

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING SESSION NOTES

Date:	20 November 2023
Venue:	Ashlea Room, Parish Hall
Present:	Julia Davies (Chairman), Sarah Chapman, Mike Dormon, Rowan Lloyd, Clare Maynard, Jan Reynolds, Maria Tasker, Christina Whellams (Secretary)
1. Apologies:	Sharon Strutt, Gini Trower, Anne Washbourn

2. Notes of the last meeting (16 October 2023) were agreed.

- a) Health Check – this is underway.
- b) Finance – Stanstead Abbots Parish Council have set aside £1,000 for Neighbourhood Plan work in their budget for 2024/25.

3. Progress with Regulation 14

- a) Views - Rye Gate Farm view is not being included. It had previously been mentioned in the consultation partly because of the possible implementation of the quarry and haulage road.
- b) Green spaces:
 - the grid reference for the Wilderness area and the Wilderness Grove (near The Granary) needs to be checked.
 - clarification is needed to confirm whether St Margaret's community wood was part of a planting scheme by the National Trust. The Chairman will write some detail to explain why it has been included.
 - the assessment grid for local green spaces needs to be included within the evidence base.
 - cross referencing of the grid needs checking and LGS referencing needs reviewing for consistency.

4. Adjustment of Housing Sites

- a) The Housing Subgroup met and established that as there has been a decrease in housing numbers, it would be worthwhile including the South Street site again but with only two houses, in order to ensure we meet our quota without having to reassess a site again. This was thought to be a sensible option rather than increasing numbers on Netherfield Lane.
- b) The Steering Group have not heard back from Laura Guy at EHDC in relation to whether conversion, rather than a new build, can be included within our figures. The Chairman will follow up with her in a week's time and ask her to respond by a deadline.

5. Progress with Action Plan

- a) Still waiting to formally hear about 20mph speed limits being enforced.

6. Progress with Consultation Statement

- a) The Chairman and the Secretary have made progress on the Consultation Statement, with work continuing on the document.

7. Parish Councillors

- a) There are two vacancies at SAPC and one vacancy at SMPC.
- b) We need to raise the profile of the plan more, in order for residents to understand that if the plan isn't approved, that EHDC will have no control over planning applications that are submitted.
- c) Communication needs adding to the Facebook page and website to provide an update as to why we have had to look at sites again, referring to the new flood plan, and that the PCs will need to approve the final draft. The Chairman will draft some text.

8. AOB

- a) Website – we have now run out of storage space so costs will be presented at the next meeting.
- b) Christmas social – will take place at 7.30pm on Monday 18 December. Steering Group members to specify on the WhatsApp group what food/drink they will bring.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The next Working Group meeting will take place on Monday 15 January 2024 at 7.30pm.

ACTIONS:

- A) Assessment grid and LGS referencing to be checked/reviewed for consistency.
- B) Grid reference for the Wilderness area and the Wilderness Grove (near The Granary) to be checked.
- C) JD to draft text relating to St Margaret's Community Wood.
- D) JD to contact Laura Guy in relation to conversions.
- E) JD to draft communication for the website and Facebook pages.
- F) CM to present website expansion costs to the next meeting.