

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP HELD VIRTUALLY VIA "MICROSOFT TEAMS" ON WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2020 at 7pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Wayne Smith (Chairman, St Nicholas Hurst PC), Lou Robinson, John Edwards, Gemma Moore (left meeting at 8.02pm), Penny Curry and Duncan Kendall.

APOLOGIES: Mac Stephenson and Brian Thomas

OFFICERS: Mrs. M. Bradshaw (Clerk).

0115 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mac Stephenson. Brian Thomas attempted to join the call but could not make a successful connection.

0116 **Prejudicial Interests**

There were no prejudicial interests to declare.

0117 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5th August 2020 were approved.

0118 **Update on the Local Plan**

The Chairman briefed the group regarding the latest progress with the Local Plan. He informed them that Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is considering many sites across the Borough with no obvious answers at the minute. The Council still has a five year land supply although delivery is dropping off. At present, the Chairman does not know when the Government will make their decision.

0119 **Update from Group**

LR/JE presented an update to the group regarding the work they have been undertaking on policies. The following points were noted so far:

- LR has spoken with James McCabe at WBC regarding development orders. So far, it would seem that other Parishes haven't gone for this route and with that in mind no list of sites has been prepared;

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- it is considered important that something is put in the local plan for the young and social housing;
- the issue of broadband/Gigaclear within the Parish was discussed. GM agreed to refer back to the consultation to see if it was raised by many;
- it is noted that Hurst is within a floodplain and likely to flood. Photos of flooded areas are required and it was agreed that DK may be able to provide these. It was agreed that blocked ditches cause flooding problems. Hurst does have community flood wardens.
- with regards to listed buildings it is recommended that some buildings are added to the existing list as being of special character. Donkey Bridge was also raised under this area as being a site of historical importance. JE/LR to meet with James McCabe and the Conservation Officer to discuss further;
- gypsy/traveller sites were discussed. It was noted that Hurst has sufficient but there is need for a larger pitch within the Borough;
- further work continues collating information on Rights of Way, Leisure and Community, Biodiversity (a particularly large area to research) and Transport; and
- the final report will be a precise of all the above and supporting reports will be open to scrutiny by the Inspector.

0120 Timeline going forward & keys tasks to be achieved before next meeting

Ahead of the next meeting, planned for the 16th December 2020, the following tasks to be completed:

- LR/JE and GM to work on policies and cross reference to evidence gathered so far and consultation responses; and
- LR to arrange meeting for New Year with James McCabe, WBC.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

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