

Minutes of Middleton-on-the-Hill and Leysters Neighbourhood Plan meeting held in the Parish Hall on Monday 1st February 2016

Present

Guy Griffiths – Chairman - GG
Martin Rees – Secretary -MR
Ian Culley – IC
Bryony John –BJ
Neil Elwis –NE
Bill Summers –BS
Alex Millward –AM
Mike Davies-MD

Actions

Apologies

Tom Merrick –TM
Lynne Gore-LG

Declarations of Interest

The Chairman asked the meeting if anyone had any declarations of interest to disclose. There were none.

Minutes

These were read and approved. MR would ensure that they were signed at the next meeting.

MR

Matters Arising

NE undertook to send GG the statistics from the Safe Road Partnership for attachment to the 19 January Meeting minutes.

NE

Call for Sites

The Call for Sites flyer had been sent out as an insert in the February Parish Magazines for Leysters and Middleton. IC would put a Call for Sites notice on the 4 notice boards in Leysters and BJ would display one in Middleton. IC would also put the notice on the website. MD would contact the owners of the land opposite the Parish Hall and also determine who owned the redundant chicken sheds in Middleton, making both parties aware of the Call for Sites. MR would deliver a notice to Portway (owner Philip Killick). Call for Sites responses would be sent to IC who would send out a 'site submission form' to those expressing an interest.

IC
BJ
MD
MR

Agreeing Vision and Objectives

Steering Group members had submitted their proposals for the vision and objectives and the meeting considered the results. Amendments were made and IC was to send the corrected final version to GG for attachment to the minutes as Annex A.

IC
GG

Transport Study Update

IC had contacted ITP Traffic Consultants who had agreed to attend our next Open Day free of charge. IC undertook to contact at least one other similar consultant so that we could compare quotes. Leysters residents had raised numerous concerns about traffic in our survey and the chosen consultant would be asked to review these and propose solutions. When the sites for additional housing had been identified (with the help of the consultants) they would further be asked to propose a traffic layout for each site as it joined with the public highway. IC stated that the housing developer would be required to ring-fence funds to pay for the road and pavement alterations stated in the Neighbourhood Plan.

IC

Any Other Business

The meeting considered the arrangements for the Neighbourhood Plan Open Day on Saturday 12th March. IC would prepare a publicity notice for the March Parish Magazine. This would be copied to BJ who would prepare a poster for Parish notice boards. NE would arrange for a banner to be produced and displayed outside the Parish Hall in the days immediately before the event. The banner would say 'Village Open Day' with '12 Mar' on a removable, Velcro section, thus allowing the banner to be re-used. NE should obtain the banner for free if possible but, if not, at a cost not more than £50.

IC
BJ
NE

IC asked the meeting to consider 'Policies' that would flow from the objectives that had now been identified. Although he would draft these in the final Plan, he asked Steering Group members to forward proposed policies to him for their own areas of interest as follows:

Housing - IC, LG

Traffic and Transport - SD, SF, NE

Facilities and Community Assets - BJ

Landscapes and Environment – MD, IC

Broadband – TM

Drainage and Water Supply – BS, IC

Miscellaneous - GG

IC would circulate policies that had been included in other submitted neighbourhood plans to give a flavour of what we needed to produce.

Date of next Meetings

The next meetings to be held at the Parish Hall at 7.30 on Monday 22nd February 2016.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

All

Annex A

IC

Middleton on the Hill and Leysters Neighbourhood Plan - Vision and Objectives

Vision

Our Neighbourhood Plan sets out the vision for the area that reflects the thoughts and feelings of local people.

By 2031 Middleton on the Hill and Leysters will have grown a little, remaining a predominantly rural Parish with an active and strong local community. It will continue to contain quintessentially beautiful Herefordshire countryside.

There will be a sufficient range and number of new high quality sustainable homes to meet a variety of needs and budgets and allowing older residents and the children of local people to buy in the area. The nature and scale of housing will have enhanced our rural appearance, feel and identity and protected the countryside. Necessary services – broadband, water, roads – will be provided, improved and supported locally. There will be opportunities for working from home as well as locally, in activities that positively enhance our natural environment. Continuing agricultural and other business activities in the Parish will also enhance our natural and built environment. Village amenities will be improved by enhancing access to local shopping facilities, improving parking for the Parish Hall and bringing forward a package of measures which address concerns over road safety.

Objectives

1. To ensure that new housing is provided across the area in a suitable range of tenures, types, sizes, affordability ranges and is flexible in usage so that local people of all ages can continue to live in the Parish, while families are attracted to the area and local housing needs are met.
2. Leysters village which provides key services and community facilities will be the main focus for new housing development. The scale of new housing growth will be proportionate to the size of the village without being detrimental to its rural character and setting.
3. To ensure that housing development in Middleton on the Hill is of a scale and design which supports its distinctive character and setting as a historic rural hamlet.
4. To ensure that the natural and built environment of the Parish is protected and enhanced for future generations by protecting key environmental assets including important views, the network of fields and hedgerows, historic farmsteads and the distinctive character and setting of our settlements
5. Ensure that appropriate sewage treatment, water supply, energy and telecommunications infrastructure is provided to meet the current needs of the community and support future growth. Broadband and mobile communications in particular need to be greatly improved to ensure the well-being of the residents in a rural area and to offer more opportunity for business growth and homeworking.
6. To ensure the highways and pavement infrastructure meets the existing and evolving requirements of the village, residents and local businesses. There is a particular need to address community concerns by identifying measures which establish safer environments for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists in Leysters.
7. To welcome employment opportunities, including working from home and those connected with visitors and tourism, whilst ensuring that these fit in sympathetically with the existing environment and residences.
8. To provide for the needs of our community as locally as possible through the retention and improvement of our existing facilities including the Parish Hall, Post Office and Duke of York Pub.
9. To provide small play areas for the village children and to acquire a village green or

have permanent use of a pasture, ideally close to the Parish Hall where village sports can be played.

10. To always be mindful of the needs of the old, the young, the disabled and the vulnerable and to make provision for these needs wherever possible.