

BOTLEY PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the **Neighbourhood Plan Committee Meeting**
held on **Wednesday 17 July 2019** at 7:15pm in the Committee Room
at the Botley Centre, High Street, Botley

Present:

Voting Cllr members: Cllr David Weeden (Meeting Chairman); Sue Grinham (for part of meeting), Graham Hunter, Jeff Jones, Colin Mercer, Stephen Wildin.

Voting non-Cllr members: Mike Anthony, Hugh Dixon, Peter Kemp

In attendance:

Minutes Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Nimmo

Non-Committee Councillors: 0

Members of the Public: 1

38/19/NPC Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence for personal or business reasons were received from Cllr Ron Clark. Approved.

39/19/NPC Declarations of Interest

No declarations of personal or pecuniary interest were made in relation to items on the Agenda.

40/19/NPC To approve the Neighbourhood Plan Committee minutes of 19 June 2019

The Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

41/19/NPC Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising

42/19/NPC Question time/public session

There was no public input at this time.

43/19/NPC New members

43.1 The Chairman reported that the two ladies who had considered joining the Committee had now withdrawn for personal reasons. He had written to them both saying that they would be welcome to join us at any time in the future.

43.2 Mrs Nimmo had recruited another prospective member, Stephen Harris, who had, in fact, already been a committee member for a short time in 2017. He was hoping to attend this meeting but might not be back from the West Country in time. The Chairman had written a welcoming letter.

44/19/NPC Project Plan

44.1 The Chairman said that the original Project plan had, in fact, been overtaken by the sterling efforts put in by the Working groups and the documents they have produced.

44.2 Cllr Wildin had produced a splendid document system, which was based on the advice given to us by our original professional adviser, Tony Charles, that a well-referenced documented library was essential. However, now that Planet had advised that only about thirty documents were likely to be needed for the Plan, an extensive library was somewhat redundant. Cllr Mercer suggested that all the documentation should be retained appropriately in case professional advice changed again in the future. Cllr Wildin said that he would put the system on the website for comment.

44.3 The Chairman said that, as a back-up, he would share with Cllrs Hunter and Wildin all the documents that he had gathered on his computer.

45/19/NPC Documents for noting

- EBC LP update submission July 2019 in NP Docs/Other Docs

46/19/NPC Documents passed into the public domain

- Heritage WP npc v5 2019

46.1 The Chairman reported that Cllr Clark's excellent document had been accepted by the BPC at their recent meeting.

47/19/NPC Documents for the next meeting

- Health WP wg v1 2019 in NP Docs/Health
- Surveys WP wg v1 2019 in NP Docs/Communications
- Housing TP3 v5 2019 in NP Docs/Topic Papers

47.1 The Chairman said that he hoped to have made more progress on the Health and Survey Results WP by the time of the next meeting. The Housing Paper was ready for final agreement before putting it to the BPC for acceptance.

47.2 It was agreed that the Transport WP wg v1 2019 and the Housing Needs Assessment would also be discussed at the August meeting.

48/19/NPC Documents for this meeting

- Communications WP wg v2 2019 in NP Docs/Communications
- Economy WP wg v2 2019 in NP Docs/Economy
- Infrastructure WP wg v8 2019 in NP Docs/Infrastructure
- Heritage & Design TP7 text v6 2019 in NP Docs/Topic Papers
- Heritage & Design TP7 appendix v6 2019 in NP Docs/Topic Papers
- Heritage & Design TP7 images v6 2019 in NP Docs/Topic Papers
- Planning Policy Framework TP2 v2 2019 in NP Docs/Topic Papers

48.1 The first three documents to be discussed under Working Groups at item 49/19/NPC.

48.2 The Chairman and Cllr Hunter had corrected and updated all 56 pages of the Heritage & Design Topic Papers.

48.3 The Planning Policy Framework, written by Tony Charles, gave a concise summary of how the NP related to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

48.4 Cllr Jones said that we must be aware that any changes to the NPPF would affect our NP. For instance, the size of development requiring a proportion of Affordable Housing had been reduced from 15 dwellings to 10 dwellings.

48.5 The Chairman said that the three Heritage & Design papers and the Planning Policy Framework were ready to put to the BPC for acceptance and the Committee agreed that he should do this.

Cllr Grinham joined the meeting at this point.

49/19/NPC Working Groups

49.1 Communication

49.1a The Chairman was putting together a log of past public consultation and contacts, as Communications WP wg v2 2019, from which Planet would construct a Communications Statement for inclusion in the NP.

49.1b Details of an apparent press release from 2017 were missing and Mrs Nimmo was pursuing the matter with the Southern Echo editor. However, Cllr Grinham then located a copy of the press release and other publicity on her laptop. There might have been an article in the Meon Valley News so Mrs Nimmo would continue to look into this.

