

Minutes of the Drayton 2020 Steering Group Meeting held at 7pm on Friday 14th December 2012 in the Drayton Village Hall, Drayton, OX14 4LF

Present: Andrew Bax (Chairman); Pat Athawes; Oenone Grant (to 7.45pm); John Scott; Tom Shebbeare; Christine West; Richard Webber; Richard Williams

Not Present: Diane Dunsdon; Janet Manning;

In Attendance: David Perrow (Parish Clerk)

Minutes

2012/078 Public Participation

Three members of the public were present and took part in discussions throughout the meeting.

2012/079 Apologies from Janet Manning had been given at the last meeting.

2012/067 The Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 30th November were **approved** without any amendment.

2012/068 Matters Arising/Report Back on Actions

- (a) **FODSA Christmas Fair.** This event had gone well with several good discussions and more email addresses gathered to add to the list of people wishing to be kept informed.
- (b) **Facebook/Twitter.** No further news on this yet.
- (c) **Mike Habermehl designs.** Tom Shebbeare reported that Mike Habermehl would be able to deliver his scale drawings in the New Year.
- (d) **SOHA.** No reply had yet been received. The Clerk will follow this up.
- (e) **Meeting with neighbouring parishes.** The Parish Council had suggested a Monday meeting in January or February. The Clerk will write to invite neighbouring parishes inviting them to meet in Drayton.
- (f) **Website.** This had been updated.
- (g) **RSPB Garden Birdwatch.** Pat Athawes reported that the January Birdwatch data was available by postcode in a county list. The January 2013 data would be available in March/April. She undertook to see what the data for Birdwatch 2012 was already available for OX14 4 postcodes.
ACTION: Pat Athawes to investigate 2012 RSPB Birdwatch data availability for Drayton postcodes.
- (h) **Housing Policy Guidance document.** Oenone Grant, who was unable to be present at the last Steering Group meeting, wished to have it recorded that she objected to the tone and wording used in the Housing Policy Guidance (HPG) document, which had now been approved by the Parish Council and forwarded to the VWHDC. She declared a personal interest in that she intended to put in a planning application herself to build an additional house in her garden. She believed the HPG was too prescriptive, and was hostile to landowners and developers. She made the following specific points about the HPG:
 - Some of the points made are mutually exclusive
 - Whilst a need for smaller housing units had been identified for the village, was this the predominant need? Does the village want just one type of housing?

- Para 15 assumes that those in existing larger units will move into new build smaller housing
- The presumption that 3 bedroom houses must have a ‘granny’ annex is unrealistic
- The sustainability/environmental requirements are set too high and will be too expensive for developers
- Para 20 which suggests rain water collection is unrealistic. Such systems have been proven not to work and have been abandoned as too expensive e.g. in Abingdon
- Para 24. Rights to ‘permitted development’ must be waived. It is not for the Parish Council to overrule the will of Parliament
- Policy 14 The policy is badly written and virtually unreadable. It be difficult to achieve in practice, and will restrict the value of houses in the village if villagers have to sell to others in the village. It is not in any case legally enforceable

Oenone Grant felt that in order to dissociate herself from the Housing Policy Guidance she must resign from the Drayton2020 Steering Group and her Working Group. The Chairman thanked Oenone for her contributions to the work of both groups. Her decision to resign was regretted and it was hoped that she might rejoin the Steering Group at a later stage.

ACTION: Andrew Bax to write a letter of thanks to Oenone Grant.

Further discussion took place on the Housing Policy Guidance:

- Richard Webber, who had now returned from holiday after a 3 month gap, was also concerned about the phrasing in the HPG.
- Richard Williams pointed out that many of the issues raised already had been thoroughly discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 3rd December. It was important that a policy was in place by the New Year so that the Parish Council’s Planning Committee had guidelines to allow it to respond to any planning applications. The HPG was a ‘holding’ document and could be revised later for the main Drayton2020 Neighbourhood Plan.
- Chris Bone pointed out that each of the Working Groups had been asked to comment on the draft HPG, and that the Sustainability Group had spent two of its meetings on doing so.

