

**Minutes of meeting of the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group
held on Tuesday 24 February 2015 at 7:00 pm
in the Olney Centre**

Present: Joe Stacey, Deirdre Bethune, John Sharp, Helen Fudge, Colin Kempson, Helené Newbold, Chris Shaw, Ann Walker, Chris Tennant

In attendance: Liam Costello (Town Clerk)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Tony Evans, Jeremy Rawlings, Rob Bolton

2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 January 2015

RESOLVED: the minutes of the meeting on 20 January 2015 were agreed

3. Matters arising

- The audit of a sample of responses is still to be completed. **LC**
- The Task list that was circulated did not receive many comments/ amendments
- The paper on S106 / CIL prepared by Chris Tennant to be circulated to all **CT**
- Collating information from the SHLAA still to be completed

4. Report on BRTA meeting

JSt attended the recent meeting of BRTA. They supplied him with letters from Northants County Council from April 2013, and from Dept for Transport which said that it is not cost-effective to re-open the line between Northampton and Bedford.

RESOLVED: on the basis that it would not be viable to re-open the line, that it not be included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

5. Review of preparation priorities

The steering group discussed whether it would be wiser to publish any findings from the survey regarding preferred sites.

It was felt that Olney had a defensible position on the basis that there was a development plan in place, and sufficient housing land available.

The group felt that they would not be in a position to publish any information until they had the following as a minimum:

- Housing needs analysis
- Information on educational needs
- Medical facility needs
- Employment survey
- Planning gain
- Population projections.

6. Number of new houses

JSt informed the group that Newport Pagnell were proposing to allocate up to 1,400 dwellings through their neighbourhood plan, which would effectively fulfil the requirement for housing in the three key settlements of Woburn Sands, Newport Pagnell and Olney.

The group debated whether this would obviate the need for any additional housing in Olney, and conclude that there would still be a requirement to meet local needs, and that the group would need to make a judgement on numbers at some point in the future.

7. Status of housing needs analysis

Feedback from Community Impact Bucks indicated a good response to date.

8. Questionnaire comments

Questionnaire comments are being collated in a document which will be circulated to members of the group once ready.

9. Parking figures

JSt asked the group whether they felt that the figures for parking should be released to MKC as part of their consultation on a parking strategy, but it was felt that the group should stick to its policy of not selectively releasing information.

10. Contact with business owners

JSt produced draft business questionnaire for comment.

11. Report on meeting at Newport Pagnell Council Office

As noted earlier, Newport Pagnell have indicated that they would like additional housing over their fair share allocation.

They have expressed concerns about the ability of Ousedale to cope with the housing growth, which could impact Olney campus.

Meeting to be arranged with MKC officers, NPTC and OTC.

LC

12. Report on meeting with Jackson homes

JSt reported on the meeting with Jackson Homes who are looking to build 50 homes on Site A. Meeting has been arranged with owner of Site F for 4th March.

13. Report on meeting with Anglian Water

JSt reported on a meeting at Anglian Water. They have promised to provide an appraisal of all sites from their perspective, as well as their views on the capacity of the sewerage works to accommodate the planned growth.

14. Consultants and additional funding

The group discussed employing the services of a planning consultant to do some of the work. The need to produce a robust, evidence based plan, that would be capable of getting thorough public examination, was essential. To achieve this it was felt that the expertise of a planning consultant was required.

CT highlighted that there may be additional stages involved in plan preparation involving consultation on draft plan.

LC and JSt to identify suitable consultants and discuss proposal.

David Lock Associates were suggested as one possible consultant.

LC, JSt

15. Plan preparation

JSt reminded the group of the agreed approach to categorising the reposes, and asked for volunteers to assist in the task.

16. Any Other Business

Date of next meeting set as 17 March 2015.

Discussion at next meeting about regular date.