**STEERING GROUP MEETING**

**THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2019 – 3PM- Oakburn, Easton**

**1 Welcome**

**2 Present** Sue Piggott **– Chair**

Ian Poole, Places4People

Jill Temperton

John Townshend

Chris Neil

Brian Boon

**3 Declarations of Interest**

Brian Boon – neighbouring and close to site 463 and 404.

**4 The Minutes** of the meeting held on 16th November 2018 were Agreed and Signed.

**5 Report on Actions Following Last Meeting**

The Character Assessment document has been reviewed and the Chair sent over corrections to Ian.

Following the last meeting towards the end of November Conor Crowther the Planning officer assigned to the NP rang the Chair to inform her that the additional housing figures for Easton had increased from 10 to 20. The Chair explained that she considered that this was not following proper process since it was outside the consultation period of the Local Plan Review which stated the figure of 10. The Planning Officer invited the Chair to go in to have a meeting in light of how she had reacted to the phone call. The Chair explained she would only agree to a meeting if the Easton NP Planning Consultant attended. The Chair contacted Ian who agreed to attend the meeting. The meeting was convened at SCDC offices with two planning officers who refused any reasoning to accept that the increase of figures should be put back to 10. We explained that changes to the Local Plan can only be made if they reflect the consultation process and this did not. It was agreed that we would follow the next consultation process for the Final Draft Local Plan which was for legal soundness.

The Chair reported that at the Parish Council Meeting it was agreed that the Planning Consultant should be appointed and paid to submit a challenge based on soundness through to the Hearing and Planning Inspectorate.

Ian has submitted an impressive challenge and the process now takes its course, all challenges are put to the examination and inspector. It is expected that examination results will be sometime in the summer.

Following last meeting and the agreement to ascertain any potential for barn conversions to dwellings at Martley Hall, the Chair contacted Blue Door, the appointed developer at the Hall. The Chair was invited to a meeting at the hall with the new owners, head of Blue Door and their architect. The Chair attended and introduced herself and the Easton NP and explained the progress of the NP and the need to bring forward housing numbers and enquired whether there were any plans to convert the barns. The Owner confirmed that there were not, but that he would be happy to provide land to deliver housing numbers. The Chair explained that it was not possible within the Historic Parkland, and Blue Door suggested other land, in particular between Dark House corner and Stud Farm corner to deliver up to 10 houses, the owner asked that Blue Door design and build them, that they would be happy to meet the need for smaller houses for young families but would need to mix with some larger units too. The Chair advised that they would need to log this with SCDC and if accepted, it could then be considered by Easton N.P.

Design Code has been sent and reviewed with corrections returned it is now being cleared before we can receive the finished document. It is a very good document.

**6 Finance – Review grant funding following Locality notification -31.2.19 deadline to confirm closure and re-apply or continue to end of current spend.**

The Chair received a call from Locality asking if we require further packages and to apply should we need to. Locality no longer provide a Heritage technical package and if required we would need to commission ourselves and use grant funding, there is a further £5,000 to access. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to appoint a Master-Planning technical package to look at sites not classed as deliverable to see if there could be any mitigation of the problems which classed the sites as ‘amber’, following the site assessment technical package and document.

**7 Update from I.Poole, Places4People – Review project milestones**

It was agreed that the pace of the NP would be dictated by the Local Plan Review and until the results of the challenges that are being put forward which will culminate with representation at the Gov. Inspectors Hearing and the following adoption of the LP, everything is on hold.

Ian has put forward challenges regarding the further housing numbers given for Easton and on the strategic policies against which the NP must be examined, the Local Plan review has a questionable number of strategic policies. The results of the Hearing are not likely until Autumn this year.

**8 AECOM Design Code Policy Progress**

The Design Code is now in draft form and being reviewed by AECOM and Locality.

**9 Date of Next Meeting** - TBA

Meeting closed – 3.45pm

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Chair Date