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| Eye & Dunsden NDP Steering Group Meeting Minutes 25th February 2021 | | | |  | |  | |  |
| **Attendees:** David Woodward, Richard Berkley, Ian Dick, David Breeze, Deborah Simmons, Nick Marks, John Plumer, Mandy Sermon, Suzanne Abraham, Robin Page, Howard Crews.  **Apologies/not present:**  John Grimes **/** John Spooner, Ian Pringle, Julie & Steve Nicolson, Peter Walton, Robbie/Sara Steward,  Andrew Dunn.  All members are requested to be ready to report back on their actions at the next meeting. | | | |  | |  | |  |
|  | **MINUTES / ACTION POINTS** | **Who** | **Complete by** | |  | |  | |
| 1. | **PREVIOUS MINUTES** – the minutes of the 28th January 2021 meeting were agreed and adopted. | SG/S-G Members |  | |  | |  | |
| 2. | **ACTION POINTS**  **Funding**  HC and DW confirmed Liz Allen and Sharon Brentnall (SB) had been contacted to consider what, if any additional fees will be sought to complete both the Landscape and Settlement Character Assessments.  ID reminded members that the PC will be able to apply for new Locality Funding in April so some thoughts on the 2021/2022 budget will be required.  **NDP drafting and development**  DW and HC met with SB to discuss the drafting of all aspects of the NDP.  SB confirmed a great deal of the drafting work is allowed for in Bluestone’s Quote Ref 471-224 (dated 23/07/2020) though certain inputs will be required from the SG particularly relating to the historical information about the parish.  SB will review her quote and advise if there will be any additional costs. | Howard C  David W  SG/S-G Members to note  David W  Howard C | 25th March  25th March | |  | |  | |
| 3 | **MATTERS ARISING**  **Draft NDP Policies**  DW advised he had circulated a first draft of proposed policies for the NDP prepared by Bluestone Planning and ask all S-G’s to review all of the draft policies and consider amendments to ensure the policies achieve the V&O’s of the NDP. | All S-G Members | 25th March | |  | |  | |
| 4. | **NDP VISION & OBJECTIVES**  HC confirmed that SB was happy with the updated draft V&O’s and was using them as the basis for the draft policies of the emerging NDP. The V&O’s are a ‘living document’ and may evolve during the process of creating the NDP.  DB raised the point that nationally there is a risk of many emerging NDP’s being adopted that could almost be generic with conformity to the NPPF and other Statutory Plans i.e. containing the same standard policies.  DB felt that the SG need to consider what it is about the parish that is ‘unique’ i.e. identify what makes E&D special, makes the parish stand out from neighbouring parishes. DB considers this can help ‘sell‘ the emerging NDP at consultation and at examination by reducing inevitable criticisms and claims of ‘nimbyism’ whilst also strengthening the case to defend the parish against the threat from major infrastructure proposals. | SG/S-G Members to note |  | |  | |  | |
| 5. | **NDP WORKING SUB-GROUPS**  **a) Flooding, Ecology & Sustainability.**  NM confirmed the S-G had met on the 23rd February and commented:   1. Local resident Matthew Blee, who works for Thomson Environmental Consultants had been contacted and has agreed to assist the S-G in ecological aspects of the NDP including looking at the possibility of getting Span Hill chalk pit & part of the gravel pit designated as a Local Wildlife Site. 2. Rachael Sanderson at the Trust for Oxfordshire’s Environment had been contacted and advised the S-G to look at Benson NDP’s policies where they had focussed on themes/topics (i.e.pollinators) and how we could do the same for the parish (i.e. focus on ‘wetlands’) to form the basis of developing parish specific policies. 3. Yolanda Vasquez at TVERC is being contacted again in relation to the green corridor report previously requested that will look at accessibility, footpaths and the movement of flora and fauna. 4. DW is to contact the CEO of Community First Oxford regarding what service they could offer and how it could fit in with/add value to the existing consultants’ services being provided. 5. DS explained that that she will be representing E&D at a forthcoming ‘Citizens Jury’ managed by Evolve on behalf of the Environmental Agency. There are 22 interested parties taking part in 6 group meetings to gather evidence on issues about the River Thames to ensure the public can enjoy the benefits of the River.   The next S-G meeting 23rd March 2021 at 6.15pm.  **b) Settlement (formerly Character)**  DW explained the first draft of the Settlement Character Assessment had been received from Bluestone Planning and circulated to SG members for their information. The section regarding the lakes is outstanding but will be circulated once received.  