

Semington Neighbourhood Planning

Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 18 on April 5th 2023

1930 to 2130 Village Hall and by zoom



18.1

Those steering group members present, Sheralyn Milburn SM (from #5), Bill Scott BS, Peter Smith (Chair), Hugh Turnbull HT, Ian Williamson IW and Katie Lea (Place Studios). Apologies were received from Vicky Bodman. Jacqui Hayley JH attended the meeting to help prepare for the public consultation on April 22nd.

18.2

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

18.3/4

The minutes of steering group meeting 17 on March 14th were approved. It was decided to add a footnote to the local business survey report noting the pub had temporarily closed. **Action HT / KL**

PS reported on the useful meeting that he, KL and BS had had with the joint Melksham neighbourhood planning team. Subsequent to this a report had been received from the Clerk to MWPC noting that an addendum had been added to their documentation detailing what they term a 'green wedge' designed to avoid coalescence of settlements. This obviously fits with our interest as well.

KL reported a conversation with our landscape consultant, Fiona Wayland, which confirmed that our best strategy to avoid coalescence would be to continue to emphasise the *high landscape sensitivity* of the land adjacent to the Kennet & Avon canal. Where necessary, this will point be reinforced within our paperwork.

Action KL

18.5

The final comments from landowners about green space provision in the parish were discussed, and each site was considered in relation to how well it met criteria related to: beauty, tranquility, recreation, history and wildlife. It was agreed to include five spaces in the forthcoming informal public consultation:

Land	Owner	Location	Notes
1	Wiltshire Council	High Street	Included , include even though the land is an adopted highway and thus normally excluded as green space
2	Swaine	Wessex Close	Included although opposed by the landowners who do support the use of the land for young people's play
3	Westerleigh plc	Crematorium	The western part of the land is included with support from the landowner; a line will need to be drawn on the map to define the area prior to an anticipated transfer of ownership to the Parish Council
4	Wiltshire Council	Ragged Smock	Included , include even though the land is an adopted highway and thus normally excluded as green space
5a	Wiltshire Council	High Street	Excluded – by steering group
5b	Wiltshire Council	Little Marsh	Excluded – by steering group
6	Masters	Pound Lane	Excluded – landowner objections
7	Parochial Church Council	Pound Lane (Church Field)	Excluded – landowner objections
8	Giles	Littleton	Included with support with from the landowner (with one proviso)
9	Masters	High Street	Excluded – by steering group
10	Willis	High Street	Excluded – landowner objections

Any landowner who has not yet been contacted will now be updated on outcomes. **Action BS**

18.6

This point was dealt with in 18.3/4.

18.7

The format for the consultation in the village hall will be similar to the first event in 2022 with a clockwise circulation of people past a series of boards. Arrows will be used to guide movement. Place Studios will provide logistical materials and support on the day and both KL and VT will attend. SM is responsible for flowers and refreshments, and JH will welcome people into the hall. Steering group members will circulate around the boards engaging visitors in conversation about the issues, particularly reminding people about the need to provide post-it responses to key questions. Setting up will begin at 0945.

KL’s redraft of the materials (timeline, display boards and other visuals) for the April 22nd consultation were discussed and agreed as the basis for the consultation. These will now be produced in a final form. **Action KL**

It was agreed that everyone should think of the kind of key questions that we are likely to be asked on the 22nd and forward these to KL before April 16th. **Action All**. A set of responses for all to use during the consultation will then be created. **Action KL**

Two copies of the Aecom report will be available on the day with the newly agreed Preface added to it. **Action BS**

BS will follow up with VB about progress in setting up a power point / Loom Video presentation that can be viewed and responded to on-line. **Action BS**

It was agreed to allow 2 weeks from the consultation for responses to be made, with a decision about allocation being made at the May SG meeting so that the draft plan can be submitted to Wiltshire Council for SEA monitoring.

18.8

The map of non-designated heritage assets in the parish was agreed. This will now be added to the heritage documentation. **Action KL**

BS agreed to circulate a paper outlining a key WWII asset along Pound Lane. **Action BS**

18.9

SG meeting dates were agreed for the next 3 months: Tues May 9th Tues June 6th Tues July 11th
These will now be booked. **Action BS**

18.10

The next meeting is on Tuesday May 9th at 1930. The business will include:

- Considering feedback from the April 22nd consultation and from landowners
- Agreeing a strategy for Reg 14 submission
- Updating on Wiltshire Council planning decisions
- Updating on NPPF revisions

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Drafted April 6th 2023