



Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 31st OCTOBER AT 8PM IN THE PARISH OFFICE

Present:

Councillors: Jeremy Bell (Chair), Terry Jackson, Tom Bindoff, Matt Reid

In Attendance: Peter Richardson, Gill Bindoff, Ian Hill

Officer: Rachel Gill

Members of the Public: 1

1. Apologies
Robin Wilson
2. Declarations of Interest
None
3. Minutes of the last meeting
The minutes from the 5th September had a few changes requested by GB. RG to update and circulate.
4. Matters Arising

Covered in the agenda for this meeting.
5. NP Forum Update

HCA Update

IH gave an update on today's HCA workshop.

The meeting was generally useful, it got all the local Parishes together and there were a lot of similar issues. There were some criticisms of the transport assessments as they were difficult to understand and in places incorrect. There was not much positive feedback on this.

Pressure points and missing or weak links in transport were reviewed. Traffic counts were based on places of employment, traffic going to the south of Watlington was not included, instead traffic was listed as M40 and Southeast. This included deliveries like Tesco and parcel deliveries and school runs at 5 movements per dwelling. There was a discussion on movements per dwelling per day.

The HCA will go through and review the data after feedback from the local parishes. IH said it was difficult to distinguish between assumptions and data in the information provided. There will be a further meeting before the 5 day 'Enquiry by Design' workshop in January.

HGV data showed 144 HGV movements between 7am and 7pm for Watlington. About 50% went through and 50% went to Watlington and returned.

The HCA were surprised at the level of development already planned in the area (5,200 houses in addition to the 3,500 at Chalgrove).

IH said most Parishes wanted a solution which would work for the area and not just their village. Lack of buses was an issue emphasised by all attendees. The plan from HCA is to have a rapid transit system to the Oxford Ring Road. There was discussion about extending this to Watlington and as far as Chinnor.

The main implication for Watlington NP is the plan for alternative routes.

MR asked about HCA funding.

IH said there was £100m for infrastructure outside of Chalgrove. The HCA estimate for an alternative route is £5-7m. Developers would still be expected to contribute to infrastructure within their sites, discussions were needed.

GB handed out a copy of a plan from the HCA. This followed a discussion about an 'Edge Street' design for an alternative route around Watlington. Watlington NP have been asked to review this plan.

HCA stated that Watlington is a key traffic problem this side of Chalgrove. They also recognised that even without Chalgrove development something needed to be done. A similar exercise is needed for Benson, Stadhampton and Little Milton.

JB noted that he has access to CAD and online OS maps and this could help with updating the plan.

Developer Meeting Reports

Further meetings have been held with Archstone, Providence Land and JC Emmett. RG to chase up feedback from developers on the notes of the meetings and publish on the website.

A meeting was held with Knight Frank last week regarding WAT10. This was a productive meeting, TB/PR to chase up publication of notes.

GB said that follow up work was required on 2 sites:

1. Current Rectory.
2. Site 34 (land behind Bucklands Paddock)

Draft Selection of Preferred Sites

This is still at a preliminary stage waiting on traffic outputs. GB handed out a summary of the outputs from the 2 workshops and asked the group which formats were preferred.

After some discussion it was resolved to keep the 2 sections separate (initial ranking and sustainability ranking) and keep the scoring rather than apply any additional weighting.

This work will be reviewed on the 11th November with Peter Canavan from SODC.

Traffic Modelling Specification

GB handed out an updated specification for this work.

SODC will be putting in around £10k to help complete this work. David Cotterell and Gill Bindoff met with Peter Canavan and James Gagg today to go through the updated specification. SODC will now check the document and prepare it for sending to the consultants. The 3 main areas covered

will be traffic management, site impact assessment and B4009 traffic impacts/alternative route impacts.

Also in their response to the Wat8 application OCC have raised issues with the road – specifically strategic issues i.e they would like to see a complete road scheme.

JB suggested a vote to agree to send the document to SODC.

Resolved – all agreed with this.

Locality Grant

The grant for the sustainability work has now been received. The sustainability work will involve checking the work we have done and supporting us to produce the Environmental report for the draft plan document.

Other

- RG/PR are working on the consultation statement
- Information is being compiled on Green Spaces
- Policies are being redrafted
- Draft design statement has been completed , TJ and GB to review and circulate
- Preparation on how to approach pre-submission consultations is being prepared
 - PR suggested using the Christmas Fayre to give updates and film some footage for a video to promote the referendum
 - MR suggested updating people with Headlines on developments in NP, Chalgrove Chinnor and Benson developments.
 - GB said that budget approval would be needed.
 - RG to check remaining budget and report back
 - PR to provide costs for filming
- GB suggested fitting in an extra meeting to discuss feedback on the HCA plan and go through Peter Canavan’s feedback on site selection.

Resolved : To have an additional meeting on Monday 14th November at 8pm. The meeting scheduled for 5th December will also go ahead.

6. AOB

TB raised the opportunity for applying for money from DEFRA to help with air quality. This could be used to help fund traffic light modelling but would have to go through SODC or OCC.

Resolved : To push this forward and try to get the money.

Next Meetings:

Monday 14th November 8pm

Monday 5th December 8pm

Email: wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk Website: www.watlington.org