

Minutes of the thirty-second meeting of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 7 October 2015 at the Wivenhoe Council Offices, at 19.30.

Present:

WTC Cllrs Robert Needham (chair), Neil Lodge, Ian Endean.

Residents Peter Hill, Jane Black, Marika Footring (minutes), Richard Polom, Graeme Willis, Ruth Melville, Mike Freeman.

CBC Christopher Downes, Karen Syrett.

Apologies for absence: Mark Norrington, Rosalind Scott, Pat Lean, David Allen.

Declarations of interest:

Cllrs Robert Needham, Neil Lodge; Peter Hill: Wivenhoe Housing Trust.

Minute 2015/41 Minutes

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

Minute 2015/42 Matters arising

From Minute 2015/35

The list of small green spaces is now available, Jane to send it to Ruth to be put on the website so residents can suggest additions. Mapping will be done by arrangement between Jane and Chris Downes. Peter expressed some concern that the three different planning categories of green spaces would mean residents could not identify *small* green spaces. It was felt that editing out any out-of-category suggestions would be easier than explaining the difference between categories.

From Minute 2015/38

The extra meeting scheduled for 30 September had been cancelled as the draft plan could not be made available in time. For reasons set out in *Minute 2015/46* below, this meeting cannot be re-scheduled until after the November Steering group meeting.

Minute 2015/43 Correspondence

Two items of feedback had been received and processed by C&CE group.

Minute 2015/44 Finance

FOSM cheque (*Minute 2015/37*) had been delivered. All other bills are in hand. Finances are stable.

Minute 2015/45 C&CE report

Ruth presented publicity material (beer mats) and reported that posters are ready to go as soon as the draft plan becomes available for publication.

Minute 2015/46 LUZ and Plan Writing report

LUZ and Plan Writing are two separate groups and will in future be minuted separately. Members of the Plan Writing group are: Peter Hill, Jane Black, Mark Norrington and Robert Needham.

Peter informed the meeting there were two issues that had prevented the draft plan's consideration at the scheduled special meeting, and its publication so far:

1) after the *informal* review by and feedback from CBC, more editing would be needed taking account of a number of points highlighted in the feedback, which had been received on 29 September.

Ruth said the view of the C&CE group was that sharing the draft plan with residents was a priority and expressed concern at further delay: the draft didn't need to be perfect but could be presented as a work in progress.

This led into the second issue mentioned by Peter:

2) the draft cannot be released for publication until negotiations with landowners over community benefits have progressed further. Also, the sudden ECC proposals for an anaerobic digester on the Lafarge site and subsequent ongoing NP/LUZ discussions with that landowner are key to the plan's present imponderables around site allocation.

Karen Syrett suggested a meeting with her, Chris Downes and Peter/LUZ could be useful to address the site allocation issues and possibly an attendance at the meeting with landowners also, bringing the benefit of CBC's negotiating experience.

A meeting date was set accordingly: of Monday 12 October for site allocation issues, and with landowners shortly thereafter.

Observations by Ruth, that for project management purposes we ought to have definite dates; and by Richard, that there should be a hard cut-off date for negotiations for our own project planning purposes, were noted.

To expedite matters as much as possible, it was agreed that Peter should circulate the latest draft version (9a) via Marika to all SG members so that the reading can begin. The date of the next Plan Writing group's meeting will be circulated at the same time and SG members are welcome to attend.

The SEA Scoping report is at present with Dr. Jonathan Crane who will write the SEA report. He will need a copy of the draft plan before he can do so. The SEA report must be ready to go with the plan when it is formally submitted to CBC.

Minute 2015/47 Project time line

Richard Polom reported there was no update. Taking proper stock of progress will not be possible until after the next SG meeting. Richard thought the community consultation planned for November will probably not take place until February. He will prepare an *indicative* timeline showing the effect on the referendum date IF the plan could be completed and ready for final consultation before Christmas.

It was noted that the CBC consultation date on the new Colchester Local Plan is 15 February 2016.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm.

Dates of next meeting:

Wednesday 4 November 2015, 7.30 at Wivenhoe Town Council Offices.