miss Ball confirmed that an initial cheque for £300 had been given to Mr Wongsam, for work he will be carrying out on the NDP document, as discussed and agreed at the last Steering Group meeting.

91. PROJECT MANAGER: REPORT ON PROGRESS AND THE NEXT STEPS
Mr Willis (Project Manager) reported that he has heard back from RBC about the 'health check' they have been carrying out on the NDP document, and initial feedback is good. Once the document is returned, a meeting between Mr Willis, Mr Rainey and Avon Planning Services (APS) will be arranged with RBC, before the Co-ordination Group then meet to see if there are any amendments they need to work on. Following this, the Parish Council will be consulted on the document, before a formal Public Consultation takes place. It is hoped that the Public Consultation will take place mid to late summer 2021.

92. NDP CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE
Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that there is no need to formally alter the NDP Constitution and Terms of Reference, and the minute notes from the March Steering Group meeting will be sufficient.

93. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
There were no items raised under this agenda item.

As there were no further items for discussion, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

The next SG meeting is due to take place on Tuesday 25th May 2021 at 7pm via Zoom. However, Mrs Meede advised that she will keep the Chair updated on the Government Guidelines and Regulations relating to meetings, as it may be that the meeting will be held face-to-face.

Further meetings are scheduled for 22nd June 2021, 27th July, 2021, 24th August 2021, 28th September 2021, 26th October 2021 and 23rd November 2021.

DRAFT