

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP HELD VIRTUALLY VIA "GOOGLE HANGOUTS" ON WEDNESDAY 5TH AUGUST 2020 at 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Wayne Smith (Chairman, St Nicholas Hurst PC), Lou Robinson, John Edwards, Gemma Moore, Brian Thomas, Penny Curry and Duncan Kendall.

APOLOGIES: Penny Curry and Mac Stephenson

OFFICERS: Mrs. M. Bradshaw (Clerk).

0108 **Apologies for absence**

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

0109 **Prejudicial Interests**

There were no prejudicial interests to declare.

0110 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17th June 2020 were discussed. The Chairman had a minor amendment which he noted and would forward to the Clerk for re-circulation.

0111 **Update on the Local Plan**

The Chairman briefed the group regarding the latest progress with the Local Plan. He informed them that he is meeting three times a week with Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) who are currently working through all sites and options.

0112 **Update from Group**

The Chairman thanked both LR and JE for their good work. JE had spent time gathering policies from other similar sized neighbourhood plans. The aim was to identify common themes and which would be a suitable starting point for the group. GM confirmed that she would happily assist with this process and noted that it would be important to cross reference policies back to the original consultation findings.

Chairman's Initials

The Chairman asked whether any other neighbourhood plans had a policy relating to speed and road safety. JE did not think he had seen one but it was agreed, in the case of Hurst, this would be important. GM noted that the lack of pavements in some areas of the Parish mean they are not inclusive. If pavements cannot be easily installed then traffic calming is an essential safety measure. Increased walkers and larger vehicles create obvious safety hazards. Areas such as Church Hill, Orchard Road and The Street were noted as problem areas.

The Clerk confirmed that reports relating to Local Green Spaces had, following the Parish Council's approval, been submitted to WBC. WBC had confirmed these reports were very comprehensive.

RESOLVED: LR/JE and GM to review polices. Polices to be matched to the evidence already gathered by LR and information arising from the consultation exercises.

0113 Timeline going forward

Discussion was held around housing for the young in the Parish. It is known that parishioners are keen to keep the next generation in the village but this is hard to achieve given house prices. The Chairman confirmed that, with new builds, there has to be a percentage of affordable housing.

LR confirmed that she would speak to James McCabe, WBC regarding neighbourhood planning development orders. She would also continue to work on producing a draft report which consolidated all of the call for sites which had been received.

RESOLVED: LR to present her report to the Group once completed.

0114 Agreement of keys tasks to be achieved before next meeting

Ahead of the next meeting, planned for the 9th September 2020, the following tasks to be completed:

- LR to pull together call for sites information; and
- LR/JE and GM to work on policies and cross reference to evidence gathered so far and consultation responses.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman's Initials