

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP
MEETING ON 13 FEBRUARY 2018

MINUTES

Present: Mark Thackeray, Paul Overton, Andy Green, Kathi Davis, Mark Jones, Jeanette Ewan, Steven Sowerby, Debbie Chaplin, Paul Fincken

Apologies: Peter Tinson, Richard Lockwood, Guy Cunningham, Tim Sloane

Also in Attendance: Amanda Allen, Mike Smith, Mike Orton, Ian Kimber, Ricardo Rios (SODC), Cllr Lynn Lloyd (SODC)

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 9 January 2018, as already placed on the NP website, were confirmed as a true record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

AGREED that, in line with current practice, any personal interest in sites under discussion by the SG should be declared and that any member with such an interest should take no part in any debate.

4. GOVERNANCE

Item deferred for future consideration, in the absence of PT.

5. HOUSING SITE CRITERIA - CONSULTATION

RR(SODC) advised that the site assessment criteria, subject of recent consultation should now be referred to SODC for comment.

AG reported to the SG on the feedback received from the consultation, noting the receipt of 32 responses, of which 11 expressed specific support of the criteria, 5 suggested a weighting system other than the draft equal-weight assessment, and 21 commented on the Green Spaces.

AGREED that MT should re-issue draft consultation to RR

RR undertook to provide a response by 23 February and offered a meeting with SG members at SODC if such a meeting would speed up the process.

RR reported on new data protection rules to come into force in April and recommended that future consultations advise consultees as to the length of time any comments would be held. Names and addresses should now be removed from all previous consultation responses.

AGREED that consultations and responses be dealt with in accordance with new rules and that liaison with SODC Community Engagement Officer be undertaken to confirm due compliance.

6. SETTLEMENT BOUNDARIES

AGREED that settlement boundaries agreed on 9 January be confirmed for ongoing work in drafting NP.

7. GREEN SPACES

AGREED that, following the consultation, there was no justification, based on criteria set down in para.77 of the NPPF, for changing the status of the sites identified in the consultation for formal protection as Green Spaces.

8. HOUSING SITE ASSESSMENT

AGREED that the formal assessment be deferred pending a response from SODC to the draft criteria.

9. WEIGHTING OF HOUSING CRITERIA

AGREED that, notwithstanding the limited response to this aspect of the consultation, a decision as to whether to depart from the "equal-weight" assessment be deferred, pending a response from SODC.

10. CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

SS reported on the applications to be considered at the PC meeting on 14 February.

NOTED that, to date, SODC had made no decision.

11. FUTURE CONSULTATIONS

AGREED that, pending response from RR/SODC, review of criteria and re-appraisal of housing sites required by SODC, the draft schedule of possible housing allocations should be agreed at the SG meeting on 13 March, following which the site maps and draft conclusions should be placed on the website and displayed in the Village Hall.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN TIMELINE

AGREED that, following the conclusion of the housing assessment, work should commence on the preparation of a Pre-Submission Plan, and that the Consultation Report be commenced immediately.

13. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKLOAD

RR confirmed that the drafting of the NP would be undertaken by the SG, on behalf of the PC, with help from SODC and, if appropriate, outside consultants.

NOTED that the current level of funding precluded the appointment of consultants and that Landscape Appraisal/Character Assessment may not actually be needed.

NEXT MEETING:- 13 March 2018, KB Village Hall at 7.30.