

Wooler Neighbourhood Plan

Minutes of the meeting of the interim steering group on Monday 2nd October 2017

1. Present: Lynne Pringle (LP) - chair, Sue Welch (SW), Margaret Brown (MB), Patsy Healey (PH), Shirley Mills (SM) – WPC, Caroline Cumming (CCg) – WPC, Clive Coyne – NCC, Pam Ratcliffe (PR).

Apologies: Alfreda Hindmarsh, Tom Johnson, Rosanna Reed, Michael Stanwix, David English – NCC, Peter Rutherford – NCC

2. Minutes of the meeting on 4 September 2017 were agreed (SW, PH)

3. Matters arising, other than agenda items: none.

4. Land ownership

Mike Robbins (NCC) has given details of land owned by NCC

MB and LP met Mr J Short; LP had contact with Mr Butler; LP was in contact with Savills (acting on behalf of Mr Ferguson). LP was in contact with Riverside Caravan Park.

SW's meeting with the Mr & Mrs Marshall has been postponed.

PH is adding to the map additional sites as they have been identified.

5. Social groups

Our planning consultant advised that community assets, such as churches, the bowling green and clubhouse, caravan parks, public houses, etc, should be identified.

A Community Infrastructure Assessment is being carried out by **LP & AH & MB**

6. Sites workshop 28 September

Diverse points of view were expressed. Controversial points in the Draft Plan will be identified and discussed further.

There was significant focus on employment.

NCC have indicated that the west side of the A697 may not be easy to develop owing to the drainage/sewerage difficulties which can be overcome at a cost. This obstacle should be flagged up, to attract NCC infrastructure funds which will be included in the new NCC Plan. Some issues raised in the WNP consultation process are outside the scope of the NP and are matters for the PC, and should be listed.

The NNPA is keen to maintain the character of the historic landscape; there may be more rigorous criteria for areas which affect this.

7. Bootlegger filming event 26 September

Attendees, including two young people, enjoyed this innovative approach. PH has given feedback on the problems with software on our personal devices.

8. WPC/WNP joint meeting 18th October

As the neighbourhood plan is the responsibility of the PC, it is hoped that most if not all councillors will be able to attend.

LP has asked the chairman of WPC for guidance on how to proceed; MM will contact councillors a week before this joint meeting. To date, 3 councillors have indicated that they will be attending.

The format of the meeting is to be decided.

9. WPC feedback

No direct feedback has yet been received after the WNP presentation at the WPC meeting.

10. Screening assessments

David English was to assist us to understand this process.

It was anticipated that PRf will give detailed feedback and will assist when more precise policies are included.

CC advised that NCC will require 4–6 weeks to formally consider the draft, so it should be sent in November.

11. Housing needs assessment

Community Action Northumberland (CAN) (Andy Dean) is funded to undertake Housing needs assessments and will carry out a survey for Wooler from its own budget.

The survey has to be carried out systematically and will be time-consuming. It will identify the dynamics in the area, and could be useful not only to WNP/WPC.

WNP can tailor the questionnaire.

PH, SW, PR

CAN may train & pay local people to deliver and collect the questionnaires.

12. Budget and funding application

TJ has reported that the budget is on target. National Government has this day allocated funding for neighbourhood planning; also, funds for rural development are available from NCC.

13. Working groups update

Housing – PH is researching & listing technical reports. All themes require this supporting evidence. JL to be asked to do this.

14. Website

Malcolm Pringle has received training so he can support BS. TD has forwarded photos which have been uploaded.

Recent agendas, minutes & reports to be uploaded. The maps of Wooler provided by NCC to be displayed with written information.

All text to emphasise that no decisions have been made.

ALL

15. Facebook

LP has provided material to MS.

16. Timetable

Current priorities are listing the technical reports and the Housing Needs Assessment.

17. AOB

- NNPA is holding a drop-in consultation on 8th November on the NNPA Local Plan Options paper at the Cheviot Centre on 8 November. **ALL**
- CC will give feedback on the draft plan before publication. **CC**
- It would be useful for GGT and WPC and WNP to get together to look at Community Actions and explore how to move forward with those that fit their organisations. The Plan will list as an addendum the projects/actions in the remit of WPC & GGT for them to research and/or implement.

- After another quarter, LP's position as chair is due for review. The Interim Steering Group were unanimous in thanking LP for her unstinting hard work and wishing her to continue. The group offered their support and encouraged her to delegate as much as possible.
- WPC to be consulted re: the Housing Needs Assessment **LP**
- Contact to be made with JL soon to plan for further a detailed discussion in November about her involvement.
- Meeting with JL to be arranged for late November. Delegate to **PH**
- Reminder email about 3rd October meeting to be sent to Interim Steering Group. **PR**

18. Next meetings & dates for diary

3 October 1830	WNP meeting to discuss the draft plan in detail re: sites, etc (Coldmartin)
18 October 1900	Joint WPC and WNP meeting to review draft plan together (Cheviot Centre)
6 November 1900	WNP meeting
8 November	NNPA drop-in consultation (Cheviot Centre)
4 December 1900	WNP meeting