

# HORTON & WRAYSBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

## Steering Group meeting: Tuesday, August 4, 2015

### Held at Wraysbury

**SG Members present:** Margaret Lenton, Peter Lord, Fred Parsons. Diana Hughes, Eileen Coogan, Julie Gomme

**Also present:** Phil Gill (RBWM Planning), cllr Christine Bateson (RBWM cabinet member).  
Apologies: David Roberts, Brian Whiteley (PAE).

- 1. Minutes of last meeting (April 21):** Agreed – no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.
- 2. New chairmen:** FP said that with the withdrawal of the previous joint chairmen, we would need to officially appoint replacements. (With the two parishes involved in the Plan, the Steering Group needs joint chairmen to represent each parish council as re our Terms of Reference.)  
***The meeting agreed that Margaret Lenton (Wraysbury) and David Roberts (Horton) be joint chairmen.***
- 3. Plan Progress:** ML said that we are steadily moving forward, though there was a slowing this year with the Election period and the loss of a couple of members from the Steering Group. ML also reported she had been working on the finance position and discovered the grant received through RBWM is secure and ring fenced in the Wraysbury PC accounts. We have only spent around £1,000 so far, mainly costs incurred in producing and publicising the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire.
- 4. Employment of a Consultant:** FP reported that for some initial enquiries he had phoned three consultants and emailed another from the lists forwarded of those encountered by PG and Brian Whiteley – noted that none constitute a recommendation.  
The first, from London, said they were too big and expensive for what we required, the other two could not offer us anything for around three months. The fourth, a group of three consultants, was a possibility and had replied with CV details and a tender, which offers parcels of work rather than a full scheme. They were not sure their availability would suit our time requirements.  
From those initial enquiries it was apparent that it will not be easy to find a consultancy to work with us to meet our timescale.  
CB felt it was important for the group to appoint a consultant fairly soon and suggested PG may be able to offer some additional ideas.  
***FP to continue to explore who might be suitable from the suggested names and to look at the list of consultants from the RTPI website.***
- 5. Updates from Topic Groups:** The meeting heard reports from the Topic Groups.  
**Housing** was now manned by DH, PL and JG, and following helpful comments from PG from a planning perspective, further adjustment to policy ideas will be worked on.  
On **Transport/Travel**, FP said he has been communicating with local action group Speedwatch on issues and evidence that would support road safety policies. On bus services, we can only ‘seek to improve’ in conjunction with providers and the borough – but usage balanced against costs remains a problem. EC said that Horton is particularly poorly served and illustrated difficulties faced by those without transport, especially the elderly.  
FP said the Wraysbury Voluntary Care service is available to Horton residents and with more publicity could well help get people to doctors etc. - *FP to liaise with WVC to get promotional material to Horton.*  
ML was pleased to report that for **Business/Economy**, JG has agreed to take over following the loss of the previous leader, Andrew Davies.  
ML had recruited three more people to work with the Topic Groups – two from Hythe End, which is important for that part of Wraysbury, being out of the village centre. These, she thought, could work on both **Environment and Community** with herself.

Again our thanks to PG for his comments on all these papers, which is very useful.

**6. Timescale for Plan delivery:** Following communication from Planning Policy at RBWM requesting a proposed timescale on delivery of our Plan, the SGroup has suggested from where we are now – working on draft policies and looking to engage a consultant – that we might be able to submit a Pre Submission draft for Consultation around February/March 2016.

Meeting noted a timeline had been written out which was deemed to be a realistic assumption.

***FP to send timeline to PG for assessment by RBWM Planning.***

**7. Character Assessment:** Noted that our area Character Assessment is an important part of our evidence base, and still needed further work to complete.

ML said she had enlisted the Wraysbury Archives team to compile a list of buildings that could be listed as historical assets. PG said listing them in the Plan along with any buildings of community importance plus key green spaces could be important so that they may be retained by the community and not lost to development.

**8. St Andrew's Church Garden Party:** This event on September 5 could be used to further promote the Plan and to gain further feedback from residents.

***ML to book a pitch. FP & PL to assist with publicity and display material.***

**9. AOB**

PG brought along publicity material for the parishes to inform residents of the situation regarding the borough Local Plan. Noted we shall distribute accordingly.

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