

# Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan

7.30pm Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Zoom Meeting

## Steering Group Minutes

Present: Mr J Quick, Cllr S Cade, Cllr Palmer; Cllr Fookes, Cllr Gerry, Cllr J Jackson. Mr S Morris, Ms J Scotton; and Mr R Daniels

Also present: Mrs A Clothier (Clerk), Ms J Witherden

There were 6 members of the public present.

### 1. Apologies

1.1 Cllr Maureen Steel gave her apologies and these were accepted by the committee.

### 2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 No changes.

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were circulated prior to the meeting. These were approved.

### 3.2 Matters arising:

*Action 1: Clerk to contact school to discuss future needs – Clerk to try and contact the school*

*Action 2: Clerk to contact owners of the 4 suggested sites to find out intentions for the site – Clerk to try and contact Birchmere*

*Action 3: Mr Quick to map all submitted sites – ongoing.*

*Action 4: Committee to view all submitted sites - ongoing*

*Action 5: Mr Daniels to investigate plans for Henbury Pit – complete.*

*Action 7: Clerk to apply for SEA technical package – superseded. See item 10.*

*Action 1: Clerk to arrange meeting with Mr Reese – complete.*

### 5. Community Groups Survey

5.1 As above. Clerk to contact the school to ask about future needs.

### 6. Call for Sites.

6.1 As above. Clerk to contact Birchmere again to double check land availability.

## 7. Site Assessments Technical Package

- 7.1 As discussed in the previous meeting, AECOM would not commit to the site assessment work until confirmation had been received from Dorset Council. Dorset Council have recognised that the Local Plan is still in draft so the Neighbourhood Plan can take a lead role in looking at sites. This needs to progress quickly so it can feed into the Local Plan. The group acknowledged that this was very positive news.
- 7.2 There was a discussion regarding how much information could be shared with AECOM and it was concluded that they would be given everything the Steering Group had on the sites. It was questioned whether the Steering Group could undertake any work themselves to speed up the process or rate the sites but it was confirmed that the Group must be impartial and should not influence what AECOM look at. The AECOM opinions would feed into the options consultation.

## 8. Local Greenspace Study

- 8.1 This has been taken as far as it can be at the moment. The next stage is to contact landowners when we go out for consultation. This would include Dorset Council.

## 9. Dorset Local Plan

- 9.1 Three main sites have been selected in the village. In the original email from Mr Reese it stated that the housing numbers may change with the different methodology – Ms Witherden stated that this has already been undertaken and the numbers remain largely the same. The housing requirement for BCP has increased which may put more pressure on Dorset. There are three factors to the increase in figures from the East Dorset Plan – a change in the pattern of development, a decrease in the figures allocated in Alderholt and an overallocation of 9000 homes.
- 9.2 The Parish Council has arranged a meeting with Dorset Council on the Local Plan on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Any questions that the Neighbourhood Plan team have can be asked at the meeting. It was asked that the question of the relationship with the industrial estate be raised as very few people that worked there who live in the village. The Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will do a joint response. The main concerns are regarding insufficient infrastructure and the scale of development in the village.
- 9.3 The supporting evidence was discussed including the traffic study which was due to be released shortly. NPPF para 138 looks at release of Greenbelt land and the criteria state that first consideration needs to be given to land previously developed or well served by public transport. Dorset Council need to be asked whether they have really explored all the other sites and, if so, where is the list of sites that have been considered and rejected. The main issues raised in the Parish Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> February were concerned with the Golf Course. Springfield Farm and Arch Ground seemed more acceptable. Flooding is an issue as well as access. It was asked whether an Emissions Survey had been carried out which could be another point to ask Dorset Council.

## **Action 1: Cllr Cade to investigate Emissions Survey with Environmental Health.**

### 10. SEA

- 10.1 Mr Daniels has written to Mr Rendle at Dorset Council with a draft Screening to see if was on the right lines. Awaiting a response.

### 11 Traffic and Transport Survey

- 11.1 There is survey data available for the A350 from 2017. The Parish Council has commissioned 5 surveys in the Parish to take place after lockdown. There is a clear public opinion on traffic and transport from the household survey. Need to consider what the problems are and what solutions the new sites might provide. The Local Economic Partnership has more up to date traffic survey data from the A350 which is due to be released in February/March this year. The group discussed how many vehicles per household would be expected for new dwellings – it was suggested that the Bellway Homes report for Blandford was looked at as an example.

### 12 Footpaths, Cycleways and Walkways

- 12.1 Cllr Gerry circulated a draft report before the meeting. This has looked at problems and potential enhancements. The next step is to put this on the mapping software. The report is looking at the safeguarding of routes and how to target the funding and there are already a few policy ideas emerging already. There was a discussion about joining the Trailway to the North and South of Sturminster Marshall but there were issues with this because of the funding involved in doing it.
- 12.2 Other studies were discussed including Design and Guidance – the plan is to use the Locality Technical Support after the Options Consultation. The Group can look at what has worked well and what hasn't worked well. Ms Witherden directed those interested to the national design code guidance. There may be a local architect that could assist with the design policies.
- 12.3 Trees on the new sites were raised and it was concluded that the Tree Officer should come and view the sites to see if any trees should have a TPO.
- 12.4 Following the completion of the AECOM Site Assessment work the next step is the Options Consultation in June 2021.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30

The meeting ended at 9.24pm

