

Minutes of the thirty-fourth meeting of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 2 December 2015 at the Wivenhoe Council Offices, at 19.30.

Present:

WTC Cllrs Robert Needham (chair), Asa Aldis

Residents Peter Hill, Jane Black, Marika Footring (minutes), Richard Polom, Pat Lean, Mark Norrington, Graeme Willis,

CBC Christopher Downes

Apologies for absence: Cllr Neil Lodge, Rosalind Scott, Ruth Melville, David Allen,

Declarations of interest:

Cllr Robert Needham and Peter Hill: Wivenhoe Housing Trust.

Minute 2015/56 Minutes

The minutes of the November meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by the acting chairman.

Minute 2015/57 Matters arising

From Minute 2015/49

Green spaces: now on website and feedback is going directly to C&CE.

Minute 2015/58 Correspondence

None received.

Minute 2015/59 Finance

The Town Clerk had provided an update: balance as at 2 December 2015 stands at £6671.52. There are some outstanding items: Dr Jonathan Crane's SEA report and the balance owing to Chris Bowden. The chairman undertook to provide a budget forecast for the next SG meeting.

Minute 2015/60 C&CE report

Ruth Melville had urged in an email to the chairman which was read out to the meeting that publication of the draft NP should be approved but if this could not be then the approval of a Summary Marika had prepared on the basis of draft plan v11b which had been updated to v13c just before the meeting. Copies were handed out at the meeting. However, Peter had now produced v14 and the Summary needed further updating.

Graeme Willis suggested the addition of a watermark and a page header to make it very clear that this still reflected a work in progress. The Plan Writing Group had no objection to publication of the Summary but thought C&CE should be asked to make prominent in the introduction that community benefits are being sought and the fact that discussions with landowners were progressing.

Minute 2015/61 LUZ group report

Peter Hill gave the report. LUZ group. More meetings have been held with three landowners and Karen Syrett's continued presence at these has proved very helpful with the negotiations over community benefits.

Peter highlighted some of the details of the discussions which are progressing as quickly as circumstances allow and it is hoped they may be finalised by Christmas.

Cllr Aldis raised the subject of self-build. It was explained that this is not a 'community benefit' that can be sought. Other ways of achieving this were briefly discussed and support for this will remain part of the draft plan.

Minute 2015/62 Plan Writing group report

v14 of the draft plan had just been finalised, with new graphics. Peter will send a copy to Marika so she can update the Summary before passing it on to C&CE for further editing and formatting.

The PW group is happy for John Wallett to undertake the formatting work on the plan, Ruth will liaise.

Cllr Aldis asked about postal voting in the Referendum. The organisation of the Referendum is a matter for CBC. (Subsequent to the meeting it was established that postal voting will be available.)

Minute 2015/63 Project time line

Taking from the foregoing discussions that the forecast of publication of the draft plan is now mid-January 2016, this would put the time line back by about 1 month which means we would be looking at a Referendum date of November/December 2016. This presupposes no further delays or slip ups. If there are, the Referendum date could have to move to 2017.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

Dates of next meeting:

Wednesday 6 January 2016, 7.30 at Wivenhoe Town Council Offices.