|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Eye & Dunsden NDP Steering Group Meeting Minutes 26th July 2021 | | | |  | |  | |  |
| **Attendees:** David Woodward, Richard Berkley, Ian Dick, Deborah Simmons, David Breeze, John Plumer,  Mandy Sermon, Howard Crews.  **Apologies :**Suzanne Abraham, Robin Page.  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 24th June 2021 meeting were agreed and adopted. | SG/S-G Members |  | |  | |  | |
| 3. | **ACTION POINTS**  **Funding**  ID explained the Locality Grant application was still to be made . MS re-confirmed that the PC could offer a short term loan of up to £5,000 to cash flow the NDP account whilst grant funding was being secured.  The current draft budget is £16,600 as detailed below:  Landscape £1,500  Planning £8,500  Environment £3,600  Community £3,000  RB explained he was waiting for a budget from a highways consultant that was expected by the 30th July. | Richard B | 30th July | |  | |  | |
| 4. | **MATTERS ARISING**  There were no new matters arising. |  |  | |  | |  | |
| 5. | **HOUSING NEED SURVEY**  JP explained he had been researching Housing Need Surveys and had identified Housing Need and Demand Assessments that were different from Housing Need Assessments. The SG agreed a survey of local need (not demand) was required and JP is to chase up Nina Merritt at SODC who was going to speak to her colleagues to try and source a template of a survey from other small parishes like E&D. DS suggested JP reviewed the Sonning NDP survey information and that the community engagement event on the 30th August could be a good source to gather housing need evidence. | John P | ASAP | |  | |  | |
| 6. | **DRAFT PLANNING POLICIES**  A lengthy discussion was had regarding the draft housing policy that DW and DB had amended and previously circulated. HC reminded SG members of SODC’s recently adopted Housing Policy H8 (Housing in Smaller Villages) and H16 (Infill Development) that Bluestone Planning had based their draft housing policy on. There was recognition that it was not sufficient to only include a policy that related just to Playhatch.  It was agreed further discussion was required on the housing policy and that a face to face meeting was needed with Bluestone Planning and the SG members ASAP. The other draft policies that DS had circulated on the 16th July also need to be signed off in order for them to be submitted to SODC for an initial review. | David W  SG Members note | ASAP | |  | |  | |
| 7. | **NDP WORKING SUB-GROUPS**  **a) Flooding, Ecology & Sustainability**  DS explained the DW and NM had met with Victoria Mordue and Nick Izard of Future Nature WTC who are a wholly owned subsidiary of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) and who have quoted to complete:   1. A Parish wide desk top based biodiversity assessment to identify priority habitats and parcels of land with the greatest number of protected and priority species utilising ecological records and maps. 2. A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) on at Dunsden Village Green, Dunsden Community Orchard and the Village Hall, all of which are assets owned by the Parish Council.   DW explained that fortunately the PEA will be completed in August which is the right time of year for such surveys to be completed. Important to note that in planning terms any biodiversity findings from one site could only be used to infer what might be found on neighbouring land, and therefore could not be used to provide planning objections. DW, NM and DS are to consider the scope of the PEA further to possibly include Phillimore Estate and Tarmac land at: the Folly Lake closest to Sonning Eye and the Chalk Pit on Span Hill which is a proposed Local Wildlife Site and is bordered by a bridleway which would be accessible without landowner consent.  **b) Settlement**   1. DW reminded members that progress of the Settlement Character Assessment was dependent on getting the policies settled and agreed as elements were interlinked with the Assessment. Further guided walks are planned which will help with this objective.   **c) Landscape**   1. HC reported that he and David B had met with Liz Allen on 22nd July to discuss PLCA 2 (The Lakes) being a valued landscape. Liz was satisfied that recently published technical guidance on assessing landscape value enabled PLCA 2 to be recommended as part of the Parish’s valued landscape. 2. HC also explained in support of PLCA 2 being a valued landscape the Preliminary Ecology Assessment would provide evidence for Liz Allen to recommend its Value and wondered whether Tarmac could be approached to let Future Nature WTC have access to areas of the Lakes to form part of their survey. DS noted the suggestion for the forthcoming meeting to he held with Tarmac. 3. With the exception of the ecology evidence, Liz Allen had made the final amendments to the draft Landscape Character Assessment including Bluestones comments and HC hopes to be able to circulate the assessment to all SG and S-G members shortly.   **d) Infrastructure**   1. JP raised the accident that occurred outside the Brewery on the 16th July and the real need for Quiet Lanes and traffic calming measures. throughout the Parish. The SG agreed and RB hoped to instruct a highway consultant shortly to assess the traffic and transport issues within the Parish. 2. It was agreed the PC will see if a copy of a police incident report concerning the accident is publicly available.   **e) Community Engagement, Press & PR**   1. DS explained the guided walk around Playhatch on the 10th July was a success with 20 members of the Parish attending. 2. The next walk will be at Dunsden Green hosted by JP on the **21st August** at a revised time of **2pm**. Followed by a walk around Sonning Eye hosted by NM and DW on the **2nd October** **.** 3. DS confirmed a meeting is being held with Matthew Driver of Tarmac and Alice Jenkins of Foundation Communications who are Tarmac’s political and PR advisers on the **3rd August at 2pm.** Tarmac is interested to understand the opportunities that the Neighbourhood Plan is seeking to bring about, and the opportunities that Tarmac’s landholding could offer. DW, DS NM RB and HC will attend the meeting on behalf of the SG. | David W  Nick M  Deborah S  SG/S-G Members  Howard C  Deborah S  Howard C  Richard B  M Sermon  John P  Nick Marks  David W  SG Members Note | ASAP  ASAP  3rd August  30th August  30th July  23rd August  21st August  2nd October  3rd August | |  | |  | |
| 8. | **E&D Schedule of Community Facilities**  HC will ask SA to circulate the current version of the Schedule as Bluestone Planning have asked to see it. | Howard C  Suzanne A | ASAP | |  | |  | |
| 9. | **Next Steps / AOB**  DW explained that Binfield Heath NDP Steering Group had been formed and had had their first meeting. DW felt and the SG agreed that it was important that E&D worked with Binfield Heath where possible and that he proposed sharing the E&D NDP library. DW went on that he had explained the mutual benefits that could be had if Binfield Heath NDP Steering Group considered instructing Bluestone Planning and Liz Allen to advise them. | SG Members note. |  | |  | |  | |
| 10. | **Next Meetings: Policy Review: TBC at the Village Hall ASAP**  **Steering Group: Monday 23 August at 7pm via Zoom** | All SG/S-G Members  All SG/S-G Members | TBC  23rd August | |  | |  | |