



Minutes of the **Neighbourhood Plan Committee** Meeting  
held on **Wednesday 18 September 2019** at 7:15pm in the Committee Room  
at the Botley Centre, High Street, Botley

**Present:**

Voting Cllr members: Cllr David Weeden (Meeting Chairman); Ron Clark, Sue Grinham, Graham Hunter, Colin Mercer

Voting non-Cllr members: Mike Anthony

**In attendance:**

Minutes Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Nimmo

Non-Committee Councillors: 0

Members of the Public: 1

**67/19/NPC Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence for personal or business reasons were received from Hugh Dixon, Cllr Jeff Jones, Peter Kemp, Cllr Stephen Wildin.

**68/19//NPC Declarations of Interest**

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

**69/19/NPC To approve Neighbourhood Plan Committee minutes of 21 August 2019**

The Minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

**70/19/NPC Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

Re. 63.3. Cllr Grinham asked if the definition of Local Vernacular related to the last 100 years. The Chairman said yes, but it included only normal types of building. Major edifices such as mansions, churches or large public buildings were not included.

**71/19/NPC Chairman's report**

The Chairman said that the evidence base for the Plan was growing satisfactorily and much had been achieved. It would shortly be possible to produce another draft of the Vision & Objectives statement and we could then arrange some form of public meeting to discuss this second iteration. Planet would come to assist us and there could perhaps be one meeting in the Botley Centre and another at the new Boorley Park Community Centre.

**72/19/NPC Question time/public session**

Bob Nimmo said that one of the main questions that residents were asking was what sewage and water provision was being made for the new developments. Cllr Hunter replied that the super-sewer had now been completed, but the existing system would need strengthening. Southern Water were confident that water supplies would be sufficient for future needs – a confidence not shared by everyone.

**73/19/NPC Update on new members**

The Chairman was presently in discussions with a possible volunteer for the BNPC.

**74/19/NPC Finance update**

Since April 2019 £609.90 had been spent, with another £390 committed. Therefore £4617.10 remained of our NP grant. There was a reserve fund provided by BPC of £20,428.00.

**75/19/NPC Botley Traders survey**

75.1 There was discussion about the survey of Botley Traders' opinions recently carried out by Cllr Mercer and Derek Oswald. Cllr Mercer reported that they had spoken to every shopkeeper in the Square and they were, in the main, happy about their future in Botley.

75.2 The Chairman had listed the 10 individual comments received. Principal points made were as follows:

- Need for more parking;
- Permits for staff to park;
- Free access to the Square/High Street and protection of bays for delivery vehicles;
- Must not discourage all through traffic;
- More space for outdoor seating and pleasant environment;
- Better integration with Botley Mills;
- Another pedestrian crossing on Winchester Street, and;

- Advertising to promote businesses locally and to outlying residents, possibly with assistance from BPC.
- 75.3a The Chairman thought that parking for staff was essential and permits might be possible, but Mrs Nimmo recalled that Odiham had had to restrict daytime parking to allow for visitors.
- 75.3b Cllr Mercer was optimistic about managing daytime parking; there might be possibilities for long-term parking on the village outskirts and some traders might be able to make space at the rear of their premises. There was also hire parking at the Market Hall, although this was fully utilised at the moment.
- 75.3c Facilities for easy delivery of goods were vital but once the traffic flow was reduced by the coming of the by-pass it might be possible for vans and lorries to park on the road for short periods. Cllr Grinham pointed out that access for buses was also vital.
- 75.3d It was agreed that plans for the Square and High Street must encourage visitors for shopping and entertainment and that only heavy traffic would be discouraged.
- 75.3e The positioning of Pedestrian crossings was ultimately the responsibility of Hampshire County Council.
- 75.3f Health & Safety and other restrictions imposed by EBC made it difficult for traders to expand onto the public walkways, for either seating or advertising.
- 75.4 The Chairman thought that more attention in the Traders consultation should be paid to businesses away from the Square. Cllr Hunter said the Hillier's site was a growth area and there was a garage and other small businesses in West Botley.
- 75.5 The Chairman asked that Cllr Mercer and Derek Oswald should provide a short report on their consultations, if possible for the next meeting.

#### **76/19/NPC Neighbourhood Plan area on Botley website**

The drop-down menu for the NP page had been moved to the upper tier of the menu bar on the Botley home page, to increase the public visibility of NP information. The NP home page had been comprehensively reorganised to ensure a correct and informative layout. The NP drop-down menu would now be removed from the BPC page.

