

SCNPSG Minutes of meeting on 18 February 2019

Attendees: Rita Atkinson (RA), Mike Jenkins (MJ), Sarah Eccles (SE), Anne Morgan Smith (AMS), Martin Howell (MH), Geoff Armstrong (GA), Clare Pennicott (CP) and Joanna O'Callaghan (JOC).

Non -Steering Group (SG) member: Sharon Brentnall of Bluestone Planning (SB).

Apologies: Fred Cabbage (FC), Catriona Brodribb (CB), David Hignell (DH) & Peter Morris (PM).

Main Discussion Points:

1. Minutes of meeting on 21 January: Accepted.
2. Matters arising: AMS to amend and update response to email from Bidwells and pass on to SG members for approval.
3. PC website: Items for the website should be sent to Linda Martin (LM). Items to be forwarded - project plan, visions and objectives, questionnaire results, meeting agendas and minutes, dates of meetings.
4. Pizza Workshop for children/young people: To be held in village hall on 24 April from 5pm to be run by SG. To be advertised in SC News and directly to groups such as Damascus, Scouts and SC Primary. The PC will be asked for their approval to fund event.
5. SCPC update: PC have approved funding for workshop on 2 March and the 2 appraisals being carried out by Kathryn Davies and Steven Warnock.
6. Appraisal Update:

Village Character Assessment: AMS confirmed that Kathryn had already started exploring the background to the appraisal. She had met with Mary Thompson and walked about the village. RA was concerned that the majority of the historic character was located at the northern end of the village. A village character appraisal should cover all parts of a village whatever the age/character. AMS to check with Kathryn and ensure that she is aware that as a result of the questionnaire any future development is to be within the existing footprint.

Landscape Character Appraisal: JOC said a walkabout with Steven will take place on 5 March. DH, POC and JOC to attend.

Steven and Kathryn have arranged to meet on 19 March.

7. SB of Bluestone Planning:

SEA:

SB confirmed that as we were not allocating new development sites no Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) is needed. But need to apply to the Vale on appropriate form, this application will then go out to formal consultation.

Housing Needs Assessment (HNA):

SB confirmed that it was unlikely that we needed to carry out a full HNA but will need to analyse data from questionnaire responses. Also retrieve waiting list data from the Vale. MJ said issue with all the new developments is that the social housing allocation was not occupied by SC families. Although our visions/ objectives state that they should be given priority.

RA and one other to look at data from questionnaire and pass to SB who will then be able to identify what other information we need. As no extensive development is planned to cover off local social housing needs a Rural Exception site could be used, which provides social housing for local people only.

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Policy writing:

SB will supply RA with Vale document- Policy Development Framework. RA will pass onto all SG.

Local green spaces:

RA asked whether we could designate local green spaces. Possible but need to show amenity/value.

SB said to stop coalescence the easiest approach is to designate green gaps. But they only last for the lifespan of the NP. This is possible even on land in private ownership. But land owner needs to be contacted. SB will provide template for landowner letter.

Didcot Garden Town (DGT) / Milton Park/Enterprise Zone:

RA/MJ asked SB how, if at all, can our NP have any influence on development on any of the above, also green spaces in respect of DGT, as parts of these areas were within our parish although outside the designated area. Any future development in these areas will have an impact on our village. SB thought they may be able to be covered as a Community Aspiration but will check with Bill Maxted and other Vale officers. RA asked SB about the possibility of obtaining extra grant money to cover these exceptional/technical circumstances. SB thinks it may be possible.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA):

RA asked SB whether we will need to carry out a SA. SB said this should be considered when we have an idea of plan policies. We need to comply with basic conditions SB will send examples of other NP groups Basic Condition Statements.

Policy Writing:

SB said Bluestone can draw up policies but require to be provided with 'basic ingredients' for policies from us.

Traffic and river crossing:

MJ asked SB how our plan can be ready for the likely crossing which could come during the lifespan of our plan. SB said the new bridge would be a trigger for a NP review.

RA asked whether an additional technical grant (see above) could be obtained for an in - depth traffic survey, similar to the Milton Park traffic movement survey. SB said this was possible.

MJ referred to the OCC survey and whether we could use that. Problem is that it would need updating.

Allocated site at SC(E):

AMS asked SB how we should treat the allocated site. SB confirmed that we must include it in the plan but state all negative features. SB could send framework.

8. SC News:

RA will draft entry to cover commissioned appraisals, youth consultation, page on PC website and meeting with SB.

9. AOB:

Requirements for event on 2 March in village hall– tables, chairs, access time, refreshments.

10. Date of next meeting:

Agreed that future meetings should be held on third Monday in the month. Next meeting – 18 March.

Action Points:

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1. AMS to amend email to Bidwells
2. RA and CB to pass to LM items for NP page on PC website.
3. JOC to obtain PC approval of NP expenditure on pizza evening. RA to approach relevant groups.
4. AMs to email Kathryn about tying the character appraisal with our planned policy concerning no development outside the existing village footprint.
5. RA and one other to look at questionnaire responses particularly related to future housing needs and pass to SB.
6. RA to remind SB of:
 - Suppling proforma for SEA;
 - Providing details of information required for housing needs;
 - Providing RA with Vale document – Policy Development Framework;
 - Providing template for landowner letter in relation to designating green gaps;
 - Asking Bill Maxted and other Vale officers about references to areas within parish but outside designated area. Possibility of using community aspiration approach;
 - Possibility of obtaining extra grant money;
 - Providing examples of Basic Condition statements.
7. RA to draft SC News entry.
8. JOC to contact Community First about requirements for event on 2 March.