

# WATLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FORUM

## MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT SITES GROUP HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

**Present:** Tony Powell (Facilitator), Gill Bindoff, Ian Hill, Terry Jackson, Robin Wilson. Keith Jackson attended from 9.00p.m.

- 1. Apologies:** Nick Greaves, Tony Williamson
- 2. Declarations of interest:** None
- 3. Minutes:** those of the meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> August had been circulated and were approved as a correct record. As the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> August was just a preparatory meeting for the workshops scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> August and 3<sup>rd</sup> September (rather than a formal DSG meeting) no notes were taken and there are no minutes to publish.
- 4. Sites Workshop held on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2016 – report:** the workshop was attended by Pepita Bianchi, Gill Bindoff, Tom Bindoff, David Cotterell, Pauline Harvey, Terry Jackson, Peter Richardson and Tony Williamson. The Forum Coordination Group and Development Sites Group were represented as well as the WPC NP Steering Committee. The purpose was to assess each of the sites available for development against the criteria previously agreed by the Steering Committee and supported by the community at the Roadshows. A ‘traffic light’ system was used to evaluate the sites. It was made clear that this process is only the first step towards identifying preferred sites. Other evidence will also be evaluated including the sustainability criteria, aims and objectives of the NP, the NP planning policies, housing needs and traffic impact assessments. It was also made clear that matters identified as constraints at this stage could be dealt with via mitigating measures, and were not to be seen as automatic barriers to development. The site selection process will be completed by a summary of each site which draws together all the evidence available. Progress will be made towards this stage during September.

The workshop had been successful in generating constructive discussion about individual sites and in reaching collective decisions. Feedback from those attending had been good. The workshop had assessed several of the sites and the process will be completed at the follow up workshop to be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

- 5. Site recording sheets:** these are almost completed but a couple are still outstanding. TP will review the set to ensure that every site has been covered.
- 6. Environment Agency Flood Map:** it was noted that the revised map is expected to be available in September. The EA will be asked for a publication date. Any changes to the map will be incorporated into the information held on the individual sites affected.
- 7. Traffic impact assessments:** the grant offered by Locality has been confirmed. Rachel Gill will complete the due diligence form, and the funds will be transferred into the Parish Council account. Members of the NP Forum have had preliminary discussions with OCC Highways officers to find out what support may be available from the County Council. The grant is for specific work to assess the traffic impact of individual/collective sites. Details of

the revised specification will be produced with advice from James Gagg, SODC, and will be discussed with the Steering Committee.

- 8. Planning Application P16/S2596/0:** outline application for up to 100 houses on land off Pyrton Lane. It was noted that this application has been registered by SODC and comprises the site of WAT 8. The site is not within the boundary of the Watlington NP but WPC will be consulted. Now that the application has been registered the NP Forum will be in contact with Pyrton PC to discuss details of a response. Neither the Pyrton nor the Watlington NPs are fully in draft at this stage but will, hopefully, be able to provide a sound evidence base for the respective parish councils to use in responding to the consultation.
  
- 9. Date of next meeting:** it was agreed that there will be a meeting of the Group on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm to continue the preferred sites process.