

SIDMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL



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Minutes of the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

3rd October 2017 7.30- 9:50pm

Venue STC Offices

1. Present

Deirdre Hounsom, Tim Salt, Louise Cole, Peter Murphy, Jeremy Woodward, Andie Miles, Graham Cooper, Claire Russell, Ian McKenzie-Edwards, Michael Earthey

2. Apologies

Jonathan Davey

3. Minutes of 19th September 2017

Minutes were agreed and are on the NP page of the STC website.

4. Update from the Chair

- DH presented the latest NP position to STC last night and urged councillors to read the recently published Q2 report. She explained the current timescales for production of the NP but also pointed out that once the NP is with EDDC the schedule is out of our control.
- John Slater (JS) has advised DH of additional work that the group may need to take account of after the statutory consultation, and an estimate of the hours that we may need to engage JS for up to the completion of the plan.
- Re the statutory consultation period DH suggested that we may use Sidmouth College as a venue for the public exhibition – which could increase young people’s awareness of the NP and through them help to connect with their parents – a demographic that so far has been underrepresented in consultations.
- TS has spoken to EDDC (Claire Rodway) about support that may be available to the group going forward and she suggested that we send in draft policies to them asap for their review and to get an early indication of whether an SEA/HRA will be required.

5. Port Royal Scoping Study

- LC attended the Reference Group meeting on 21st September. Minutes of the meeting are now on the STC website and were circulated to SG at this meeting.
- The consultant's draft report is now with members of the Reference Group on a confidential basis and will be discussed by the group at their next meeting on 5th October. DH and LC will carefully review the report and DH will respond at that meeting on behalf of SVNP SG.
- GC said that it's important that the report is in the public domain before it goes to STC and EDDC meetings in November and will be making that point at the reference Group meeting when he attends, representing Sidmouth Vision Group.
- It will be the responsibility of both councils to consider the report, which is in part based on the NP and PRSS consultations, alongside other representations and opinions that have been publicly expressed which are not reflected in the PRSS report.
- LC emphasized the need for SG to continue to focus on the NP task in hand - to produce open, transparent and evidence based policies.

6. Policy Drafting & Review

- LC said that the meeting needed to focus discussion on JS responses to the draft policies and how that fits with next steps in the process while also understanding the constraints on time and resources. Through its policies the SVNP will influence development already in the Local Plan – which will provide protection when sites not already in the LP come up in the future, during the lifetime of the LP. It was agreed that as there isn't evidence currently to support the need for additional sites, external discussions shouldn't take place about future development for sites not in the LP. CR was concerned that not identifying additional sites may disadvantage the area in terms of CIL contributions that could be used to fund other projects. DH agreed to research this and send further information to the group. **Action – DH to obtain information about CIL and circulate to the group**
- The theme teams had all considered John Slater's review of the draft policies and a discussion followed to explain team rationales for:
 - Adopting or querying revised policy wording
 - Moving some policies which are more appropriate to a different theme team
- It was agreed that theme teams would consider, and where appropriate, rewrite policies based on JS feedback, this meeting and discussions that will take place between the teams over the next few days. The revised draft policies (not community actions) will be sent to John Slater and EDDC for review **Action – teams to provide revised draft policies by Monday 9th October.**
- Once the policies and community actions have been agreed they will require integration and cross referencing with the Place Analysis undertaken by CE.

7. Budget Update

- Unexpected admin costs and additional consultancy work has resulted in additional budget planning and revisions and discussions with STC.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 14th October 7:30pm to 9:30pm