

Minutes of the eighteenth meeting of the Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group held on 6 August 2014 at the Wivenhoe Council Offices, at 19.00.

Present: Cllrs Robert Needham (chair), Neil Lodge.

Residents Marika Footring (minutes), Peter Hill, Jane Black (Wiv. Soc.), Moira Collett University WG), Graeme Willis and Ruth Melville. CBC Beverley McLean.

Apologies for absence: Richard Polom, David Allen, Christopher Downes (CBC) and Tom Roberts (Transport WG).

Declarations of interest:

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

Minute 2014/48 Minutes of SG meeting of 2 July 2014

These were accepted as a true record and signed by the chairman.

Minute 2014/49 Simon Neale, Director of Estates Management at the University of Essex

Mr Neale had accepted an invitation from the Steering Group to attend the meeting.

Mr. Neale introduced the University Strategic Plan that was created in 2013, and the Estate Strategy for the University which was written in 2014 to support the University's academic mission and contained the guiding principles behind the University's development plans for the next few years; a master planning exercise will be undertaken with appropriate inputs in the next academic year to support this. The discussion ranged over a number of subjects, including expected growth in academic activities, the Knowledge Gateway and Park Side developments, infrastructure and sustainability in transport matters, and pressure on accommodation. The SG were informed that there was enough development land on the North side of the University to accommodate any further building and that preservation of the *green wedge* between Wivenhoe and the University is high on the agenda (subject to the pursuit of proposals to increase the quantity and quality of sports fields which the University currently does not have in sufficient numbers). As regards the cycle path from Wivenhoe to the University, that is a matter the University feels is now entirely in the hands of ECC. In terms of the neighbourhood plan, the University's interest would be in anything that fosters and strengthens the relationship with Wivenhoe.

Robert Needham thanked Mr. Neale for an informative discussion and for his offer to attend the University WG meeting.

Minute 2014/50 Matters arising

from Minute 2014/37a): Digest Distribution. There are approximately 700 copies left.

Robert will continue distribution to various points, including the schools and the WI

from Minute 2014/43 & 45: Grant applications. The chairman reported a successful outcome. A further £3000 has been granted from Locality. The WTC has itself made a contribution of £1000. The application for Direct Support is still being finalised but Mick Downs, Director of Urban Vision Enterprise Services CIC who had contacted Robert after the application, has put in a positive report in support. The decision will be made on Tuesday 12 August.

An outline was given of the sort of work that would be covered by Direct Support. Discussion followed about possible overlap between Mick Downs and Chris Bowden. It was generally felt that it would be wasteful if overlap happened and that the work that each will do needs defining. There is also the offer by Karen Syrett of a couple of days assistance from CBC Planning.

An extra meeting, limited to deal with these points, was agreed for **Wednesday 20 August, 7.30 at WTC offices**. Room availability has been confirmed.

Minute 2014/51 Correspondence

Letters were received in reply to the Chairman's letter to land owners from Mr. Wolf, Mr Gooch and Vaughan & Blyth.

Four further offers of help with the WGs had come through the website feedback facility, from

Michael Padmore, Tom Cropper, Lesley Duncan and Rosalind Scott.

Minute 2014/52 Public Consultation Events

It was decided not to attend the crabbing competition on 7 September as the occasion doesn't really lend itself to promoting the NP or recruiting.

The next big public consultation event will be when the WGs have brought forward their proposals. It was thought that the William Loveless Hall would be best and confirmation that the hall has been provisionally booked came as these minutes were being written: **Saturday 22 November 2014**. Beverley McLean mentioned that the Zone Warden would be happy to help with the consultation day- this to be followed up.

Minute 2014/53 Working Groups Reports

Rosalind Scott had volunteered to take on moderating the Countryside WG. All bar one of the groups have had one or more meetings and progress is made.

The Transport WG's work is turning out to be difficult. Ruth mentioned the plethora of data in that section and it was felt that the group should receive more assistance. Beverley McLean said an officer of the Transport section of CBC Planning could be asked to attend a group meeting, Ruth and Graeme both offered to come to the group's next meeting. Peter will contact the group's moderator.

The Business WG has not yet got off the ground. Marika sent out 7 emails to potential volunteers to try and find a moderator but no-one has come forward. One volunteer has expressed interest in membership of the group but it needs a moderator. Further efforts by the SG are to be made. The Chairman encouraged the WGs to try and work towards the target date of end September.

Minute 2014/54 Any Other Business

Beverley McLean: Getting out the results break down of the cycle path consultation, specifically the numbers input from the University, is still being worked on.

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 9.17 pm.

Dates of next meeting:

Wednesday 20 August 2014, 7.30 pm at Wivenhoe Town Council Offices for interim meeting.

Wednesday 3 September 2014, 7.30 at Wivenhoe Town Council Offices for regular meeting.