

Wooler Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th May 2019 at 1900 at Overacres, Coldmartin

1. Present: Lynne Pringle – chair (LP), Margaret Brown (MB), Sue Welch (SW), Patsy Healey (PH), Alfreda Hindmarsh (AH), Anthony Murray -- NCC (AM), Pam Ratcliffe (PR).

Apologies: David English, Sarah Brannigan, Clive Coyne, David Bull, Mark Napier.

2. Minutes of the meeting on 4th March 2019 were agreed (PH, AH)

3. Matters arising:

3. The SAE had arrived and been placed on the WNP website.
3. The Habitats Regulations Assessment continues; however, NCC have today advised that there are no concerns.
5. LP thanked all who had been involved in the consultation for their sterling work.
6. The accounts have been finalised; all funds are accounted for, leaving a zero balance.

4. The Plan and consultation updates

The consultation is complete. The feedback from statutory bodies, members of the public and others was mainly related to technical issues. DE, SB, LP, PH & SW have met and a number of concerns have been dealt with by NCC.

Once the response to all the feedback has been drafted – a lengthy process – planning consultant JL will check that the Plan is compliant with all legal requirements.

The response will be considered by WNPSG then passed to WPC for approval, probably in July.

Once this process is completed responses to comments will be made available to the public via the website.

DE has advised that the level of response to the Draft Plan was not untypical.

5. WPC, WNP feedback

NCC have no facility to store the (digital) documents relating to the Plan. These documents are a necessary reference for future WPC decisions such as planning applications.

The WNP website will be terminated when it is no longer paid for, so WPC will need to consider how to store this information. It could be stored on the WPC website, where the information would be available to all.

AM will liaise with WPC.

AM

6. Timeline

The process is now 2 months later than planned, so the final referendum is expected to take place in January/February 2020. (NCC funds the referendum.)

PH will revise the timeline.

PH

NCC will request an examiner at this stage, in order to minimise any further delays.

(The examination is by written representation.)

7. Website

LP will add a note on the current position.

LP

8. Facebook

LP will add a note on the current position.

LP, MS

9. Data Protection

No action required.

10. AOB – none.

11. Next meeting & dates for diary (previously circulated by email)

Meetings are required in June & July, but meetings in August & September may not be necessary.

3rd June at 7 pm Overacres, Coldmartin (MB to chair)

1st July

5th August

2nd September

7th October

4th November

2nd December

Venues: There is no budget to book a room for these meetings; venues will be arranged.

We are grateful to Margaret Brown for hospitality for this and the next meeting.