



TENTERDEN
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Steering Committee Meeting 1 July 2020

Present:

Cllr J Crawford
Cllr J Curteis
Cllr K Walder
Irene Dibben
Joseph Franklin
Richard Masefield
Siggi Nepp
Sue Quinton
Samantha Reed
Stephen Sidebottom
Graham Smith
Helen Whitehead

Apologies:

1. Minutes of 4 June 2020 were accepted and approved.

2. Matters Arising None raised.

3. Tony Fullwood's recommendations

Following recent conversations with Tony, Richard emphasised the need avoid any unnecessary exchanges of information by adhering as closely as possible to his timed and costed Planning Support schedule, through 3 itemised Phases to the point of Examination.

In terms of methodology, was agreed to be the task of the working groups to discuss and provide evidence for policies, which Tony will draft to meet Basic Conditions in accordance with the NPPF and ABC Local Plan.

It was further agreed that the next opportunity for public engagement will be with access to the Draft Plan at Regulation 14 stage, with a view to amending it as necessary to reflect the community's views and comments.

4 Working Group progress

a) Green Spaces with Biodiversity & Wildlife

The short list of potential LGS sites have been re-assessed using the 'traffic light' selection system proposed by Tony, with the number of 'green' sites currently standing at 11. 5 'amber' sites were described and discussed. Sue is to circulate the revised site assessment form she has agreed with Tony, including references to usage

by the community, historical significance, walking distance from the town centre, with the addition of a summary box. Graham thanked Sam and Richard for their recent Habitat Surveys and reports for all 5 'amber listed' sites. Irene drew attention to a possible conflict between plans for a cinema and LGS designation of the Millennium Garden, and Kate emphasised the need for a consistently evidence-based approach. The group is to consult with Tony via Zoom on Friday 3rd June.

b) Landscape

Siggi reported that comments on the AECOM report will be considered this week. The Character Assessment work appears less onerous than previously thought. She emphasised the need for additional mapping, which led to discussions on mapping detail and visual records of iconic views from local vantage points. The importance of St Mildred's Church as a focal point was agreed. Sam stressed that we should select those views the Committee considers important before debating them with Tony. Sue agreed to circulate a Dropbox link to a previous survey in support of this discussion.

c) Urban boundary

Helen reported that a number of changes were required as the result of a meeting with Tony. She screened alternative Vector and Master mapping systems defining the detail of the urban centre, and proposed an interactive map for the website. Her recommendation was for investment in Master Maps, at an estimated total cost £1650. Richard asked if the system was compatible with Ashford Borough Council Maps. Helen has contacted ABC and awaits a response. A discussion followed on the merits of the different mapping systems.

d) Routeways

Stephen reported that the team has walked various paths informally, and that the group will meet on 9 July to agree policy areas. Tony will work on the policies and there has been a discussion as to how best to present the information on Routeways in tabular form, with key characteristics e.g. twitten, drove way, AONB. It is proposed to carry out a user survey on Facebook, subject to discussion. Stephen will consult with Tony.

e) Local Economy

Stephen and Tony have agreed on the detail of the information to be gathered, also discussing mapping and the definition of the town boundary. Sam said that the centre may already be defined on Ashford maps, although it was questioned whether the definition may be of the conservation area rather than the town boundary. Stephen has previously circulated a questionnaire to be piloted with a sample of businesses in the town.

f) Communications

Kate elaborated on the Communications Strategy presentation she has circulated to the Committee, which aims to increase the numbers of followers on Facebook (currently c1000) and on Instagram (currently c300). She has identified a Social Media expert to assist. The Communications team see the website as a repository of

information on the Plan rather than as a transient resource. They acknowledge the importance of preparing for Reg 14 in terms of communications emphasis. Kate requested updated information and headline messages from all the working groups for use on the various media channels. She intends to expand the visual elements of the website.

5 Budget.

In response to John's initial grant application, Locality have paid for Phase A of Tony's work. John will apply for Phase B when Stage A is officially signed off.

Sam recorded expenditure to date. Richard projected anticipated annual expenditure against available budget, assuming full Locality grants. It was debated whether the balance was sufficient to pay for all contingencies. The issue of donations was discussed, and it was agreed that to avoid any perception of bias, personal and local donations should be avoided. Sam and Richard are to explore other options.

6. AOB

There was a detailed discussion involving the destruction of Belgar Orchard. It was agreed that this emphasised the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan in protecting where possible valued wildlife habitats. A number of the committee agreed to visit the site immediately after the meeting. 5 subsequently did so.

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