

Minutes of the thirty-third meeting of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 4 November 2015 at the Wivenhoe Council Offices, at 19.30.

Present:

WTC Cllr Neil Lodge (chair)

Residents Peter Hill, Jane Black, Marika Footring (minutes), Richard Polom, Rosalind Scott, David Allen, Valerie Endean, Mark Norrington

CBC Christopher Downes, Karen Syrett.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Robert Needham, Pat Lean, Ruth Melville.

Declarations of interest:

Cllr Neil Lodge and Peter Hill: Wivenhoe Housing Trust.

Minute 2015/48 Minutes

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

Minute 2015/49 Matters arising

From Minute 2015/35

Small green spaces. Chris Downes will send the map to Jane; Jane will forward it to Ruth to put on the website for public feedback/additions.

From Minute 2015/38

Draft Plan signing off meeting. This item was dealt with under *Minute 2015/54* below.

Minute 2015/50 Correspondence

Three emails were received.

Two via the website, from N. Smithers and M. Smithers; these had been dealt with by C&CE. One from Locality with new grant information, passed on the C&CE.

Two items of correspondence were generated.

Response on 13 October to TDC Issues & Options consultation re A133 development (Peter Hill);

Article written by LUZ/C&CE for Wivenhoe News Winter issue, 27 October.

Minute 2015/51 Finance

An invoice had been received from Chris Bowden for £1300 + VAT for work done so far. WTC will raise and send off a cheque in payment. This amount represents just under half (after reclaiming the VAT) of the grant we received for CB's work.

Minute 2015/52 C&CE report

The Wivenhoe News article will be published on the website once it has appeared in print.

A suggestion that John Wallett be asked to make the draft plan readable before publication on the website was positively received.

Minute 2015/53 LUZ group report

Peter Hill gave the report. LUZ group has continued to meet every Monday morning. Meetings were held with three landowners and followed up with letters detailing the community benefits sought in return for housing allocation though no numbers have been discussed.

Further meetings were held with two landowners. An outline scheme has been requested from both and initial responses were requested by 20 November. Thanks were expressed to Karen Syrett for making herself available for these meetings as her presence had proved very useful. LUZ group is not yet satisfied that the best deal for Wivenhoe has been achieved and is continuing its efforts.

LUZ group sought agreement from the SG to include a 30-bed care home into the allocation discussions with landowners. This would be on top of the provisional number of maximum 250 houses (as that number was calculated on the basis of available school places). It would have to be a commercial operation but could be included in the draft NP. SG signified its agreement.

Other issues that were briefly raised: the 2 ha piece of land at the end of Keelars lane earmarked for commercial units. This had been consulted on in July 2015. SG agreed it could be added to the Employment policy.

A CBC Concept Plan is in preparation for Wivenhoe Quay. When ready it will be passed to LUZ and may lead to an 'environmental improvement area' policy.

The Broadfields/Gravel Pit Grove corridor: LUZ wants to preserve trees and orchids there. Only Essex Wild Life Trust can designate this and CBC is assisting with this.

Minute 2015/54 Plan Writing group report

Version 11 had been circulated before this meeting. Thanks were expressed to Karen Syrett and Chris Downes for checking the draft and for their comments.

Richard thought that the summary it contained was very helpful but could be more reader friendly. Rosalind agreed and the C&CE group can take care of this.

A section has been written into the plan about the Cedrics garage site (now in East of England Co-op ownership). The site currently has planning consent for 24 houses. Nick Denney of the Co-op has been made aware of the draft policy in the NP. This policy is for mixed retail, business and residential development and could assist any application to change the planning consent if one were to be made.

SG agreed to this policy.

The Brook Street business centre is to be zoned as an employment centre.

A Topic Paper is to be prepared to show that all the necessary evidence for the housing policies is available. The draft Plan should now be ready for signing off at the next SG meeting on 2 December so a special meeting for this is no longer necessary.

Minute 2015/55 Project time line

Richard reported that nothing had changed since the last meeting. The question for LUZ/Plan Writing group was: can you deliver the Plan for final consultation by mid-February? As landowner answers are still awaited the best answer that could be given was: not unlikely.

There being no further business the acting chairman closed the meeting at 9 pm.

Dates of next meeting:

Wednesday 2 December 2015, 7.30 at Wivenhoe Town Council Offices.