2012/078 Project Plan

John Scott had drafted a Project Plan. It was suggested that the end date, for the Referendum, might have to change, depending on the VWHDC’s Local Plan timing. November 2013 would not be a good time for a referendum, and it might be better to wait until May 2014, when other elections are held. John Scott was thanked for his work on the draft.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk should forward the draft Project Plan to Anton Nath (ORCC) and that it would be discussed again at the next Steering Group meeting, with a view to being amended if necessary and then adopted.

ACTION: Clerk to send the draft Project Plan to Anton Nath, and to put this as an item on the next Agenda.

2012/079 Fundraising

Tom Shebbeare tabled two spreadsheets – a capital and a revenue plan - both illustrative of the types of income and expenditure that might be incurred over a 5 year period to improve the village’s facilities and environment. The capital plan would be around £1.3m, including a new village hall (£1m), a refurbishment of the existing village hall as a sports pavilion (£100k), tree planting (£25k), and a range of recreational facilities such as an outdoor gym, a second childrens’ playground and skate-park. The items listed were for illustration only, and the ‘shopping’ list would need to be firmed up by the working groups and locations/sizes/costs agreed, and then put

to the community for discussion and amendment/agreement. On the income side, it was envisaged that there would need to be a community loan (£500k?) which would be repaid over 25 years at 4-5% interest. The Public Works Loan Board is able to extend such loan facilities to Parish Councils. Community agreement would be needed for a loan, since it would be repaid through the precept. Fundraising would need to contribute about another £500k, with monies raised from e.g. National Lottery, Landfill contribution, charities, trusts, public grants, individuals and community events. 'Community Gain' from developers might contribute the remainder. Some s106 monies (£130k) were already promised for the Manor Farm development, and it was assumed that this could be doubled from other housing that VWHDC would impose on the village. Richard Webber believed that if the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and New Homes Bonus were also taken into account, more money could be obtained from this 'Community Gain' pot. It was suggested that the plan should be a 7 year plan to 2020, with the first 2 years for drawing up the plan and getting to the referendum, and the next 5 years fundraising and building the facilities agreed on by the community.

ACTION: Tom Shebbeare and Clerk to revise the illustrative budgets.

2012/080 Liaison Meetings with Local Groups/Businesses

- (a) **Drayton Community School.** The Chairman of Governors had agreed to seek a governor rep for Drayton2020
- (b) **Oxfordshire County Council.** The Highways dept. had provided some useful information to the Transport Working Group, and the Clerk would invite a Highways rep to their next meeting.
- (c) **Wilts & Berks Canal Trust.** A representative would be coming to the February Parish Council meeting. The Clerk will also invite the Abingdon area rep. to the February Drayton2020 meeting.
- (d) **Neighbouring parishes.** A meeting was to be arranged, probably in February.

2012/081Housing

- (a) **Housing Policy Document.** Most discussion had taken place under Matters Arising. The meeting looked at John Scott's 1 page summary document and agreed that this should be placed on the Drayton2020 website. The main technical document would be available on the Parish Council planning page. It was **agreed** that a separate Housing Working Group should now be formed, and it was suggested that this should be chaired by someone not on the Parish Council. It was **agreed** to discuss the membership, charing and aims and objectives of the Housing Working Group at the next meeting. The Clerk would circulate some existing neighbourhood plans so that members could see how housing had been dealt with elsewhere, and look at allocating other issues to the other existing working groups. It was agreed that Andrew Bax would talk to a local author about writing the final version of the neighbourhood plan from notes provided by the Steering and Working Groups.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate completed neighbourhood plans from other places, and to put the Housing Working Group on the next Agenda.

ACTION: Andrew Bax to speak to a local author about writing the final text of the neighbourhood plan.