49.1c On Tuesday 30 July Cllr Mercer and Derek Oswald would be holding a drop-in session for local traders at the Bugle Inn. In order to encourage attendance, on the previous Thursday they would go around the Square and other nearby streets with information about the coming meeting.

49.1d Cllr Grinham asked if businesses outside the Village centre would be contacted. Cllr Mercer said that this meeting was mainly to discuss improvements to Botley Square and High Street.

49.2 Economy

49.2a Cllr Wildin had put the Economy WP wg v3 2019 on the NP web page and would appreciate comments. Data about the local economy was proving difficult to find.

49.2b Cllr Jones felt that the paper dealt mainly with central Botley and would need to take in all the Parish.

49.2c Cllr Hunter had previously compiled a list of businesses that contributed to the local economy and he had given this to the WG. There was a rich diversity of undertakings in the Parish.

49.2d Cllr Mercer reported that the Botley Fire Station, part of the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service, was having difficulty recruiting volunteers because of a decrease in the number of local people in daytime employment in the immediate surrounding area. It was important, he said, to encourage more lower cost housing to support the economy.

49.2e Cllr Jones reminded the Committee that he had previously met with EBC's Economic Development Officer and Julia Birt, when they had discussed setting up a local Training Centre for young people. A paper had been produced.

49.2f Cllr Grinham pointed out that transport links and infrastructure were integral to the economy.

49.2g Cllr Hunter said that Botley shops and businesses could be more actively promoted. Jackie Rolls was already doing some work on this, as residents of the new Boorley Green developments do not know what is available in Botley.

49.2h The Chairman said that we must consider what was in our power to do and decide on Objectives or Aspirations. Supporting evidence would then be needed.

49.3 Education

Cllr Jones suggested that an update to the Education WP might be needed when the new Boorley Park primary school opened in the autumn.

49.4 Health

The Chairman reported that he had a good meeting with the WHCCG Head of Primary Care and the Lead for the Living Well Partnership, which gave reasonable reassurance for improvements in the local healthcare services. He will write up the notes from this meeting shortly.

49.5 Housing

49.5a Cllr hunter reported that AECOM, who were a highly reputable international company, had produced a very good Botley Housing Needs Assessment (HNA). This had some significant differences from EBC's HNA. In particular, it identified a need for more Affordable Homes, more homes for affordable renting and reported a shortage of 1 and 2 bedroom houses and smaller bungalows. The results reflected quite closely what the residents had told us in 2016.

- 49.5b The Chairman, Cllr Mercer and Cllr Hunter had all sent in an objection to the HNA conclusion that elderly Botley residents needing sheltered housing could move to Hedge End. However, AECOM had said that this conclusion was perfectly reasonable in planning terms and it had not been changed. We will express our continued concern in the NP.
- 49.5c The Chairman proposed to put the HNA before the BPC and ask them to give it their support. This was agreed by everyone.
- 49.5d There was a new version of the NPPF (2019) but we have only updated the Housing TP to the 2018 NPPF and will leave any further revision to Planet, if necessary.

- 49.6 Infrastructure
Peter Kemp and Cllr Hunter had produced an up-dated version, Infrastructure WP wg v8 2019, and invited comments.

- 49.7 Locality
Mike Anthony had met with Cllr Clark and had provided him with answers to some questions, as requested, but there was nothing further to report, as Cllr Clark was indisposed.

- 49.8 Transport
- 49.8a The Chairman said that Hugh Dixon (HD) had produced an excellent report on the towns of Odiham and Kingsclere, a task that he had been asked to undertake in order to see how the two towns had been affected by being by-passed in recent years. HD had consulted local residents who were in a position to provide accurate information on the past and current situation in their communities. The main conclusions from his Odiham informants were that:
 - Parking problems had been totally underestimated, both in the working day and in the evenings
 - Many more people were coming into town than expected.
 - Conventional trades had been affected but specialist trades were surviving well
 - The ability to close town streets more often for public events had resulted in greater community cohesion.
 The reports from Kingsclere were very much the same.
- 49.8b Cllr Hunter thanked HD for a very useful document. The Chairman agreed to circulate it to everyone.
- 49.8c Cllr Mercer reported that suggestions were coming forward for Botley Square, including parking as a vital issue. The lay out of the Square would need to be altered and improved, with the pedestrian crossing perhaps being moved to the end of Winchester Street. All options should be kept open.
- 49.8c Cllr Jones said that speeding was a big issue throughout the Parish. The Chairman noted that we were limited in what we could do about this, but we must make it very clear to Hampshire County Council and EBC that this was a key issue for the future.

50/19/NPC Correspondence
No items of correspondence had been received.

51/19/NPC Date of next meeting
Wednesday 21 August 2019 at 7.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.13 pm.

Date: _____ Chairman: _____

These minutes could be the subject of amendments which will be recorded in the minutes of the following meeting