

## Semington Neighbourhood Planning

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 15 on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2023

1930 to 2130 Village Hall social club and by zoom



### 15.1

Those steering group members present: Vicky Bodman VB, Sheralyn Milburn, Bill Scott BS, Peter Smith (Chair), Hugh Turnbull HT, Ian Williamson IW and Katie Lea (Place Studios).

### 15.2

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

### 15.3/4

The minutes of steering group meeting 14 on December 14<sup>th</sup> were approved, and the updated information set out in the minutes was noted.

The ownership of the Wessex Close play area land remains uncertain. It was agreed to contact the family of Mrs Ada Swaine who sold the land, to see if they had more information. **Action BS**

The government's latest proposed planning reforms were noted. The final nature of these remains unclear as they are still passing through parliament, and the timescale of any implementation is equally uncertain. It seems clear, however, that the current proposals to updates to the NPPF which should take effect from Spring 2023, would strengthen the role of neighbourhood planning within the local planning process as made plans will be valid for 5 years rather than 2, providing that land is allocated for housing development.

### 15.5

The final AECOM report on the suitability of sites for development was accepted subject to the correction of minor errors relating to planning history and the status of PRoWs. AECOM will be contacted. **Action BS**

This report will be used in our April informal consultation with parishioners and made public via the website just before that event. It was agreed that the steering group would not endorse or promote the findings of the report, but would present these to the public with a commentary on the advantages / disadvantages of particular decisions, and seek their views about the way forward. The steering group will make a judgement on what to propose in the Section 14 consultation following parishioner and parish council feedback.

The consultation in the village hall will take place on Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> subject to room availability. **BS** to check.

### 15.6

The final Landscape Assessment report was accepted. This valuable document will be used in the March consultation. It was agreed to make it publicly available now via the PC's website.

### 15.7

Further limited progress made in surveying parish businesses was noted and it was decided to continue this for a further month with a deadline for reporting in time for the February SG meeting. **Action All**

It was agreed to further promote the working from home survey via Facebook. **Action HT**

### 15.8

Two communications from landowners about the allocation of Green Space were noted. The deadline set for responses is January 31<sup>st</sup> and it was decided to consider all responses received at the next meeting. No reminders will be sent. A table of responses will be created. **Action BS**

KL reported on her discussions with David Way about the ownership and status of two small pieces of land in the village – the Ragged Smock and the triangle at the junction with Church Street. These are 'adopted highways' land owner by Wiltshire Council, and as such not normally available for designation as green space

unless special circumstances applied. After discussion about the lack of green space in the village, it was considered important to include the Ragged Smock and the triangle in the plan as these are a value to village life. The planning status of the entrance to the Motel Field will be checked before a final decision is made.

**Action KL**

**15.9**

Changes to the draft Parish Character statement were accepted. Suggestions for reducing the duplication of legal text in the document will be reviewed. **Action HT**

Place Studios will now work on the Conclusion (p. 18) and present it for the SG meeting in February. **Action KL**

**15.10**

Our latest report to Locality has been accepted and we have had approval for a further grant of £3363. Thanks were expressed to VB who confirmed that she will apply for the remaining tranche of funds in April.

It was decided not to subscribe to Parish On Line during the coming year.

**15.11**

The date of the next steering group meetings were confirmed as

Wednesday February 8<sup>th</sup>                      Tuesday March 7<sup>th</sup>                      Wednesday April 5<sup>th</sup>

These will be booked with Gerald Taylor. **Action BS**

The business for the February meeting will include:

- Planning for the April consultation
- Green Space feedback
- Opening Statement 'conclusion'
- Update on employer and WFH surveys
- Changes to the parish character statement

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*Drafted January 14<sup>th</sup> 2022*