

Sturminster Marshall Neighbourhood Plan

7.30pm Wednesday, 11th December 2019

Memorial Hall, Sturminster Marshall

Steering Group Minutes

Present: Mr J Quick, Mr R Daniels, Cllr S Gerry, Ms Scotton, Cllr J Jackson, Cllr S Cade, Cllr H Fookes, Mr S Morris, Mrs A Clothier (Clerk)

1. Apologies

- 1.1 There were apologies from Cllr Palmer and Cllr Steel

2. Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 There were no changes

3. Minutes of previous meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting on 9th October 2019 were circulated prior to the meeting. These were agreed.

3.2 Matters arising:

- *Action 1: Clerk to contact people that had offered help. **Complete***
- *Action 2: Mr Quick to put article in Bridge Magazine. Cllr Fookes to provide contact details of press and Mr Quick to send out press release. **Complete***
- *Action 3: Mr Quick to contact Savills **Complete***
- *Action 4: Clerk to contact Dorset Council to give them an update on progress **Complete***
- *Action 5: Mr Quick to draft brief for consultants **Complete***
- *Action 6: Mr Daniels to look at project plan and work that can be started. **Ongoing. Dorset Council have provided the Group with some information. Need a list of Community Groups in the area.***

Action: Cllr Gerry to collate a list of community groups

4. Quotes from Consultants

- 4.1 Three consultants were asked to submit a quote who were: Dorset Planning Consultant; Stuart Todd Associates and O'Neil Homer. Stuart Todd Associates declined to quote. The quotes were circulated before the meeting. It was felt that the quote from Dorset Planning Consultant was very thorough and specific to Sturminster Marshall whilst the O'Neil Homer quote was generic. The day rates were the same however the DPC had broken down all the possible costs of the plan. The group could undertake some of the work themselves and therefore reduce this cost. DPC has worked with many towns and parishes within Dorset and has worked for the local Council so has a great deal of local knowledge. She is also a qualified town planner and would be the only person doing the work. It was felt that this would be significant for getting through the Examination.
- 4.2 It was agreed that the Dorset Planning Consultant would be the preferred consultant to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan.

5 Grant Funding Application

- 5.1 The basic Locality Grant is £9,000 but further grants are available if the Plan allocates sites that include affordable housing. The first step is to submit an Expression of Interest but to fill in this form the Group need to decide whether the plan will be allocating sites. The form also asks how many sites would be assessed and it was agreed that this would be 5-6. The deadline for the application form is 30th January 2020 and the deadline to spend the funding would be 31st March 2020. It was agreed that the consultant should be spoken to for some guidance on applying for the grant funding.

Action: Mr Quick to speak to the Dorset Planning Consultant to confirm that the group would like to move forwards with her help and to obtain guidance on the grant funding.

6. Progress on Evidence Base

- 6.1 Nothing to report.

7. Meeting with Landowners

- 7.1 A meeting was held on the 11th December with Mr Quick, Cllr Cade and the Clerk and a local landowner. The landowner was looking to work with the Neighbourhood Plan Group to bring forward a site off Railway Drive for 53 dwellings. The site adjacent is also identified in the Local Plan Options document but at present this landowner is not promoting the site. There have been a number of reports submitted to Dorset Council including traffic, ecology and flooding. The access to site would be from Railway Drive. This was discussed and it was felt that the road layout encouraged car journeys and would need walkways that avoid the main road. 50 homes will not trigger traffic management systems but could support it as part of the plan in conjunction with other sites.

Action: Clerk to ask for ecology, flooding and traffic reports.

- 7.2 The Parish Council reported that they had met with Eton College's asset management company regarding Bartons Ground and that they would like to develop some of this site. This could also be considered under the site allocations.

8. [Setting up Working Groups](#)

- 8.1 Mr Quick and Mr Daniels would look at the different areas and circulate a list for the group to fill in.

Action: Mr Quick and Mr Daniels to look at Working Groups

9. [Date of Next Meeting](#)

Wednesday, 8th January 2020 7.30pm