

Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan

7.30pm Tuesday, 19th October 2021

Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall

Steering Group Minutes

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

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

1. Apologies

1.1 Cllr M Steel and Mr S Morris gave their 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 14th September 2021 were circulated prior to the meeting. These were approved.

3.2 Matters arising:

Action 1: Clerk to speak to National Trust regarding potential of a bridge and ask Dorset Council for bridge costings. Email has been sent to the National Trust and we are awaiting a response. There may be an issue with this proposal as this site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and the benefits would need to outweigh the harm.

4. Options Consultation

4.1 The consultation event was a positive event with over 120 people attending. The main concern raised was around the amount of housing proposed. There were not many younger people that attended.

4.2 86 survey responses have been submitted which is relatively low for the size of population. There has been confusion between the Neighbourhood Plan and the private survey sent out around the time of the Local Plan consultation which has led people to believe that they have already commented. The key element with the number of responses is the confidence that the Plan will get through the referendum. It was concluded that the consultation period would be extended to the 29th October with further adverts on social media. The survey would include a 'short on time' button to skip some questions.

4.3 Three responses have been received from agents of land owners to promote the sites.

- 4.4 Dorset Council have until the 29th October to comment on sites. The responses will then be analysed, and a report produced. After this time, it was agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss how the Neighbourhood Plan can influence the Local Plan.

Action 1: Clerk to arrange meeting with Dorset Council for the week beginning 15th November.

5. SEA Scoping Report

- 5.1 AECOM sent through a draft of the Scoping Report which the group commented on. The final version has gone out to the Statutory Consultees for consultation.

6. Master planning

- 6.1 Once the results of the consultation have been analysed then the group will need to decide which sites go forwards to the master planning process. In order to do this a discussion with Dorset Council needs to take place. The Master planning package should be applied for now in order for this to be ready in November.

Action 2: Clerk to apply for master planning technical package

- 6.2 The difference between master planning and design codes was discussed and it was concluded that master planning looks at general principles whilst design codes look at the physical design of individual buildings. AECOM would need to be asked whether this will look at energy efficiency. Viability is also a separate technical package that might need to be considered.
- 6.3 It was concluded that to move forwards with the next stage the group should be expanded to include people with skills in architecture, engineering or design. The group will advertise for these skills to encourage people to come forward.

7. Locally Important Buildings

- 7.1 The desktop research on this evidence base is complete but further expertise is needed to assist with the site assessments. Dorset Council are also asking for suggestions of buildings that should be added to a local list.

8. Grant Funding

- 8.1 The current grant period expires at the end of 2021 so the period from January to March needs to be applied for. Ms Witherden to provide an estimate for the remainder of the financial year.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th November 2021

The meeting ended at 9.01pm