#### **77/19/NPC Neighbourhood Plan Facebook page.**

- 77.1a The Chairman had looked carefully at this proposition but felt that a great deal of time would be needed to read posts and respond where necessary. If the page was not monitored regularly and responses given then Facebook would close the page. There was also a danger of misleading information appearing.
- 77.1b With agreement from the administrators it was possible to use other Facebook pages to post the occasional item and contact information, effectively an advertisement with links. Hedge End & Botley, Friends of Botley Primary School and Botley Village News & Info (Hampshire) were suggested pages. Cllr Hunter pointed out that we had to avoid comments from outside the Parish, so it was probably better not to use the Hedge End & Botley page.
- 77.1c Planet had advised that a presence on Facebook was not essential and should only be undertaken if the group had real enthusiasts to deal with the work.
- 77.1d It was agreed that the Chairman would contact the administrators of the Friends of Botley Primary School and the Botley Village News & Info (Hampshire) Facebooks to discuss possibilities.

#### **78/19/NPC BNP Draft Vision and Objectives, Feedback report**

- 78.1 Responses had been received. from various residents with 64 comments in all.. The Chairman had worked through and listed them all individually. These were available for the members at the meeting.
- 78.2 6 responders voiced approval of the Vision & Objectives, while most others appeared to accept the statement while making further suggestions. Among the principal matters commented on were the following:
- There were several requests for a pedestrian crossing on the High Street at the bottom of Holmesland Lane;
  - There were concerns about traffic speed, congestion and air quality. Various residents were worried about rat runs, particularly along Holmesland Lane;
  - Understandably, some respondents wanted no more large developments;
  - More support for young peoples' education, training and other activities was asked for;
  - More facilities for, and contact with, the Boorley Park development was thought important;
  - Community information terminals were suggested, and;
  - There was a noticeable number of comments about environmental concerns and one which asked why we had no green policy.
- 78.3a Discussing these points the Chairman thought that lack of mention of green matters in the NP was a notable omission that must be addressed.
- 78.3b Cllr Hunter mentioned items that could be included as green matters, including public open space between Holmesland and Woodhouse Lanes and re-cycling policies for the new developments.
- 78.3c Cllr Mercer agreed that we should build a simple document outlining green matters and the Chairman said that he would take advice on the matter.
- 78.4a There was further discussion arising from Cllr Clark's query about a possible Village museum at Uplands Farm and a comment from Bob Nimmo about the importance of tourism in the future.
- 78.4b Cllr Mercer reported that there were ongoing discussions about the future of the Uplands Farm buildings. Some of them would be owned and run commercially and this could help to support the running of a museum on the site. Cllr Hunter said that there was a dairy farm in the New Forest where commercial businesses and a local museum all worked together for mutual benefit.
- 78.4c A Local Heritage Trail and a Museum would be objectives in the NP.

- 78.5 The Chairman had replied to every respondent with a personal email, thanking them and discussing their input. He had hoped for more responses, but the rules said that we needed only to make a reasonable attempt to garner public opinion. However, he would email all Botley councillors reminding them to respond. Cllr Hunter suggested that we ask Jacquie Rolls for any feedback from the new developments.
- 78.6a So far we had a total of 52 Objectives from the four WGs. As Working Papers develop it might be necessary to add more and we should check that nothing had been missed.
- 78.6b It was agreed that any new Objectives would be considered at next month's meeting. The Chairman will circulate the submitted Objectives one week before the next meeting.

#### **79/19/NPC Documents for noting**

There were no new additions at this time.

#### **80/19/NPC Documents passed into the public domain**

- Housing WP bpc v14 2019 in NP Evidence Base
- Infrastructure WP bpc v19 2019 in NP Evidence Base
- Communications WP bpc v6 full 2019 in NP Evidence Base

#### **81/19/NPC Documents for next meeting**

- Surveys WP wg v1 2019
  - Transport WP wg v1 2019
- 81.1 The Chairman was working on the Surveys WP and hoped to have something ready for the October meeting.
- 81.2 Cllr Mercer apologised that pressure of other BPC work had resulted in little progress with the Transport WP, although he had rewritten some parts of the current draft.

#### **82/19/NPC Documents for this meeting**

- Economy WP wg v6 2019 in NP Documents/Economy
- Health WP wg v1 2019 in NP Documents/Health
- Housing WP bpc v15 in NP Documents/Topic Papers
- Infrastructure WP bpc v21 2019 in NP Documents/Infrastructure

All the above documents to be discussed under the relevant Working Groups.

