

Notes / Minutes of NDP Steering Committee Meeting at CVH on 7th Aug 2014 at 1936 Hrs

Present : GEF , TI , G Webster [HALC / HCC], TLJ , GW , AE , SH

[Sarah and Tracey were invited attendees courtesy of AE]

- This meeting was called with a view to consulting Gemma Webster [our HCC contact re NDP matters] . In particular , the Steering Committee wished to establish the precise steps to be taken in order to progress to a completed NDP scheme with an approved Plan signed off .
- Gemma gave the following response to the question of “ Next steps “ As from our current position [ie 07/08/2014] the steps are as follows in **chronological** order :-
 - Prepare final POLICIES [ie the key issues to be included in NDP]
 - Write the Draft Plan
 - Execute a RED 14 Plan re NDP conformity regulations
 - A 6 week consultation then occurs with
 - [a] The Community
 - [b] All Consultees [A list is available from GW]
 - Amendments can then be made vis a vis the consultations
 - FINAL PLAN produced and sent to HCC in a Digital Form **together with** A Consultation Statement + Gemma’s Environmental Report + Basic Condition Statement
 - HCC then has a further 6 week Consultation period
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 - Next comes the EXAMINATION by a qualified Independent Examiner [Time Limited]
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 - If all OK THE REFERENDUM . This is run by the HCC and allows all our residents on the Electoral Register to vote
 - A Simple Majority wins the day !
- GW said she would send her Completed Environmental Assessment but I have no further info on this !
- AE reported his contact with a Mr Paul Eldridge from Malvern / Colwell ? who is reported to have had experience of writing documents a la NDP , etc . It was agreed that as a matter of urgency that AE contact Mr Eldridge with a view to soliciting his attendance at our next NDP meeting [date to be sorted by TLJ / AE] . It was suggested by TLJ that he may be able / willing to write our own NDP first draft .
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- AE wished to raise the matter of his pet project [ie Heart of the Village at Kingsbridge] . The question of whether this project should be included in the NDP at this late stage was discussed . Views differed widely on the merits and practicality as much work would be required to get his project to an inclusion – worthy position .

The H of V project initially would require an Environmental Impact Assessment [GW explained]

AE suggested a 6 month halt to the NDP . This was rejected .

In addition , several other projects came out of the woodwork , so to speak , and this has muddied the waters considerably ,

- New projects which would require that *the community* was given equal opportunity to consider were highlighted by several of those present .
- Projects would require equal examination by questionnaires , public meetings , planning for real exercises , etc . for inclusion in an NDP .

These included :

Heart of Village

Stoddarts Buryfield Site development

New football pitches /pavilion etc alongside the Village School

The Pixiefield Development

Further projects could arise an any time .

- Gemma W answered many questions with regard to our options in progressing the Plan including the implications of the late crop of projects not revealed during the 12 month existence of the NDP steering committee ,
- One option outside the NDP schema could be to use the mechanism of a Community Right to Build scheme . I failed to grasp the info from GW at this point and therefore choose not to report on this one issue in these notes /minutes
- GW also gave the meeting several key points to note :
 1. HCC Core Strategy is not in place yet . It is forecast to be signed off in Mid-2015 .
 2. Site developments for NDP or right to build projects MUST [she stressed] be
 - [a] Viable
 - [b] Deliverableand that
 - [c] Bland statements re development projects will be thrown out by HCC and the Examiner
 3. GW recommended [with strong emphasis] that we should keep going with the NDP and gave several cogent reasons in support .

Meeting closed c. 2130 Hrs [BST]

Addendum : With specific reference to NDP matters

On Sat 9th Aug 2014 TI and GEF attended a Training Day Workshop with HALC in Hereford . The course covered both Planning and PC good governance etc . Many changes in the work of Parish Councils and there Clerks are coming along in the year ahead .

From our course leader Lynda Wilcox [HALC] we learnt , among other things ,

[1] That PC's should push on with all haste to get there NDP's finalised and adopted ASAP in readiness for the signing off of HCC's Core Strategy Plan

[2] She advise us that it is the **full Parish Council** who should decide when to draw the line under the NDPlan .and go for Drafting .

As currently determined , perhaps the best option would be to go to drafting and that any qualifying “ New Projects “ could be added to the plan as it traverses its route to the Statute Book .

Geoff Fielding : Parish Councillor / Steering Committee Member