The Settlement S-G will meet with in the next 14 days to review the first draft and agree any clarifications or amendments that can then be conveyed to Bluestone Planning for further comment.  DW reminded all SG and S-G members to consider and put forward additional properties / features / landscapes that are considered of value to the parish for the Heritage Assets Report. Images were needed.  The next S-G meeting provisionally Monday 8 March at 5pm  **c) Landscape**  HC reported that the Landscape S-G met on the 9th February and agreed final amendments to the draft Landscape Character Assessment that have been conveyed to Liz Allan who is working through them.  HC and DW met on the 16th February to review the diagrams within the draft Assessment to ensure they are colour blind accessible and comments have been relayed to Liz Allan for her technician to consider,  HC went on that he hoped the wording of the Assessment is substantially agreed leaving the diagrams (above) and a review of the photographs later in the year being outstanding.  The next S-G meeting TBC – to be a draft planning policy review meeting  **d) Infrastructure (formerly Transport)**  RB explained that the Infrastructure S-G had met and, in addition to the usual transport matters the NDP will cover, the S-G want to bring forward an Infrastructure Vision Statement. The Vision will focus on the pedestrian and cycle connectivity between Dunsden Green, Playhatch, Sonning Eye and Reading. RB explained the parish has many foot paths but many are not connected forcing users to walk along roads that are dangerous particularly to Sonning Eye from Playhatch. With the co-operation of landowners, the Vision wants to assess the feasibility of creating a public foot path and cycle route from Dunsden Green to Kingsmeadow Reading through Playhatch with a link to Sonning Eye. SG Members welcomed the initiative and a template for the Vision will be presented at the next SG meeting.  The next S-G meeting TBC  **e) Community Engagement, Press & PR**  DS confirmed that the first NDP monthly newsletter had been sent out to residents via e-mail and that MS was arranging for the mail out of the newsletter. DW had uploaded the newsletter to a number of Facebook sites and is to upload a copy of the newsletter on to the PC website. DS thanked ID and DW for their contributions to getting the newsletter published.  DS referred members to the Community Engagement Programme for 2021 and reminded members that the content for the March newsletter will focus on the settlement character aspects of the parish and April on the landscape character of the parish. DS asked DW and HC to consider the content for their respective newsletters.  To assist with engaging residents via social media, DS asked members to follow the E&D NDP Twitter page (@dunsdenndp) and the Facebook page (Eye&DunsdenNeighbourhoodPlan) and to encourage friends and neighbours to do the same.  HC explained that the Settlement Assessment will be making good progress now and that input is required from local residents and businesses (see item 5 of the November 2020 SG Minutes) and asked DW and DS to consider how and when this information will be sourced.  The next S-G meeting is provisionally on Tuesday 16th March at 5pm TBC | David W  Deborah S  SG/S-G Members  David W  Howard C  Richard B  Richard B  David W  Howard C  SG/S-G Members to note  David W  Deborah S  Deborah S | 25th March  Ongoing  On going  ASAP  Within 14 days  25th March  Within 14 days  16th March  16th April  ASAP  Within 14 days | |  | |  | |
| 6. | **Next Steps / AOB**  a) DW referred members to the OCC Notice of landowner deposits. DW explained Savills on behalf of their clients Phillimore Successors Settlement had issued the Notice with attached map extract that shows land that the landowners do not want any other public rights of way to be dedicated and prevents any unrecorded rights of way from being recorded. It also prevents Town or Village Greens from being registered on the land. MS confirmed a better map is being prepared. DW to seek advice from SODC NDP advisers and the Chilterns Association footpaths officer.  b) DW explained the refusal of the Hunter’s Cottage planning application had set an important precedent for the parish by not allowing development which caused the loss of open agricultural land and which might encourage coalescence between settlements. A re-designed Ivy Cottages application had been recommended for refusal by the parish council and would be another important test case.  c) DS asked if SB could update the NDP Project Plan programme timings. | David W  David W | 25th March  25th March | |  | |  | |
| 7. | **Next Meeting: Thursday 25th March 5pm via ZOOM. Joining details to follow.** | All to Note | 25th March | |  | |  | |