

**Minutes of BADGERS MOUNT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2nd STEERING
GROUP MTG – 18th April 2019 (7.45pm – 9.15pm)**

1. Attendees and Apologies for Absence

Chair - Cllr Alistair Dunlop (AD)

Cllr John Grint (JG)., Cllr Simon Lake (SL), Cllr Gordon Plumb (GP), Geoff Dessent (GD) - Clerk and appointed NP Coordinator

Four residents (Rob Goodwin; Roger King; Richard Ruston; and Marek Serzieniewski)

Apologies – Cllr Tracey McCartney (TM)

2. Selection of Permanent Chair (from new Council)

The newly elected Council endorsed Cllr Alistair Dunlop as chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering group.

3. Update on SDC

SDC are happy to meet with GD and others at 10.30am on 13 May to discuss the way forward on the Badgers Mount Neighbourhood Plan. Simon Taylor from SDC will be the lead contact for the Badgers Mount Neighbourhood Plan and has agreed to attend future Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meetings.

4. Update on Neighbourhood Area Designation

SDC expect this to be confirmed at the Planning Policy committee to be held in June.

5. Budget

5.1 2019/20 budget – it was agreed that an initial allocation from the Parish Council funds would be made to the Neighbourhood Plan account by the new Council as its meeting in May, Auditors had been made aware of £20k being initially earmarked for the Neighbourhood Plan work.

5,2 Application for Locality Grant - as the Locality Grant has to be spent within the year it is awarded, GP suggested that depending on progress and in particular whether there was a delay in the area designation agreement (which is needed before a grant can be applied for), that it may make more sense to apply for the first £9k Locality grant for 2020/21. This will be reviewed after June.

5.3 Engagement of consultants

GD suggested that the key expert input need was in planning, and he recommended that the Council should seek bids from 3 different organisations, namely Oneill-homer (who helped on the Limsfield Neighbourhood Plan), Tony Fulwood (who is currently working on a number of Neighbourhood Plans in Kent, and has good contacts with SDC), and Berrys – a larger organisation with the full range of planning skills including Neighbourhood planning.

It was agreed that these 3 organisations should be approached, once a detailed specification has been worked up. GD was developing the specification, but wanted to ensure a full understanding of the latest direction of the SDC Local Plan before finalizing this.

6. Discussion of Alistair's paper (Topic Group focus)

AD made a number of helpful points in discussion, and it was agreed that it was important to:

- Establish a current description of the situation
- Identify the good points of the current situation
- Identify the bad points of the current situation
- Identify potential future changes for the better
- Identify potential future changes for the worse

7. Proposed Topic Groups

AD proposed and it was agreed that there should be four topic groups, as follows:

- Housing and Development
- Character and Heritage
- Environment and Local Economy
- Infrastructure and Community Assets

AD suggested that these topic groups should be established by September, and produce initial outputs by January 2020. He also set out some detailed scope ideas for each of the topic groups.

8. Next Steps

AD asked all the 4 residents present for their contact details to involve them in the work going forward and thanked them for their interest and commitment. AD has also written to all those showing an interest in the Neighbourhood Plan and awaits further response to his letter. The next meeting will be on 16 May 2019. As AD was on leave for next meeting JG asked GD to chair the next Neighbourhood Plan Steering group meeting.