



# Ruishton and Thornfalcon Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

## Notes of meeting held on 25th March 2019

**In attendance:** Mike Marshall (MM), Roy Bulgin (RB), Doug Lowe (DL), Jim Claydon (JCI), Dave Duke (DD) and Catherine Faulkner (Administrator)

### 1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

### 2. Declaration of Interest

JCI declared an interest as he is Chair of CCS.

### 3. Notes of last meeting (11/2/19)

All agreed minutes were correct.

#### Update on action items:

- a) The Administrator to contact Stuart Todd for quotations on redrafting the policies and then draft the NP, after ratification by the Parish Council – not yet actioned
- b) The Administrator to arrange the next meeting of the Project Team from Monday 18th March 2019 at 7pm subject to the Meeting Room at the Village Hall being available – completed and meeting held
- c) DL and DD to take photographs of key areas and features of the Parish – Photos taken and others uploaded. See agenda item 4
- d) The Administrator to set up a Dropbox folder for the photographs – DD set up a Google Photo Album to store photographs for the NP. See agenda item 4
- e) JCI to put together a package of information, drawn from the evidence gathering for the NP, that could be ready for the Parish Council to use for putting in a bid to the HE Environment Fund Plan – drafted and circulated 19/2/19. See agenda item 5.
- f) The Administrator to submit an item (for the Newsletter) advising that the SG and PT had been meeting and produced the draft Policy Chapter which would be presented to the PC on 6th March 2019. We are awaiting the announcement of the A358 decision expected this Spring which is needed to proceed further with the NP – actioned and in March 2019 Newsletter
- g) The Administrator to check the Terms of Reference for the Steering Group to ascertain whether DL needs to be approved by the PC to remain on the SG if he is no longer a Parish Councillor – see agenda item 6

### 4. Google photo album

DD has set up the photo album. Any further photos should be sent to DD who will add them to the album. DL advised that he will ask the developers (via the Parish Council PC) if he can take regular photographs of the work relating to Junction 25. **Action: DL to see if he can take regular photographs of the work on junction 25.** It was agreed that we need to ensure we have photographs of key aspects within the Parish including Chard Canal bridge, pill boxes, the bridges in Thornfalcon, Tarmac, Thornfalcon Garage, Mount Somerset, all the Pubs, the 3 nurseries, Henlade PO, the Battlements at Thornfalcon, the School, Scout Hut, variety of housing (bungalows, semis, detached, affordable housing on Stoke Road), Old School Ruishton, A358 congestion, green box.



#### 5. A358 legacy fund bid information package

This information had been circulated with the agenda. Everyone agreed the information collated by JCI was very helpful. JCI explained that there might be some aspects for bids that can be done jointly with other organisations ie cyclepaths. There are some that the PC may wish to apply for itself. The information within this report can be used to put bids together as they have been gathered from the NP evidence base. It was agreed that the way forward is for the PC to ask the NP for the evidence and rationale needed for bids at the appropriate time.

#### 6. Proposed change to Terms of Reference of the Steering Group

The Administrator presented the paper previously circulated with the agenda. It was agreed that this paper should be presented at the next PC meeting for approval. **Action: The Administrator to send the Membership of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group paper to the Clerk of the PC for decision at the April PC meeting.**

#### 7. Gladman appeal dismissal

This appeal had been dismissed as it was outside the Local Plan area. The group agreed that it is unclear why this case is different to the Wellington appeal. **Action: The Administrator to contact Stuart Todd to seek his opinion as to why the Gladman appeal at Creech St Michael resulted in a different decision to that at Wellington.**

#### 8. Garden Town Vision <https://www.tauntondeane.gov.uk/media/2692/taunton-garden-town-vision-document-web-optimised.pdf>

It was agreed that this does not have much bearing on our Parish; only Nexus 25 being called New Neighbourhood and the green corridors. It was discussed that the developers of Nexus 25 have put in a new planning application to redesign the road layout due to the junction 25 works. It was noted that the Garden Town document shows the whole of Nexus area and not just the area covered within the original planning application. MM advised that a representative from the developer is attending the April PC meeting to explain the new planning application.

#### 9. Review of Project Team meeting 18/3/19

##### a) Mapping for draft Policy Chapter

JCI presented the findings from the PT meeting. It was agreed that we should use the current Local Plan settlement boundaries and identify areas we would not want to see development in order to meet the objective that we would want to keep the village separate. **Action: The Administrator to obtain maps of the Local Plan settlement boundaries for the Parish.**

The work from the PT meeting showed the following:

Access to the Countryside – these had been straightforward to identify.

Future Leisure/recreation – the work showed that the sites needed to be accessible from both Ruishton and Henlade.

Car parking – it had been highlighted that additional parking is needed around the school, the Village Hall and extra off-road parking for Stoke Road.

Foot, cycle and bridle paths – these were identified as needed along the old canal line, from Church lane along the river and behind Sainsbury's, across the field at Woodlands to meet up with the pavement on Ruishton Lane, and improvements along the A358, M5 and Lipe Lane.

Ecological corridors – It was identified these should be along the old railway, from the river at the end of Church Lane across Woodlands, across the A358 and out to the countryside behind Henlade (an existing wildlife run), Stoke Wood area, and from Fishpool Copse to Thorn Clump.

**Action: The Administrator to send the OS map login information to DD.**

##### b) Next steps and/or meeting



It was agreed that the next meeting of the Project Team would be held once the decision of the A358 is made or subject to advice from Stuart Todd that we need to do any further work in the meantime.

#### **10. Project Plan Review**

It was agreed that nothing had changed.

#### **11. Newsletter**

It was agreed that there would be no contribution for April.

#### **12. Next Steps/Any other business**

It was noted that there may be new PC and District Councillors after the May elections who will need to be briefed on the Parish's NP.

DD has written a brief paper on technology which JCI will review and add in any implications for the NP. This will then be circulated to the Project Team for circulating to young people they know for comment. **Action: JCI to review the technology paper and the Administrator to circulate the finished paper to the Project Team for circulating to young people they know for comment.**

The Annual Parish Meeting is being held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at which DL will provide information on the NP. **Action: The Administrator to provide a timeline regarding the NP to DL for presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting 8/4/19.**

#### **13. Date of Next Meeting for Steering Group**

The date of the next meeting is to be 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 10am at Parklands.