

**Minutes of the Meeting of Hellesdon Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
held on Monday 15th April 2024 at 7pm
in The Council Chamber, Diamond Jubilee Lodge**

PRESENT:

Cllr S Gurney (Chairman)
Cllr B. Johnson
Ms H. Pickering

Cllr R. Forder
Cllr S. Lowthorpe

In attendance: Mrs F LeBon (Clerk) and Mr M Thompson (Collective Community Planning).

Cllr Gurney opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr L. Douglass.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. To Agree Minutes of the Meeting of 11th March 2024

The draft minutes had been previously circulated. These were **AGREED** after a proposal from Cllr Gurney and a second from Cllr Johnson.

4. To Consider Design Code Content Proposal from AECOM

Cllr Gurney reported that AECOM visited Hellesdon on 14th March. The meeting commenced with a discussion in the council chamber about different characteristics of the parish and ideas about design. Then the meeting moved to visiting sites in the parish so that AECOM could see and take pictures of areas of interest, for their future report.

AECOM had produced their proposal for the document structure for their Design Code document and were seeking the approval of the Parish Council.

Discussions occurred as to the character appraisal of the parish and where areas of industry were. Also discussed were open spaces and what was publicly accessible and which were private. It was **AGREED** to wait and see what AECOM returns in their report and then see if a further subdivision is required.

It was **AGREED** to respond to AECOM that the working group is happy with the structure of the report. There will be opportunity to feedback after the draft report is published.

5. To Receive Survey Results and Identify Priorities

Mr Thompson reported that the 188 responses received was a good response to the consultation which ran between 1st and 31st March. There was a disappointing attendance at the physical consultation which was run by councillor volunteers on 22nd and 23rd March.

The older age demographic was better represented in the survey results, but there was a better age distribution than was usually associated with these surveys.

Mr Thompson reported that most people were generally positive about Hellesdon.

Approved.....

Date.....

Cllr Gurney commented on the 22 requests for a social club and discussions occurred about the plans for the extension of the community centre. The closure of the snooker centre was discussed and the difficulty in running pubs and the general hospitality industry at present times. Consideration was given to having a general policy to be supportive of planning applications which provided community social activities. Assets of community value were discussed for the future and whether it would be useful to have the parish pubs as these assets. Improvements to the road network and traffic management were raised as part of the survey. This was more of an issue for Norfolk County Council.

Cllr Gurney raised the Neighbourhood Plan for Sheringham and the policies being divided into community areas. This is to be reviewed.

Green open space was a dominant issue in the survey. Areas of green open space were discussed and what areas should be designated as areas of Local Green Space. Areas for designation should be:

Hellesdon Recreation ground (in the control of the Parish Council).

Mountfield Park (in the control of the Parish Council).

Meadow Way and access (Meadow Way in the control of the Parish Council and the access is in the possession of Norfolk County Council).

Jarrolds sports and social club field.

Loxwood open space

Cottinghams Park

Land to the North of Cottinghams Park, to the parish boundary.

Land at Millenium Avenue (currently in ownership of a housing association and possible a residential dwelling).

Open space belonging to the relevant scout groups (two sites)

Further considerations to be given to green space at St Pauls Church.

Discussions occurred about the cricket pitch site at Hellesdon Hospital, but it was established that this is at pre-application stage and so is likely to be submitted as a planning application prior to the updated Neighbourhood Plan being adopted.

A suggestion was made as to whether a policy could be created to express the Parish Council's preference to receiving land from development rather than a commuted sum. Mr Thompson advised that this could be difficult.

Consideration was given to whether CIL money should be spent on biodiversity projects and whether the existing Green Grid policy could be updated to prioritise smaller plants such as bulbs, wildflowers and annual plants in the verges, rather than trees, the root systems of which can jeopardise the cabling and services beneath the verges.

Ms Pickering provided apologies and left the meeting at 9.25pm

6. Items for the Next Agenda

Mr Thompson will create some policy ideas based upon the evidence base.

Further analysis of the survey results.

AECOM Housing Needs Survey (if available)

Update on AECOM Design Code (if available)

7. Date and Time of Next meeting

Wednesday 22nd May at 7pm

Monday 17th June at 7pm

Monday 15th July at 7pm (to be confirmed)

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Approved.....

Date.....