

Ewhurst & Ellens Green NP

Minutes of Steering Group

Meeting 4/3/2016

**1. Attendance** - TB, JA, AW, BA, VH and DQ. Apologies from PG.

**2. Minutes of January meeting** - approved

**3. Update on planning**

3.1 AW confirmed that whilst he still had to read communications on changes to national planning policy, there did not seem to be any major implications for us, apart from confirmation that NPs can be submitted in advance of Local Plans being approved. Planning Authorities are then supposed to take note of NPs when considering applications at the very least.

3.2 TB stated that there was one implication - NPs must provide for reserve sites in case the local authority found itself with a shortage of sites after adoption of Local Plan. The proposed process of our residents ranking a shortlist of suitable sites would facilitate that.

3.3 It was noted that we had been informed that one of the applications for Backward Point, being the application for a few large houses, had been refused under delegated powers. The second application for a larger number of smaller dwellings should go to committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**4. Submission of SEA screening opinion application** - the draft application was approved and that it would be signed and submitted by AW. There was unanimous agreement that AW had undertaken a large amount of work for what we believed to be an impressive piece of work.

**5. Approval of Working Groups' reports**

5.1 - The SG approved the adoption & publication of the draft reports from the following working groups

- Business group [report of the business survey]
- Transport
- Telecommunications

5.2 In addition it was agreed that the reports from both Surrey Wildlife Trust on Biodiversity & Janet Balchin on Built Heritage, which are contained within 4 above would also be published. The actual SEA application would be published when it had been approved by WBC after consultation with the necessary statutory bodies.

5.3 Young People's survey - AW/JA to agree final copy and then this would also be published.

**6. Working Groups progress**

6.1 Conservation Areas - WBC are meeting with VH & ID of Parish Council re their appraisal of possible further Conservation Areas in parish. The NP work to date has identified 4 possible areas and it was agreed that whilst it was unlikely all 4 would be considered by WBC, we should discuss all of them with WBC, as we did have ability in NP to designate them as Heritage Areas if Conservation Area designation was not accepted. AW to pass to VH detail of these 4 areas. DQ also asked if he could ask Janet Balchin to join that meeting, and that was approved.

6.2 Housing Working Group - TB brought SG up to date on progress on site screening, and agreed to take back to working group feedback from the meeting. It was confirmed that desktop screening by Infrastructure and Biodiversity groups had not ruled out any sites not already ruled out by existing designations such as AONB etc. However it was agreed that any sites proposed for a shortlist to be submitted to the community will still be subject to detailed screening.

7. Demonstrating progress on NP to community

7.1 JA to draft introduction to papers being publicised in 5.1, which when approved would be loaded onto website.

7.2 This introduction would be sent by TB to his email list of residents who asked in responses to Village Survey to be kept informed of progress.

7.3 An Ebulletin would also be sent

7.4 BA would send same information to his email list of volunteers not on any working group

7.5 SG would send to their respective working groups.

7.6 It was agreed that we would also publish on website and include within 7.1 the Draft Vision statements in SEA application. AW and JA to liaise.

7.7 EVS future date - next copy date April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**8. AOB**

**9. Dates of future meetings**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> or Wed 6<sup>th</sup> April