

**Minutes of the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

**held at 7.30pm in the Council Meeting Room**

**on Tuesday, 14th May, 2019**

**Present:** Pam Jones, Phil Laughton, Mick Wiseman, Liz Ellis, Mike Duxbury, Neill Ransom,

Susan Graham, Paresh Patel, Kate Hill, Jhanvi Shukla and Colin Wilkinson

**Apologies:** John Weston, Ben King and Carole Shaw

**1. Declaration of interest and request for dispensation**

None registered.

**2.** **Minutes of meeting held on 12th March, 2019**

Agreed as proper record of meeting. Proposed by LE and seconded by MW.

**3.** **Matters arising from those Minutes**

PJ reminded everyone that the next LCC NP networking event will be on 21st May. PJ, PL and LE will attend. On 4th April PJ attended a meeting in Billesdon about the A46 Expressway, which was very well attended by, among others, members of the South and East Leicestershire Action Group, Willoughby Waterleys Residents’ Association, CPRE and Neil O’Brien, MP. The view of the attendees was that other alternatives to roads going to the south and east should be explored. There is only one owner of the land around the M1section of the proposed new route, meaning only one landowner’s permission is needed if the route goes ahead. At the present time funding has not been sorted.

JS confirmed that she will let us know when we need to apply for more funding. PL advised that as yet he has not heard from Awards For All regarding the balance of funds we currently hold.

**4. Questionnaires – Review**

The total number of questionnaires completed is as follows:

493 household questionnaires, of which 172 were completed online, 236 were handed in to S&J News, 67 were handed in to the PC and 18 were handed in to either PJ or collected from Primrose Way by MW. 14 youth questionnaires were completed online giving an overall total of 507, which equates to a 33% response rate.

A discussion followed regarding two comments recorded on the questionnaire aboutthe Old Hall. Question 24 indicated concern that the Old Hall was excluded from the conservation area. CW advised that the comments were incorrect and it can be included under the NP settlement boundary. He went on to explain that there is an existing settlement boundary for Queniborough but it is very old and pre-dates the Charnwood Local Plan. Settlement boundaries in general are being reviewed because they are so old and are prepared using a set methodology. Anyone who has concerns about the area will have a further opportunity to voice their opinion. Question 33 relating to green spaces stated that the Old Hall was private land and not accessible to the public. CW suggested waiting until the draft plan had been drawn up before responding to this.

PJ will draft an article for the next Gazette due on 31st May summarising the outcome and main issues and trends shown by the questionnaire.

**5. RCC – Report on Questionnaires**

The steering group thanked JS and JP for the effort they had put in to producing the questionnaire which everyone agreed was a great piece of work.

JS summarised as follows:

493 household responses equates to a 32.9% response rate.

Vision for Queniborough:

92% of respondents agreed with the written statements set out in the questionnaire.

Traffic & Transport:

Those respondents who used the bus services were travelling to Leicester, Syston or Melton Mowbray. The main reasons for not using the buses were because people had their own cars, they walked or insufficient routes.

Housing:

129 people indicated a need for alternative housing such as 2 bed houses or 1/2 bed bungalows within the next 10 years. Main reasons for moving: houses too large/too small/independence. Brownfield development was deemed popular for any new development as was a mix of house designs, off street parking and protection of existing wildlife habitats.

CW had also looked at the feedback and it was agreed that the NP plan should stipulate there should be no more development. Development should only be infill and/or on brownfield site (should it become available) for 2 bed starter homes or 1/2 bed bungalows. CW will contact the developer for Queniborough Lodge (the application for which has now lapsed) to see what they had been intending to build there.

Settlement boundary:

CW will produce a background report for us prior to our next meeting on how settlement boundaries were drawn up.

Conservation area:

The dovecote is on the local list and is included in the newly extended conservation area. The old school is not in the conservation area – it is owned by the church as it was originally a church school.

Local green spaces:

CW advised that such areas should demonstrably show they are used by the local population for recreational purposes, be of ecological importance or have scenic views important to the local community. CW will send us the relevant pro-forma to complete for each of the green spaces allocated in the questionnaire in order to provide evidence of their status as such.

PP asked if air pollution caused by traffic could be included in the plan. He suggested this should be monitored at peak times. CBC’s current method of measuring pollution levels is averaged out over 24 hours which does not give a correct reading of the levels of air pollution when traffic is at its peak. CW advised that pollution levels can be included in the plan but not as a policy.

CW will issue another draft of the plan and we can then review the grids completed previously and include whatever issues are not encompassed in the plan in the appendix.

**6. Agenda items for next meeting on 11th June, 2019**

Standard items plus review of LCC NP networking event, local green spaces – update, settlement boundary and review of revised draft NP.