

Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan

7.30pm Tuesday, 7th November 2023

On Zoom

Steering Group Minutes

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

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

1. Apologies

1.1 Mr R Daniels, Cllr H Fookes, Cllr M Steel

2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 No changes.

3. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting on 26th September 2023 were circulated prior to the meeting. These were approved. There was one matter arising concerning the IPE questions, which has been addressed and is on the main agenda.

4. Consultation Responses and Report

4.1 The report is nearly complete. It was concluded that rather than repeat information that has already been published, the report would include links to the website.

Action: JQ and Clerk to meet and finalise the Report.

5. Neighbourhood Plan Health Check

5.1 A comprehensive IPE Healthcheck report has been received by the Steering Group. This highlights that certain documents are due to be completed, such as the Basic Conditions Statement and Consultation Report, which are underway. The report questions whether an Equalities Impact Assessment is needed but Ms Witherden confirmed that this is not normally required. Similarly, a Statement of Common Ground would not be necessary as there are no major disagreements with Dorset Council on the content of the Plan. An Implementation and Monitoring Section is optional and the Group concluded that this would not be beneficial. The Healthcheck queried the approval of the Neighbourhood Plan area and the relevant minutes will be referenced.

5.2 The Group then went through the Statutory Consultees table of responses and the IPE Examiners comments. Changes were suggested to the following policies/supporting text:

- SMNP1 – add conversions and changes of use
- SMNP2 – add Groundwater and Surface Water flooding
- SMNP3 – agreed Examiner suggested wording
- SMNP4 – justification for dark skies to be added to the supporting text
- SMNP5 – background work to be completed on this in case it is queried at Examination.

Action: RD to add information regarding viewpoints and where the landmarks can be viewed from for Examination.

- SMNP6 – Reword policy to include Village Greens and remove the village greens from the LGS designation.

Action: JW and Clerk to investigate Conservation Area map

- SMNP8 – Examiners suggested change agreed
- SMNP14 – Group to agree wording with Dorset Council
- SMNP15 – Jubilee Cross map. Two options were suggested and the map with the tighter boundary around the built up area was preferred. This map will be looked at in conjunction with the Groundwater Flooding map.
- SMNP18 – due to a lack of evidence the sports pitches and changing rooms will be taken out of the policy.

Action: JQ to write a statement for the website/social media to reflect this.

- SMNP19 – JW to reword in line with the Examiners recommendation
- SMNP22 – without clear justification this will be objected to by Dorset Council. This was discussed and it was concluded that the community were very clear that they wanted this policy so it should stay in. The Parish Council can investigate the cost of traffic consultants to support a Local Plan response.

- 5.3 The grammar changes are yet to be done as are the changes agreed as a result of the residents responses.

Action: JQ, RD and Clerk to form one table to send to JW of the residents' responses.

6. [Basic Conditions Statement](#)

- 6.1 JW is drafting this document.

7. [Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan](#)

- 7.1 The Draft Plan will need to be approved at the Parish Council meeting on 7th December. It will then be submitted to Dorset Council who then run this consultation. The documents will need to be finalised by 21st November.

Action: Clerk to check with Philip Reece that the Plan will be able to be considered before purdah.

8. [SEA/HRA](#)

- 8.1 A check will need to be made that the changes to the Neighbourhood Plan will not result in any changes to the SEA/HRA.

Action: RD to check status of the SEA/HRA with AECOM

7. [Date of next meeting](#)

28th November at 7.30pm on Zoom.

The meeting closed at 21.30