

NOTES OF THE
NDP STEERING GROUP MEETING
14 AUGUST 2019

Present

Cllr Margaret Serle, Cllr Ben Thomas, Cllr Peter Garratt, Mick Murphy, Margaret Bowen, Graham Bowen
Mark Hearne (Clerk), Stephanie Kitto (HCC), David Nicholson (Planning Consultant) plus 18 residents.

Apologies

Cllr Jane Rigler, Cllr Barry Shaw and Dot Shaw

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Margaret Serle was proposed and seconded for the position of Chairman and was accepted unanimously by Steering Group members. Similarly, Peter Garratt was unanimously appointed as Vice Chairman.

Declarations of Interest – None although Peter Garratt mentioned his barn which has planning permission, but this not considered relevant.

Discussion with David Nicholson (Planning Consultant).

Mr Nicholson provided a brief resume of his experience as a planning consultant where he reported that he has already completed seven NDPs with a further 10 in train. He warned the Steering Group that he would have little capacity for the Orcop NDP for six months but considered it would take most of that time to finalise and issue a questionnaire which is the key first step in reviving the NDP. Mr Nicholson outlined the key four steps that would comprise his fee proposal which are summarised as follows:

- Design, administration and analysis of the evidence-based questionnaire.
- Housing site selection and settlement boundary.
- Preparing draft plan and pre-submission consultation and publicity.
- Preparing the submission Plan and supporting statements.

There was some discussion on the current status of the NDP focusing specifically on the recent AECOM analysis of the sites which emerged some 18 months ago from the “call for sites” exercise. Mr Nicholson noted the reservations expressed by Steering Group members on the methodology used by AECOM which had, in their view, resulted in some very questionable recommendations especially when the long-standing drainage issues were considered. Mr Nicholson cautioned against rejecting the AECOM findings without robust evidence and this may require contracting a drainage expert to undertake a study of the area. Mr Nicholson suggested that the Steering Group should allow circa two years to complete the NDP process.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference were agreed although Stephanie Kitto advised that it wouldn't be necessary to open all future Steering Group meetings to the public and this was not practicable and could slow the process.

Next Steps

It was agreed that David Nicholson would be invited to submit a fee proposal which would be compared to the proposal already tabled by Kirkwells when the Steering Group meets on the 11th September 2019.

It was also decided to seek some examples of questionnaire used to support NDPs in other parishes to help begin the process of developing a bespoke version for Orcop. Thought should also be given to organising a community event to work alongside the questionnaire.

The Steering Group also agreed that a letter should be issued to the landowners who responded to the "call for sites" exercise to update them on the current status of the NDP and more importantly provide feedback from AECOM on their respective sites.

Date of Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 11th September 2019. Margaret and Graham Bowen have kindly agreed to host the meeting at Holmelea Cottage.

Meeting Closed at 21.15