

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
WORKING GROUP
HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, SCHOOL ROAD, HURST
ON THURSDAY 11th APRIL 2019 at 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Wayne Smith (Chairman, St Nicholas
Hurst PC).
Howard Larkin, Lou Robinson, Penny Curry, Brian
Thomas and Duncan Kendall.

APOLOGIES: Ruth Graesser, John Edwards, Mac Stephenson
and Gemma Moore.

OFFICERS: Mrs. M. Bradshaw (Clerk).

0080 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Ruth Graesser, John Edwards, Mac Stephenson and Gemma Moore.

0081 **Prejudicial Interests**

There were none to declare.

0082 **Overview of meeting**

The Chairman brought the Working Group up to speed with the Local Plan developments and how this may impact upon the neighbourhood plan.

Since November 2018, Borough Councillors have visited nine separate locations consulting and informing on the Local Plan. The Chairman reported that there had been a good turnout at all events (often between 80 -100 residents) and approximately 1500 responses had been received to the "Homes for the Future" consultation. Of the responses received, it was noted that a third had been received from the RG10 postcode area. In addition, over 10,000 signatures have been gathered on various petitions saying that "enough is enough" with regards to housing and inadequate infrastructure within the Borough.

To address the concerns raised, and following Legal advice, Borough Councillors have concluded that a Borough wide consultation will take place after the May 2019 local elections.

Chairman's Initials

With regards to the Grazeley Garden Settlement, a decision regarding this is not expected until the Autumn of 2019.

The Chairman saw three potential options with regards to the Hurst Neighbourhood Plan:

1. Carry on as planned; or
2. Stall the process until after the May 2019 local elections and the Borough Consultation; or
3. Stop the process altogether.

Discussions pursued as to the pros and cons of each option. The Group felt strongly that a significant amount of progress had been made, with the questionnaire 95% ready to go out to residents. They thought that it would send out the wrong message if the process was called off or unnecessarily delayed. In conclusion, the Group felt that the questionnaire should go out towards the end of June 2019 – this would follow both the local elections and the planned Borough Consultation. They were keen for confusion between consultations and questionnaires to be avoided.

The Chairman agreed to brief Hurst Village Society (HVS) at the annual meeting to be held on the 7th June 2019.

The Clerk agreed to have 3 no. banners produced for placing around the village encouraging residents to complete their neighbourhood planning questionnaire.

Clarification would be sought from LA as to how many days the questionnaire had to remain “live”.

RESOLVED:

- The neighbourhood planning process to be continued with the questionnaire being issued towards the end of June 2019;
- LR, in conjunction with RG, to take the lead on finishing off the questionnaire;
- The Chairman to brief HVS;
- MB to arrange production of banners; and
- LA to be contacted to seek clarification on length of questionnaire consultation period.

The meeting ended at 8.45.pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman's Initials