2012/082 Working Groups

- (a) **Look and Feel (Convener: Janet Manning).** The group had not yet fixed its next meeting but was drawing up a list of businesses in the village to be contacted.
- (b) **Work and Play.** Given Oenone Grant's resignation, Richard Williams agreed to re-convene this group and to invite new members from the business community and DAMASCUS. The group needed to work up locations, types/sizes and costs for recreation facilities and to discuss work/business related issues for Drayton.
- (c) **Sustainability (Convener: Dianne Dunsdon).** The group had discussed water and energy issues and was now looking at biodiversity. The next meeting was scheduled for 9th January.

(d) **Transport (Convener: Christine West).** The group had 10 members and had discussed a wide range of transport issues. Keith Clough had produced a suggestion on bus routes and scheduling which the Clerk was asked to forward to the Parish Council. On car parking on the Green, the Clerk reported that the Parish Council had exhausted ways of preventing cars for sale being placed there and that the neighbourhood plan would need to include definite proposals on limiting parking times. This should also be discussed with the County Council highways strategy team. There was a suggestion that several different transport surveys should be undertaken. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should invite an OCC highways representative to the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 15th January. Christine West had signaled her intention to give up chairing the group in the Spring, so a replacement chairman would be needed.

ACTION: Clerk to submit Keith Clough's bus scheduling ideas to the Parish Council

ACTION: Clerk to invite Cathy Champion, OCC Highways Strategy team members, to the next Transport Working Group meeting on 15th January

Reports from the Working Group meetings are available on the Drayton2020 webpages

2012/083 Publicity

Nothing to report

2012/084 Any Other Business

No other business

2012/085 Date and Time of Next Meeting(s).

Future fortnightly meetings (7pm, Caudwell Day Centre) are scheduled for:

- Friday 11th January
- Friday 25th January
- Friday 8th February 2013
- Friday 22nd February 2013
- Friday 8th March 2013
- Friday 22nd March 2013

The meeting concluded at 9.05pm.

Signed:

Andrew Bax (Chairman)

11th January 2013

ACTION CHECKLIST- DRAYTON2020 MEETING – FRIDAY 14th DECEMBER 2012

Who	Action Point	Report back on Action
Pat Athawes	Pat Athawes to investigate 2012 RSPB Birdwatch data availability for Drayton postcodes.	
Andrew Bax	Andrew Bax to write a letter of thanks to Oenone Grant.	Done
Andrew Bax	Andrew Bax to speak to a local author about writing the final text of the neighbourhood plan	
Daniel Scharf	Daniel Scharf to talk to Gina/Ryan/Gary about Facebook/Twitter presence for Drayton2020	
Tom Shebbeare	Tom Shebbeare and Clerk to revise the fundraising campaign strategy	
Tom Shebbeare		
Parish Clerk	Clerk to send the draft Project Plan to Anton Nath, and to put this as an item on the next Agenda.	Done
	Clerk to circulate completed neighbourhood plans from other places, and to put the Housing Working Group on the next Agenda.	Done
Parish Clerk	Clerk to follow up SOHA (ie Sovereign) contact	Done – awaiting reply
Parish Clerk	Clerk to invite Wilts & Berks Canal Trust rep to February meeting	
Parish Clerk	Clerk to submit Keith Clough's bus scheduling ideas to the Parish Council	
Parish Clerk	Clerk to invite Cathy Champion, OCC Highways Strategy team members, to the next Transport Working Group meeting on 15 th January	
Parish Clerk	Clerk to fill in and return this form to DCLG to inform them Drayton is undertaking a neighbourhood plan and where we were in the process to date	Done
Parish Clerk	Clerk to approach neighbouring villages to see if they are willing to have a joint meeting on common issues (housing/transport etc.) in the New Year	
Parish Clerk	Clerk to add local businesses and golf club to organisations to be kept in touch with.	
Parish Clerk	Clerk to publicise Working Group and Steering Group Meetings and website content in an mid-Dec bulletin emailed to the email list	
Parish Clerk	Clerk to add content to Working Group webpages and amend and update the main page.	

