

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING SESSION NOTES

Date:	3 October 2022
Venue:	Zoom Call
Present:	Julia Davies (Chairman), Sarah Chapman, Andrew Clayden, Mike Dormon, Tom Foy, Robin Jewett, Rowan Lloyd, Jan Reynolds, Sharon Strutt, Gini Trower, Anne Washbourn, Christina Whellams (Secretary)
1. Apologies:	Clare Maynard, Maria Tasker, Jacqueline Veater (Consultant)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Review the Draft Plan

The following comments were made:

- a) *Front page*: Reference to ‘...& St Margarets’ should be included to remain consistent with the footers. It was agreed that inclusion of The Folly within the foreword is sufficient referencing for parts of Great Amwell.
- b) *Front page*: It was queried whether the dates (2021-2033) were accurate in terms of the 15-year period of a plan. 2033 is when EHDC have to review their plan and our plan should be within this timeframe, but clarification on the dates will need to be sought as we had previously been advised that any housing built after 1st April 2017 could be considered.
- c) *Housing section* – the text currently states that demand is mainly 3 & 4-bedroom homes, however EHDC have indicated that demand appears to be for smaller properties. This will be amended.
- d) *SASM H2 Housing Numbers/SASM H8: Sites with Planning Permission* - Sites 28 & 30b refer to Pump House Lane which are built and fully occupied.
- e) *Pictures Google Images* – MD agreed to provide these.
- f) *Netherfield Lane – 3.21* the reference to land-owners/developers will be removed.
- g) *Business* – some elements of the evidence base did not appear to be included. An electronic copy of the evidence base was sent to JV containing all the information that had been collated but there had been no feedback to date.
- h) Within the Business area of the plan, there is a policy for Farming Diversification but no reference to agriculture or farming within the body of the text. SS/GT will review this.
- i) It would be useful to include something around biodiversity gains, for example maintaining existing trees rather than replacing those that are removed.
- j) *Empty shops* – The change in use class systems should permit shops to be turned into residential but it would seem that EHDC are not allowing this to happen and shops remain empty. SS to review to see if we can include text to support the need for redevelopment.
- k) *Site selection narrative* – SC will continue to work on this.
- l) *Protected views* – it had previously been suggested that a particular view close to the quarry was included but certain views had previously been ruled out that weren’t into the village, however Hunsdon managed to include views out of their village and got through inspection so this is a possibility.
- m) *Transport* – this area seems to focus on promoting car usage and doesn’t appear to forward plan (i.e. EV charging points)
- n) *LGS 5 Sanville Gardens Orchard* – this should remain a community asset as it is currently owned by Cllr Nigel Copping and will be for the purposes of the community.

- o) *Action Plan* – there appears to be a fair amount of content but everyone is requested to review these.

3. Next Steps

- a) The summary document will be circulated for everyone to review.
- b) Each of the three parish councils need to approve the full plan and summary for consultation.
- c) Two weeks will be given to the Steering Group in order to review the final document and summary leaflet, four weeks for the parish councils to read the documentation for approval, printing is expected to take a week, delivery will take two weeks, followed by the six-week consultation period.
- d) Any typos to be sent to JR and more detailed comments to be sent to JD, JV and CW.

4. Date of Next Meeting

- a) The next Working Group meeting will take place on Thursday 3 November 2022 at 7.30pm.
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ACTIONS:

- A) All to send typos/amendments to JR.
- B) JD to seek clarification on plan dates.
- C) MD to produce pictures to replace Google Images.
- D) SS/GT to review the Farming Diversification policy.
- E) SS to review the use class system and include narrative to support redevelopment of empty shops.
- F) SC to further develop the site selection narrative.
- G) All to review the action plan content.
- H) JD to circulate the summary document.
- I) All to send any comments to JD, JV and CW.