

Minutes of the Tilehurst Parish NDP Steering Group Meeting held on 18th Jan 2023 at the Cornwell Centre

1. **Present** : Kevin Page, Clive Taylor, Alan Wade, Julia Gentle, Liz Alexander, Peter Cross. Sandra Vickers, Tony Linden (part meeting)
2. **Representations from Members of the public** : None
3. **Apologies**: Joan Lawrie, Joanne Stewart
4. **Declarations of Interest**: None
5. **Minutes of Last Meeting**: Agreed as a true record
6. **Matters Arising**: None
7. **Budget and Finance** - Nothing to report
8. **West Berks Local Plan Consultation**
 - Kevin advised that consultation on the WBC local plan had commenced after a delay. It was agreed that the Steering Group should respond with some comments and that these might well be the same as the Parish Council's comments. Kevin offered to distribute a draft of comments we should consider making prior to our next meeting. It was agreed that this should include a comment on the "political" explanation of the Pincent's planning refusal which it was felt should be replaced by the actual reasons given together with a supporting statement of the zero housing allocations number for Tilehurst Parish.
9. **The NDP - Regulation 14 Consultation Update**
 - **Meeting with West Berks**

The follow-up meeting with WBC Planning regarding the Reg 14 Consultation had taken place though it was noted that the meeting was surprisingly terminated after 40 minutes with only Kevin, Clive and Umrah (from WBC) able to rejoin the call. WBC's Planning Policy representative was also only able to attend the call for a limited period and Bryan Lyttle had been unable to attend.
(Tony joined the NDP meeting at this point).

The possible need to rerun the Reg 14 consultation had been discussed with the outcome that we should first submit a new version on the plan incorporating the input received from the consultation as the need for a rerun was not viewed as necessary by the steering group and as the West Berks meeting progressed this appeared to be acknowledged by WBC. We did, however, recognise that WBC were trying to be helpful in the advice they were giving.

Liz and Tony both input advice to the Steering Group covering how the WBC local plan might progress through the planning inspector stage, the prospect of housing developer feedback and the impact of possible political changes that might occur in

West Berkshire as well changes in central government policy. It was agreed that we would proceed with our NDP based on the current draft of the WBC local plan. In further conclusion it was agreed that Kevin would contact Bryan Lyttle to outline outstanding issues arising from the Reg 14 consultation and requesting a further meeting to move things forward. Tony advised copying in the 7 West Berks district councillors representing different parts of Tilehurst Parish into this communication.

It was further agreed to:

- Alan and Peter would continue to update version 4, so any comments should be made to that version. Alan would advise all once a version 5 incorporating comments had been created.
- Alan / Peter would aim to introduce better navigation around the document addressing the WBC comments in this respect
- Kevin would contact Locality and Planning Aid to see if would could find a suitable editor to help improve the document and further aid navigation. This service could be funded from the Tilehurst Parish NDP budget.
- We would add a chapter into the NDP history section on local heritage sites in the parish as recently advised by WBC.

There was some some discussion on whether we should expand on the LGS designations of WBC and Parish Park, Recreation areas and Playing fields as suggested in the WBC comments. There were differing views as to the importance and necessity to do, though Liz offered to look at the wording and advise. It was generally agreed to take a further look at our current wording to see if it should be expanded.

It was also noted that we needed to obtain comments on the local plan from Jacky. Kevin would chase this.

Kevin would arrange a further zoom call to review progress.

Kevin would also revise the project plan with revised dates as it was now clear the referendum would not take place in May 2023.

10. Next meeting :

The next monthly meeting would be at **7.30pm Wednesday 15th February 2023** at the Cornwell Centre

11. The meeting closed