



PADDOCK WOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP
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**MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2018 8PM
THE WESLEY CENTRE, PADDOCK WOOD.**

PRESENT:

Meryl Flashman (Chairman of Steering Group, Town Councillor, Heritage Group)
Carol Williams (Steering Group Secretary, Town councillor and lead for Sports & Recreation Group)
John Flashman (Steering Group member, Heritage Group & Town Councillor)
Rodney Atkins (Town Councillor & Local Resident)
Andrew Mackie (Steering Group member, Community Centre representative)
Richard Barsley (Steering Group member, member of PWBA and lead for Town Centre Group)
Rebecca Roberts (Steering Group and Green Infrastructure group)
Mike Ridger (Steering Group member, chairman of PW Athletic Club, Sports and Recreation Group)
Ann Newman (Steering Group member & resident)
Eileen Hansel, (member of the public, interest in road crossings)
Winsome ??? (member of the public, interest in road crossings)

APOLOGIES:

Jeremy Thompson (Steering Group member & resident)
David Henshaw (Steering Group, Town Councillor, Heritage Group)
Mark Noterman (representing Green Infrastructure Group)
Sarah Hamilton (Steering Group member, Town/Borough/County Councillor & Lead for Heritage Group) NB Sarah did arrive just before the end of the meeting
Jim Large (Steering Group member, Heritage Group, WRAG)

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th January 2018 were approved as an accurate record.

2. Information items arising

- The draft plan has been submitted to TWBC for a Strategic Environmental Assessment. The reply stated that at this stage they do not see the need for a full environmental assessment, but that the final draft should be resubmitted for the formal assessment to be completed.
- A meeting with TWBC took place on 22nd January. The notes from this meeting were distributed to Steering Group members via email. It was agreed that TWBC would respond in writing to the four policy areas in the plan. Action: MF needs to contact Kelvin Hinton re feedback.
- CW reported re Southern Water meeting & plan.

- Following advice from Richard Eastham the main NP document has been shared with our County Councillor, Borough and Town Councillors all of whom were invited to attend this meeting. Unfortunately the Borough Councillors had been unable to attend due to a full Borough Council Meeting and will be invited to attend the March meeting as they need to be aware of the content of the draft Neighbourhood Plan in order to be able to represent Paddock Wood.
Town Councillor Rodney Atkins was thanked for attending.

3. Draft Neighbourhood Plan

- All working groups will be meeting prior to the March Steering Group meeting to ensure that the main messages from the background papers come across “loud and clearly” in the Draft NP. Working groups are asked to ensure that statements are not too vague or over prescriptive.
- TWBC has requested that all green spaces in the parish are identified including the potential green space allocated by the three developers who currently have planning permission to build in Paddock Wood. Decisions are also required from the Green Infrastructure group about whether the green spaces on page 38 and 39 should also be local wildlife sites. There is also a need to consider the Borough document re open/green space.
- Issues surrounding the identification of an outdoor sports hub site are to be discussed with Richard Eastham.
- The Town Centre group will be meeting on 1st March to identify key buildings for protection in Commercial Road and other buildings that, should they come forward for redevelopment should be replaced by a certain type of new development. Eg what could be put on the site of the telephone exchange if it became surplus to requirements or if Dowding House was put on the market.. All are welcome to attend. RA suggested adding electric charging points to car parks. This needs to be added to the Town Centre policies.
- The groups also need to consider infrastructure projects that they would wish to see delivered in the future through developer contributions.
- Town Councillors present were asked if the Town Council supports the NP. It was stated that this is a Town Council project and as such the Town Council might ask for amendments and rewording to be made in some places. There was thought to be general support for the NP but that there may be individual issues that some Councillors may express concern about. It is important to remember that the NP is based on public consultation.
- It is important the plan should move forward quickly & not lose momentum. Feedback was requested from the groups before next month.

4. Contact with Richard Eastham

- Report received from MF who has had several phone conversations with RE since the last meeting.
- A face to face meeting in Paddock Wood has been organised for Thursday 22nd February 2018 3.30 at the Podmore building to tie in with Richard Eastham’s visit to Brenchley and Matfield. The specific issues arising from this meeting to be discussed with Richard Eastham

- Winsome and Eileen raised the difficulties and potential dangers associated with pedestrians crossing the Maidstone Road near the Health Centre. It was agreed to discuss with RE the possibility of including the redesign of the entire road layout in this area, including junctions, in the Access and Movement policy of the NP.
- A surface water drainage policy will be added into the plan & RE will have a further look at foul water drainage

5. Update on Community Centre

- Richard Eastham has been passed information by the Community Centre Working Group architect which will enable him to develop a policy on a Community Centre for inclusion in the NP
- AM reported amendments to the Community Centre governance structure. Four groups are to be represented on the working party. Requests to join need to be submitted by the end of February. Some groups who have expressed an interest cannot attend meetings during the day, but have expressed an interest in joining a design group whose meeting would be held in the evening.

6. Budget

- It was confirmed that sufficient money remained in the budget to cover future advertising costs and consultancy fees.
- RR asked about the next consultation event. There will be a formal six week consultation during which RE will hold a drop in session for residents to ask and answer questions. The Steering group could also run other events including an online questionnaire and exhibition. RR & AM suggested a repeat of a previous event held in the school with a formal presentation, as there was an excellent turnout. To be discussed with Richard Eastham.

7. Any Other Information

- Brenchley and Matfield have started to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. MF to attend visioning event organised by Feria-Urbanism.
- The Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan passed a referendum recently with 91% of respondents supporting the plan and a 35% turnout
- The marketing report was circulated. This indicated a higher level of engagement via the Facebook page with 1,639 people looking at the post re Mascall's Farm planning permission. The public's belief that the Town Council has no influence on TWBC decisions is a considerable challenge.
- MF to submit a Facebook post stressing that the purpose of the NP is to protect PW residents in the future
- It was agreed that the photographs in the draft NP should be updated. MR agreed to ask the U3A photographic group if they would be willing to take some new photographs.

8. DATE OF NEXT STEERING GROUP MEETING:

The next scheduled meeting is on **Wednesday 21st March 2018, 8 pm**

9. Dates and times of future Steering Group meetings: 18th April, 16th May, 20th June, 18th July at 8pm