LITTLE BIRCH and ACONBURY

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - STEERING GROUP

Notes

for

Meeting on 19th July 2017

Present: From Little Birch; John Jones, (Chairman), Naomi Powell, Pru Powell, Ben Roberts, Mike Morley, Elaine Godding, Sandra Cameron, Margaret Scrivens, Steve Naylor, Cathy Sadler, Denise Rees, Kate Dillon **and from Aconbury**; Owen Cockram, Mike Leigh, Robin Derham, Juraj Mikureik.

Also: Sophie Glover (Clerk). Dr David Nicholson (Consultant)

Meeting started at 7.03pm

1	Welcome and introduction to the meeting	Actions	
	The chair welcomed all to the meeting. The clerk reminded those present		
	to declare a DPI if it was relevant to any one who had not already registered		
	their interest.		
2	Feedback from Dr Nicholson on the draft Neighbourhood Plan that		
	had been circulated to the steering group.		
	Dr N checked that those present had had a chance to look through the draft		
	plan. It was confirmed that they had.		
	He gave some feed back from other NDP examinations. NPIERS,		
	neighbourhood planning independent examiner referral service – are the		
	organisation who do the examination of our plan. Slides are at the end of		
	these notes.		
	The slides identified the draft policies for the LB & A Neighbourhood Plan		
	which were reviewed in turn by the Group. Changes were agreed as follows		
	during the questions/discussion at section 3.		
	LBA1: Sustainable development (point 1, 'or immediately adjoining' to		
	be removed.		
	LBA2; Development needs and requirements		
	Housing delivery table: this was reviewed and the emphasis on windfall		
	provisions welcomed as this was consistent with the preferences of the		
	residents' survey for new homes to be provided as individual dwellings. In line with this, it was agreed that the land at Maryland was better seen as a		
	windfall potential rather than an allocation. LBA3: Little Birch Village		
	LBA4: Development in Little Birch- it was agreed that the words "or		
	immediately adjoin" be removed, to give greater clarity and prevent undue		
	development by sequential applications.		
	LBA5: Land at Maryland - as above, it was agreed that this site allocation		
	policy should be deleted with the potential to be addressed instead as part		
	of the windfall estimate. SC was not happy to have this removed altogether		
	- Dr N will work out the wording on this.		
	LBA6: Development in Aconbury		
	LBA7: Rural economic development		
	LBA8: Communications and broadband		
	LBA9: Renewable energy		
	LBA10: Community facilities		
	LBA11: Protecting the local environment – Dr N to add some thing about		
	green lanes.		

Commented [DN1]: No SD in the list of those present - SC

LBA12: Building design – Dr N to add some thing about supporting enhanced green designs but these should not be a requirement of a successful planning application.

3 Questions from the floor

JJ: suggested that there were contradictions throughout the report.

Comments about not building outside the 'settlement areas'

SN: I still don't understand the contradictions, 5 houses in one area would seem to be a small estate, why would we want this and not individual houses around the village?

SC: it comes from the SHLAA, where 8 houses were originally suggested and Dr N has suggested 5 there instead.

MM: the SHLAA said the site had potential after 10 years.

Dr N advised that this had been reached on the basis of the site contributing to Kingsthorne's needs, not those of Little Birch.

Dr N asked if the group wanted to say that they didn't want housing on the SHLAA site? But this was not answered.

EG: It's unfair to use the SHLAA as it was an idea that was suggested by a previous land owner, who no longer owns the land or lives in the village, raising doubts about its availability.

It shouldn't drive a policy, but should be a footnote instead.

JJ: we should be using the evidence gleaned from the questionnaire, nothing else.

RD: said that he believed the Aconbury housing requirement should be 4 not 5. Dr N has been to the planning dept and verified through them that their figure is 5. Dr N will send him the e mail trail so he has the links for this

ML: asked about the settlement boundary for Aconbury, saying he could not see where any building might occur there.

KD: can they build in brown field sites, such as the farm buildings at Aconbury hamlet? Dr N said that there was potential for this.

Dr N: the boundary is drawn round the existing buildings, it is quite compact

JM: could see potential for windfall development within the Aconbury settlement boundary. Should we be adventuresome about pushing for higher eco design than minimum standards?

JJ; no, building standards are what they are.

BR: supporting environmental progressiveness might be some thing that we want to put into the plan.

Dr N will draft some words to this effect.

4 Identifying the way forward

Next steps slide:

- Agreement of steering group to go forward.

There was an expectation that tonight's amendments should be made, the plan then updated, before progressing to the next phase.

JJ proposed that Dr N should proceed with updating the plan, this will be circulated to those present for verification, they were asked to respond by July 30th to the clerk, and as long as there are no amendments, Dr N will be passing it on to HC to start the environmental assessment. Seconded: MM Voted: All in favour.

- Dr N to pass the draft plan to HC for environmental assessment process
- they produce an environmental report. (takes 3 weeks)
- Plan then goes to LB Parish Council and Aconbury Parish meeting getting permission to go to regulation 14, public consultation. (Both

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	organisations to hold meetings in early S Aconbury 7.9.17 TBC)	eptember - LBPC 6.9.17,	
		discussed at payt atacring group	
	- Printing, distribution, drop ins etc to be	discussed at next steering group	
	meeting.		
	- Minimum six week consultation event for	ollowing this.	
5.	Finances for the NDP The clerk has applied for the next tranche of grant, the application has been successful and she is waiting for it to arrive in our bank account.		
6.	Date and time of next meeting		
	Monday 11th September at 7.30pm	Meeting closed at 8.39pm	