



## Steering Committee Special Meeting 7 April 2021

**Present:**

ClIr John Crawford  
ClIr Jean Curteis  
ClIr Kate Walder  
Graham Smith  
Helen Whitehead  
Irene Dibben  
Siggi Nepp  
Stephen Sidebottom

**Apologies:**

Joseph Franklin  
Sue Quinton

**Also, in attendance:**

Richard Masefield  
Tony Fullwood

### **01. Biodiversity Paper**

Siggi introduced the Meeting and confirmed that attendees had received Richard's notes. It was agreed that Richard will introduce the changes, resulting from the discussion in the Working Group and with Kent Wildlife Trust; Tony will then comment before opening up the discussion to the Committee. On minor points it was agreed to simply agree them and pass on. Changes after discussion to be voted on. There was detailed discussion, and the Minutes contain agreed action but omit grammatical, typos or minor changes to give consistency

Introduction Richard explained the rationale for the introduction. Tony proposed to retain the paragraph in the introductory section of Tenterden Today. After discussion this was agreed.

*(Action Tony to redraft the Tenterden Today introduction)*

Richard led the discussion on biodiversity net gain [BNG] metric and the direction of travel of the Environment Bill and other recognised bodies. It was agreed to highlight the "Kent Nature Partnership Strategy 2020-2045"

The origin of "Magic Maps" was discussed. Following a discussion about the description on Map 2, Richard agreed to check if Magic Maps was managed by Natural England or DEFRA.



**Policy** The grammatical changes were accepted together. After discussion it was agreed to use the word “Not” rather than “avoid” at the beginning of section a) as the Committee considered this strengthened the sentence

The discussion focused on the content and restructure of the Policy document proposed by Richard.

Discussion on sections c and d were extensive and detailed. For instance, it was agreed to retain the words “where practicable”. There was discussion about protection of tree roots for existing trees and in areas of new build.

In conclusion, it was agreed that Policy d) – rather than c) – should include all the detailed measures Richard suggested for supporting and enhancing biodiversity within development proposals, plus proposals to protect veteran and ancient trees and provision for planting new trees with appropriate root protection areas and the means for ensuring they survive, again as detailed in Richard’s proposals.

*(Action Tony to include all the above agreements in the final draft)*

The next section to be presented will be **Introduction**

## **02. Projects**

Stephen updated the Committee on the changes proposed at the last meeting. It was agreed to support the Projects List and to explain to the town councillors this list is not part of the statutory development plan, but an adjunct documented as an Annex. The projects listed are purely proposals for consideration by the council which can be accepted or declined.

The discussion that followed centred on discussions with TTC and other bodies named in the report. John summarised the options of including it in the NP or as a separate document.

John and Irene stated that it is important to start organising the next briefing for the town councillors outlining the NP’s shape, content and the approach for Reg 14 communication.

*(Actions: Saggi, Kate and John to agree on when and how to informally brief the Council and report back for approval; Kate agreed to contact FU to confirm whether FU will collect feedback on the Projects List at Reg 14)*

## **03. AOB**

John raised the issue of virtual and face to face meetings and the timing of those as set out in legislation. In the discussion that followed it was agreed that the Committee will aim to sign off the NP mid-April with amendments ready on the fourth week of April. However, there is no confirmed date for the completion of the design codes.



# TENTERDEN

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

*(Action Kate agreed to send all approved final sections of the NP to FU when received from SQ*

The next meeting will be on 14th April.