

## Stonehouse Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group held on Thursday 5th March 2015

1. Present: Carol Kambites (CK), Clare Sheridan (CS) (*Chair*), Terry Webb (TW), Alastair Shankland (AS), Nick Chase (NC), John Jaynes (JJ), Chris Cowcher (CC), Vicky Redding (VR), Gary Powell (GP), Ollie King (OK)
2. Apologies: Rob Waite
  - a. AS informed the group that Agnieska had formally handed in her resignation from the working group. She may still be interested in helping with some of the consultation work but could no longer commit to meetings or progressing actions.
3. Declarations of Interest: None received
4. Approval of the minutes of the NDP Working Group held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015:
  - a. Due to other commitments of the working group members, a number of apologies were received meaning that the meeting scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> February was not quorate and therefore could not go ahead.
  - b. OK, following on from his attendance as a representative of Maidenhill has now set up a Facebook group for the NDP as part of the ongoing engagement activities – he has made several members of the committee admins but has offered to upload any consultation or communication details to the group as and when needed.
  - c. AS has spoken with Liz Lawrence about site allocation following on from TW/CC spreadsheet activity
  - d. AS/JJ followed up on action regarding engaging Ricardo Rios at SDC – JJ has prepared a separate paper with the outcomes of this meeting, circulated at the meeting. **ACTION:** AS to look in to SLAs between other NDP groups and their local authority to consider whether there is a need in Stonehouse’s case – would this improve relationships/communications?
  - e. Elin Tattersall from GRCC had been in communication with the group regarding GRCC input. There is still money left in the budget for GRCC time, need to consider how best to use this.
  - f. Following on from JJ paper, and work carried out by TW/CC (progressed further by TW) housing needs assessment activity was discussed. With SDC figures out of date and the development of Westington skewing figures/stats (with 40% ‘Affordable housing’) would there be benefit in Stonehouse carrying their own Housing Needs Survey as an evidence document to back up the Housing Policy? **ACTION:** CC to contact GRCC to ask for advice on similar sized towns carrying out HNS (CC thinks that Winchcombe carried one out) – what would be costs associated and also anticipated timescales.

CC did point out that if this activity was to progress there would need to be a firm commitment from the group and those on the list ‘happy to help’ to carry out a survey drop and collect service to encourage the best response rate possible. TW raised the point for having something identifiable as NDP volunteers – tabbards, t-shirts or just ID cards.

5. Budget review:
  - a. Nothing significant to report with regards to expenditure
  - b. VR/AS have met about planning for the future and have proposed a budget to cover A/S staffing costs for a further 6 months – decision to come from Town Council
  - c. VR/AS are to develop a new application for funding from Locality under the new grant scheme just launched (NC to input advice as appropriate)
  
6. Project Health Check:
  - a. Discussion about policies already drafted – **ACTION:** AS to redistribute details for accessing the google drive so that everyone can familiarise themselves with the current status of documents.
  - b. Site allocation activities ongoing (still a priority) and the potential HNS work will compliment this activity
  - c. Need to review the project plan Gantt Chart – **ACTION:** VR/AS/NC to meet and redraft for circulation at a future working group meeting
  
7. Local Plan consultation:
  - a. The current consultation regarding the proposed changes to the submission of the draft Local Plan is currently available via Stroud District Council until 25<sup>th</sup> March. All members of the group were encouraged to complete the response form either electronically ([via this link](#)) or by picking up a hard copy at the Town Council offices. The Strategic Planning Alliance (SPA) has prepared a briefing paper to help with completing the form (yellow document available at the STC offices)
  
8. Plan consultation activities:
  - a. The survey has now closed and VR is going to work on the prize draw using a random selection process from the CSV sheet downloaded from Survey Monkey.
  - b. AS/VR/JJ to meet with Wycliffe on 6<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the plan. The group decided that the following questions/topics should be asked:
    - i. How many pupils/staff live locally
    - ii. Aspirations/plans for their land
    - iii. Consents for current projects and timescales for activity
    - iv. Could we directly consult with students as we did at Maidenhill
    - v. What facilities in the town do your students use/need
    - vi. Do you have any intentions on other land in the parish**ACTION:** Report back at meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015
  
9. Any other business: None
  
10. Dates of next meeting: To be held fortnightly
  - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March
  - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April
  - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April
  
11. Workshop session: Mapping exercise – open space land use/ownership