

Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan

7.30pm Tuesday 13th December 2023

On Zoom

Steering Group Minutes

Present: Mr J Quick, Cllr H Palmer, Mr R Daniels, Cllr S Cade

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

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Cllr H Fookes and Cllr M Steel 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 18th October 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting. These were approved.

Action 1: Climate Change section to include mention of the Climate Change Action Plan – Clerk to send progress to RD.

Action 2: Circulate template for chapters – ongoing

Action 3: Clerk to contact Dorset Council to keep them updated with progress - complete

4. AECOM – Master Planning and Design Codes

- 4.1 The Design Codes draft has been received and circulated. The comments prepared by the NP group have been sent back to AECOM. In the covering letter to AECOM it was emphasised that Sturminster Marshall was a rural community and the report needed to reflect this. It was concluded that at present the report was too long and will be difficult to implement by planning officers. Photos were needed for the report – RD to source.

Action 1: RD to look for photographs for the report.

- 4.2 The Master Planning section of the report has not come forward yet. It was noted that it is disappointing not to have this work. The group concluded that it is difficult to know which way the Dorset Local Plan will go after the letter from Michael Gove. The key messages were that housing targets are not set in stone and that they will look at redistributing them nationally. They are not looking to build in the Green Belt. A new draft of the NPPF is expected before Christmas.

5. Plan Drafting

5.1 A schedule has been prepared of the progress on the draft document – see Appendix 1. JW has circulated the Housing Chapter and the group were asked to look at this for comment. A chapter on Implementation and Plan Monitoring is needed. The Design Chapter was considered and this is a large piece of work. JW to look at time needed to write this Chapter and see if could be included within the hours quoted for. JW and JQ to hold a focus session before Christmas on Traffic and Transport.

6. Consultation Planning

6.1 The group at present are on target with the project plan. One person is needed to bring the whole document together and to condense it to a 40-50 page document. The consultation stage will be a 6 week period and this will be in April/May 2023. This means that the document needs to go to Parish Council on 6th April 2023. The advertising would need to be prepared for the Bridge Magazine for mid March. The SEA needs to be complete in time for the consultation – it will take 4 weeks for AECOM to carry this out. The draft Plan would therefore need to be ready by the end of February in order to meet the deadline. The group looked at a draft of another Neighbourhood Plan and it was emphasised that considerable work needs to be done to reduce the size of the Plan. Mapping work is also needed – a map will be included in each section as well as a Policy map at the end.

Month	Task
January	Plan finalised
February	Editing work, mapping, appendices. Book consultation events.
March	1 st March Plan sent to AECOM for SEA. Prep of consultation material – display boards, questions etc. 14 th March Article for Bridge Magazine
April	6 th April Parish Council. 11 th April Print documents and display material 17 th April Start of consultation process 24 th April – consultation events
May	29 th May – consultation ends

10. Date of next meeting

Plan drafting meeting: Tuesday, 10th January at 9.30am (Zoom)

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group: Thursday, 26th January at 7.30pm

The meeting ended at 8.40pm