

Martock Neighbourhood Plan

Minutes of Steering group meeting Monday 13 February 2017

In attendance: Andrew Clegg, Neil Bloomfield (Chair), Tina Randall, Kathryn Pearce, Fergus, Dowding, Paul Harding, Patrick Palmer. Apologies were received from Fiona Hook.

1. Administration.

- 1.1.1. It was agreed that KP would take minutes.
- 1.1.2. It was agreed that Paul Weston, planning consultant, be approached with a view to using his professional help. He will be invited to the next meeting. He charges £450 per day. Action FD to invite and confirm fee.
- 1.1.3. It was agreed that the parish council chair would be asked if Christine Berry can help with some administration tasks. Action NB
- 1.1.4. Future meetings will be held on the second Monday each month
- 1.1.5. It was agreed that a database of public documents would be put on the Martock Neighbourhood plan website. Action AC
- 1.1.6. It was agreed that the evidence base would also be put on the Martock neighbourhood plan website. KP to meet AC to discuss.
- 1.1.7. All members were reminded to make backups of any documents and data which they produce.

2. Terms of reference

- 2.1.1. The name of the group is to be Martock neighbourhood plan steering group. It is not a Sub-Committee of the parish council, and will report directly to the full parish council as and when needed.
- 2.1.2. It was agreed that there would be at least two parish council members on the steering group. Other Neighbourhood plans will be reviewed to come up with further suggestions, which will be circulated. Action AC.

3. Reports

- 3.1.1. AC reported that he had met with Paul Robathan of south Petherton neighbourhood plan and Joe Wilkins of South Somerset District council. The message received was that less means more and we should endeavour to make the plan an easy read.
- 3.1.2. Neil Bloomfield had attended the area north annual parish meeting, and Dave Norris head of planning acknowledged that Martock was already about 30 per cent over its planned housing development.

4. Next village meeting

- 4.1.1. At least two meetings are needed and these should be linked to the publication of the Leveller and to the farmers market. Very next day to which combines these two would be Saturday 10th of June 2017.

5. Establishing focus groups

- 5.1.1. Email addresses have been obtained from about 30 people or groups who have expressed an interest in the neighbourhood plan. They should be contacted and sent a copy of the first newsletter, with a request that they reply to confirm that they are still interested. Action AC.

6. Publicity

- 6.1.1. Martock neighbourhood plan has got a website and a Face Book page. Andrew Clegg has written a newsletter, a further copies of which will be printed from the market

house and distributed at various venues including the library, Martock Christian fellowship,, the Co-op, and a stall at the farmers market. Andrew Clegg will man the stall and Tina and Paul will distribute the newsletters. It was agreed that a publicity strategy is needed.

6.1.2.A banner or sign is needed for the farmers market.

6.1.3.Andrew Clegg will fine tune his newsletter, and Neil Bloomfield will add the letter to the Face book page.

6.1.4.More information about the existence of the neighbourhood plan steering group should be presented to local groups, ideas about which groups are needed. Patrick will talk to Chris Spratling about Martock Christian fellowship. Other suggestions were to provide information to parents at the school, and a stall at the retro rally on 2nd of July.

7. SSDC planning documents were discussed.

8. Neighbourhood plan provisional outline and timetable

8.1.1.Andrew Clegg presented in a document entitled evidence base with nine categories, each with a number of subsections which may or may not be appropriate to be Martock neighbourhood plan.

8.1.1.1. Population and housing. Kathryn Pearce will look at the south Petherton evidence base. Andrew Clegg will check how many houses have been built in Martock since 2006.

8.1.1.2. Natural environment. Dion Warner will be asked to help, as will Gordon Swindells and Patrick Palmer regarding flooding issues.

8.1.1.3. Built and historic environment will be covered mainly by Fergus Dowding.

8.1.1.4. Employment retail and economy. The neighbourhood plan will not be able to influence retail, but we should find out what information or statistics is available regarding employment and economy, again at the south Petherton neighbourhood plan site may be helpful here.

8.1.2.Andrew Clegg presented a document entitled Martock neighbourhood plan 2017 timeline.

8.1.2.1. The first stages of these have been completed and at the moment we need to compile evidence, identify gaps in analysis, identifying key themes, prioritising issues, developing core aims, etc.

8.1.2.2. Strategic landowners have still to be identified but will be invited in a general invitation to be included in the leveller magazine.

8.1.2.3. The village design statement is being prepared by Fergus Dowding, and this will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

8.1.2.4. Housing policy. The question has been asked in the M3 Community survey, which is going out with The Leveller next week, the result of which will be available in a month or two. Information regarding housing need is to be requested from estate agents. Paul Harding will liaise with Andrew Clegg on this. A paper on housing needs is needed.

8.1.2.5. Natural environment Paul Harding has the contacts details of Carol cook who may be able to help. Andrew Clegg will start a flooding group including Patrick Palmer and Gordon Swindells.

8.1.2.6. Employment sites. The policy statement is needed, particularly regarding all the old industrial buildings, but we should not duplicate policies that already

exist or are covered by existing legislation. The policy is to be defined later, subject to professional advice.

8.1.2.7. Sustainable energy. Possibly to be included in the village design statement.

9. Tasks

9.1.1.A note of green spaces that should be preserved is needed.

9.1.2.A review of garaging and car parking is needed.

10. Any other business

11. The core committee will be Neil Bloomfield, Tina Randall, Andrew Clegg, Patrick Palmer, Paul Harding, Fergus Dowding, and Kathryn Pearce. Next meeting Monday, 13th of March 6.30 at the market house, Patrick Palmer may need to send his apologies.