#### **83/19/NPC Working Groups**

- 82.1 Communication  
This WP had passed into the public domain and there was nothing further to discuss at this time.
- 83.2 Economy
- 83.2a The Economy WP draft had been circulated. The Chairman said that it was developing well but he felt that it did not give a full enough idea of the Parish economy. For instance, more detailed information about individual businesses was needed. Cllr Mercer thought that Jacquie Rolls could help with this as she was looking to do more in-office work.
- 83.2b Cllr Hunter added that we needed to give thought to the economy and needs of the new developments.
- 83.3 Education
- 83.3a Nothing more was needed until the Boorley Park school was opened.
- 83.3b **Post meeting note.** *The Chairman has asked the Education WG to take on developing information concerning local voluntary educational groups.*
- 83.4 Health
- 83.4a The Chairman had progressed the WP but there were still some gaps that needed work. There was an area of uncertainty as the Clinical Commissioning Groups were still in discussion about the possible merger of the St Luke's & Botley Surgeries with the Living Well Partnership.
- 83.4b Both Public Health and the West Hampshire CCG had been extremely pleased to hear that we were interested in providing Parish facilities for healthcare services. However, for many healthcare services there were practical difficulties with the need for clinical standard areas and clinical waste disposal. The Chairman would none the less include in the WP that the Parish was keen to offer public resources to help with healthcare provision, where appropriate.
- 83.4c **Post meeting note.** *At a meeting of the St Luke's & Botley Surgery Patient Participation Group the Chairman had been asked if the Parish would consider use of their properties for meetings of Patient Self-Help Groups and had agreed that this probably would be supported by BPC.*
- 83.4d It was possible that there would be some funding from Eastleigh Borough Council for health promoting activities, but it was not yet known what EBC had in mind.
- 83.5 Housing

- 83.5a Comments on the SHLAA v18 (now v19) had been dealt with by Cllr Hunter and the Chairman.
- 83.5b Cllr Grinham asked whether, if the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan failed and our NP became the de facto LP for Botley, would we then be able to reject developments that had not commenced, such as the 100 houses in Maddoxford Lane. Cllr Hunter said that if permission had lapsed on a site it would not then be included in the EB LP, but Cllr Mercer pointed out that once planning permission had been given, whether it was active or lapsed, the principal of planning on that site had been established and our NP would not halt the development. The Chairman thought that, in any case, it was unlikely that our NP would be even at first draft before the EB LP had been settled.
- 83.5c Cllr Hunter said it was hoped that we could get away with a policy in the Plan saying that there must be no more major developments until the present sites had been completed. The Chairman said that Planet were not happy with this but had not said a definite no. General conformity with the EB LP did not mean that we had to agree with absolutely everything and we could perhaps object to a specific site.
- 83.5d The AECOM Housing Needs Assessment was still valid because, although some sites had changed in the emerging EB LP, the housing numbers remained the same.
- 83.5e Revisions to the Housing WP v14 (now v15) had been completed and it had been accepted by BPC. Cllr Mercer thought it was very consistent and up to date due to all the work put in by the WG members.
- 83.6 Infrastructure
- 83.6a Peter Kemp and Cllr Hunter had made some necessary changes to the WP v19 and it had now been accepted by the BPC. A resident's important suggestion of Community Information terminals must be added, but otherwise the Paper had gone as far as possible at the moment.
- 83.6b The Chairman confirmed that once a WP had been accepted by the BPC they then had editorial control
- 83.7 Locality
- 83.7a The Chairman had listed some more subjects that needed to be included, although some might be more suitable for other WGs. It was agreed that Youth Activities was appropriate for the Health & Wellbeing WP and Tourism for the Economy WP. Libraries, local voluntary educational groups and musical culture needed to be addressed in the Locality WP.
- 83.7b The Chairman suggested a paragraph covering musical activities in Botley, including the Music Festival, Botley Choral Society, Church music, shows at the Market Hall and music in the local pubs. Cllr Mercer agreed that he could help with this and said that Jacquie Rolls had compiled a comprehensive list of all local groups.
- 83.7c **Post meeting note.** *The Chairman has asked the Education WG to take on developing information concerning local voluntary educational groups, so this was no longer in the Locality WG's workstream.*
- 83.8 Transport
- 83.8a As noted earlier in the meeting, Cllr Mercer was still upgrading the Transport WP, which was quite a large undertaking.
- 83.8b The Chairman felt it was very important that a draft of the Transport WP could be shared with the Committee at the next meeting.

**84/19/NPC Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**66/19/NPC Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 16 October 2019 at 7.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.