



Ruishton and Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Plan Meeting of Project Team

Notes of meeting held on 19th February 2018

Present: Steering group members – Mike Marshall (MM), Jim Claydon (JCI), Doug Lowe (DL), Roy Bulgin (RB), Dave Duke (DD) and Catherine Faulkner (Neighbourhood Plan Administrator)

Other volunteers: Susan Sherry (SS), Ian Tucker (IT), Judy Cottrell (JCot), Mike Hellings (MH), and Julia Curtis (JCu)

1. Apologies

Stewart Thorne (ST), John Capstick (JCap), Bridget Dickinson (BD), Andrew Lukes (AL), Jasmine Riches (JR), Jim Woolcott (JW)

MM welcomed John Thorne (JT), County Councillor for our Parish, to the meeting. JT updated regarding the Gladman planning application at Wellington and the public enquiry. Gladman are contesting whether TDBC has a 5-year supply of housing or not. JT's view was that if Wellington had continued with the development of a NP, which they abandoned in 2015, then they would have been in a better position to stop the potential development.

JT was very interested to see the call for stronger broadband in the Business Survey results as he agrees that ultra-fast broadband is very important to businesses. His view is that this is the most single important thing SCC can do for rural businesses and has asked for this matter to be brought back to the Scrutiny Committee as he is not happy with the lack of information regarding this project and apparent lack of progress.

JT said that he is happy to be contacted by any member of the Project Team, or parishioners, as he is their County Council representative. **Action:** The Administrator to circulate John Thorne's (County Councillor) email address to the Project Team members.

MM advised that both Dave Durdan and Kelly Durdan, our Taunton Deane Councillors, were invited to the meeting but had sent their apologies. **Action:** The Administrator to invite both Deane Councillors to the next meeting of the Project Team.

2. Declarations of Interest

Jim Claydon declared a general interest as he is the Chair of CCS (Community Council for Somerset).

3. Notes of the last meeting

It was agreed that the notes of the last meeting (27th November 2017) were accurate.

- a) The Administrator to add the Thornfalcon Conservation Area report to Dropbox - completed
- b) JCI to complete a summary of the Vision, Policies and Projects templates and the Administrator to then circulate it to the Project Team - completed
- c) SS to complete the paper on the effects of Air Pollutants and send it to the Administrator for circulation to the Project Team - completed

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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADMINISTRATOR: Mrs C Faulkner

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- d) The Administrator to arrange a meeting with CSM NP group in the New Year – completed. MM advised that the meeting with CSM PC was very useful. CSM are at the informal Section 14 consultation stage. There are policies being proposed that may affect our parish such as traffic and footpath/cycle ways, but it was proposed to work together on these issues. It is hoped that the proposed works at Creech Castle will reduce the rat-running. CSM also advised that they have made some things community assets, and this will be put on a Ruishton and Thornfalcon Parish Council agenda for discussion. He also advised that the 3,500 homes being built are within the CSM parish and not Monkton. CSM are concerned about flooding and they have asked for the road under the aqueduct to be raised. This is being considered including funding it. **Action:** The Administrator to take the notes from the last meeting relating to David McCaffrey and put into a separate document available on Dropbox.

JCI updated everyone on the current NP process. The next step is to complete an Issues report and we are hoping to use a consultant to do this for us. They will use all the information and evidence gathered by this group, consultations, data etc to formulate that issues report. We will need to seek funding for this.

4. Draft Vision and Objectives for consideration

JCI presented the presentation of the Vision which had previously been circulated. ~the Vision has been compiled from the key issues raised in the Household Survey and the further consultations and surveys undertaken so far. The Housing Needs survey results may influence the wording on the Housing slide once the results are in. It was felt that whilst the vision is for distinct communities it may be that they shared facilities. This vision for distinct communities would also give leverage in asking for green areas and wedges between the three villages. The theme of “identity” should be used throughout where appropriate, Churches should be included in slide 3 and it reflect “parish” facilities. Slides 5 and 6 to be re-ordered slightly and slide 6 to reflect “business support” rather than “business hub”. The Vision will be presented to the PC for their ratification and then consulted with community for their views. Once the Vision has been bought in to we can start to develop policies. **Action:** JCI to update the Vision with the appropriate changes. **Action:** The Administrator to arrange for the draft Vision to be put on the PC agenda for ratification.

5. Feedback from Project Groups since last meeting (if relevant)

Environment – SS had previously circulated her paper on the effects of Air Pollutants which everyone had found easy to understand. Regarding SCC and Junction 25, SS has reviewed the Environmental Report and has seen nothing contentious but there has been a decision to delay approval of the scheme due to needing to resolve something environmental. The proposals on how they would deal with the animals found were sound so the reason for the delay is unclear. **Action:** SS to provide a summary of the Environmental Report to the Administrator who will then circulate it.

Business Survey – The results of the Business Survey had previously been circulated. MH advised that two businesses would like to meet with members of the Project Team, therefore he and JCap will arrange meetings as soon as possible and will provide notes following those meetings. **Action:** MH and JCap to meet with the two businesses

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requesting a meeting with the Project Team as soon as possible and will provide notes those meetings.

Housing Needs Survey – The Administrator advised that the survey had closed on Friday 16th February 2018. 740 surveys were sent out and 171 returned giving a return rate of 23%. We will receive the report by mid-April ensuring we meet the funding deadline of 25th April.

MM advised that there had also recently been a meeting with Halam Land Management (HLM). HLM are not looking to push development in to our parish until the A358 is sorted. They would be very willing to work with us and input into our NP. It came to light that Henry Boot Ltd is involved in Nexus 25 and is owned by HLM. It appeared that HLM are interested in building on the other side of the A358 from Ruishton, but it is dependent on the A358 proposed route.

Regarding the A358, the PC has put in a response to the consultation asking for a combination of the pink route to junction C, then up to the blue route (avoiding cutting Lower Henlade in half) to include a spur into J25 but instead of joining the M5 at junction location A it should follow the Orange Route from junction location D to join the M5 at an all movements junction at location F. Stoke, Killams and Hatch Beauchamp are all proposing the pink route. CSM would like the pink route but then the orange route from junction B due to an all direction connection to the M5.

6. Project Plan review

The Administrator explained that apart from the general update, it had been agreed by the Steering Group to put the completion date of the Policy Development back 2 months to make it more achievable following delays in decisions regarding the local roads. All subsequent completion dates had been put back accordingly.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting, will be set at the next meeting of the Steering Group.

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