

Semington Neighbourhood Planning
Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 10 August 10th 2022
1930 to 2130 in the village hall / zoom



10.1

Those steering group members present:, Sheralyn Milburn SM, Bill Scott BS, Peter Smith PS, Hugh Turnbull HT, and Ian Williamson IW. Katie Lea KL (Place Studios) attended by phone link for items 5ii to 7 and 9 to 12. Apologies were received from Vicky Bodman VB and Emma Day ED.

10.2

There were no declarations of interest in relation to the agenda.

10.3/4

The minutes of steering group meeting 9 on June 29th were approved, and the updated information set out in the minutes was noted. It was agreed to have a focus on businesses (of all kinds) in the parish in the October newsletter. **Action IW / KL / VB**

10.5

[i] The responses from 5 landowners / agents were noted: Hollins Strategic Land (Turnpike Close), CALA (Great Lees Field), Mr Daniels (land off Church Street), Newland Homes (Kendall Lane) and Willis (High Street / Canal bridge). All had supplied e-texts.

[ii] KL reported on a meeting with AECOM (also attended by BS) which explored the issues around the responses to a call for sites. A number of papers had been shared with AECOM prior to the meeting including the call for sites documentation. AECOM recommended that all 14 SHLAA sites be investigated in order to present a more thorough picture of the parish that would be of use to the planning process and to the parish council in the future. It was also felt important that no landowner felt excluded from the process.

It was noted that building regulations had recently been enhanced with climate change and sustainability in mind. The Jewsons summary of these can be found [here](#).

10.6

It was decided to engage AECOM to carry out this work (across all SHLAA sites). The analyses that will result will be useful not just for the neighbourhood plan but for the parish council in the future as it will establish a baseline assessment. Funding for this work does not need to be provided by us. We shall, however, have £18,000 available from Locality because we are exploring housing development.

It was agreed to write to all 5 landowners / agents to inform them of the decision to engage AECOM.

Action BS

10.7

Two further responses from villagers to the call for sites leaflet were noted: 23 proposals in all. The usefulness of these in relation to project development was noted; the idea of a WWII relic walk, for example.

10.8

[i] HT gave an update on the climate change survey and handed out a summary print-out. Following information at the fête and two promotions in Facebook, there have been 25 responses (22 of which were on line). In order to increase feedback, there will now be: a parish magazine article **Action HT**, information provided at the coffee morning and in the phone box **Action PS**, copies shared with dog walkers **Action SM**, and messages sent to critical friends **Action BS/HT** and to the parish council **Action BS**.

It was also decided to have a climate change stall at the Semington Village Dog Show (September 17th at Semington Dock 1100 to 1400). **Action PS**

[ii] Other fête feedback included that it had been a good opportunity to consult villagers about progress with the neighbourhood plan and to publicise the climate change survey. All consulted agreed with the green spaces identified.

[iii] It was noted that the draft NP report had been amended to include the fête consultations.

10.9

The draft Green Space report was reviewed. It was decided to consider adding other sites that are “demonstrably special” to form a long list of possible sites, for example some of those identified by villagers in the call for sites, and others that now seemed appropriate. All members are invited to send in suggestions for additional sites to BS. A proforma for describing the sites is attached to these minutes. **Action All** (by August 21st)

Following this the augmented document will be forwarded to KL who will review it and return it for approval at the next SG meeting. **Action BS/KL**

10.10

The landscape assessment outline project brief was discussed. The aim of the project brief is to appoint a landscape architect to gather and present information and evidence to inform policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. The aim is to underpin policies that both seek to protect the landscape and key landscape assets of the Parish as well as to inform consideration of potential future development in the Parish. It was agreed to go ahead with using the project brief to invite landscape architect consultants to tender for the work in September / October. It is expected that the draft brief will be refined with the chosen landscape architect. **Action KL**

10.11

Feedback from recent village walksabout were noted. Outstanding reports will be collated and forwarded to KL. **Action PS**

10.12

[i] The next steering group meeting will be on Tuesday September 6th. It was still not clear which of the October dates (12th or 11th) was possible for the village hall. These, together with the dates identified for November (8th or 9th) will be checked / booked with Gerald Taylor. **Action BS**

[ii] Business for the 11th meeting to include updates on:

- Climate change survey
- Green spaces report
- Business engagement
- Landscape assessment
- Village walksabout outcomes

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Circulated August 17th 2022

Green Space proforma

Land can be designated as a green space within a Neighbourhood Plan if it is:

- 1) close to the community to which it relates, **and**
- 2) special to the local community by fulfilling one or more of the following criteria:
beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquility, richness of wildlife; **and**
- 3) local in character and not an extensive tract

Please complete the following sections:

1 Location

2 Description

3 Qualities

For example:

Triangle Green at junction of Church St/High Street

This small green space is surrounded by historic buildings. It has planters, information board, bench and anchor points for the village Christmas tree. For almost six weeks each year, it provides the focal point for the Christmas celebrations. The community gather around the tree when the lights are switched on and carols are led by the village choir, the Semingtones.

This land:

- has recreational value
- is not an extensive tract of land
- is at the heart of the community
- is demonstrably special to this community.