



Watlington Parish Council

Watlington
Neighbourhood
Development Plan



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD
HELD ON
MONDAY 19th JULY 2021 AT 8.00p.m. VIA VIDEO CALL.**

Present: Gill Bindoff (GB), Terry Jackson (TJ), Keith Jackson (KJ), Tony Powell (TP), Andrew McAuley (AM), David Robins (DR), Steve Bolingbroke (SB), Tim Horton (TH), Fiona Danks (FD)

Officer: Rachel Gill

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

There were no apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st June 2021 and matters arising

- There is no update on the proposed new Bus Stops on Cuxham Road yet.
- SODC housing register – GB to put something in the Watlington Times and this will be promoted on social media and the WPC website. This will be submitted for the edition published at the end of August.
- Recreation Ground Master Plan – SB received no further comments but there is more work to do.
- The housing survey will be circulated to Full Council for information.

Resolved: That these minutes are a correct record of the meeting and that they be signed by the Chair.

4. Review of the WNDP:

i. Technical support from Locality/AECOM Evidence Base and Policy Development Report

The draft report has been completed and circulated to the NPAB group. TP gave a summary. Despite being 77 pages long the report is positive and very professional. It considers evidence base, evidence analysis, gaps, conformity and gives a conclusion. The WNDP meets basic conditions with some minor gaps and most evidence is ample, relevant and credible.

P7 Healthy Living – the advice in the report was that this is not really a policy and the content should be integrated with sections 4 and 7 as projects to undertake.

AECOM were very supportive of attempts to go above and beyond what SODC were Planning on Climate Change. There could be issues as there may not be legislation in place to back up an ambitious approach. Developers do not have to do more than meet building regs in terms of sustainable development even though SODC's Local Plan includes 40% better than building regs, it cannot be enforced. It will be important to work jointly with SODC to agree drafts of the policies.

Overall there is a lot of work to do but a lot of the preparation has been done. The report suggests splitting down some of the policies to make them more concise and specific – we need to say why the policy is important at a local level. AECOM suggest a Housing Needs Assessment be completed to provide an objective analysis of housing need to go alongside the recently completed survey.

WPC (RG) to investigate how this might be funded by Locality.

Resolved : that the recommendations in the EBPD Report be accepted and an updated Draft of WNDP policies be prepared for the next meeting.

DR asked about the walking and cycling infrastructure plan – GB said this has stalled at present and needs more work.

AM asked whether a new referendum would be needed if we changed too much in the plan?

GB said that AECOM had assumed that a referendum and examination again would be needed. It would be useful to understand at what point the level of changes require a new referendum – it had been assumed that as we were not adding new sites then a referendum would not be required.

TH asked whether a review would include a review of sites ?

ii. Financial Support from Locality

The application for a grant to cover the Conservation Area Appraisal, Tree work and publicity materials for the review of WNDP has been awarded by Locality.

A meeting with Kathy Davies has been arranged on 23rd July to begin work on the Conservation Area appraisal.

The application for a grant to support High Street regeneration is still being considered.

iii. Trees Survey

A meeting has been arranged on the 29th July with Martin Gammie to finalise the scope of tree work.

iv. Sports Strategy

The final version of the survey will be in the next edition of the Watlington Times.

It will then be promoted online on the WPC website and facebook page. This will need to be updated weekly to maintain interest.

v. Transport Survey

The transport survey be delayed until September to avoid an overlap with the sports survey. The key focus of the survey is to get data on measures which would encourage people to reduce journeys by car. There was some discussion on parking as this is no longer included in the transport survey. Evidence will be needed for the updated plan – it was suggested another car park survey could be done. Should parking at Watlington Hill be included ? Should schemes for electric charging points and drive sharing

Apps be included ?

5. Major Projects - Consultation on long list of priorities

SB gave some background information on the list. It combines projects in the WNDP and projects from strategy documents. The idea is to identify priorities. All the NPAB members will send allocation of their 10 votes by Sunday – they can put 10 votes on one project or distribute between a few. Once priorities are identified by WPC then business cases and evidence will be prepared for the most popular projects.

6. Update on Development

i. Sites B, C and Pyr2

There has been an interface group meeting and a meeting with ICC but not much else to report.

TH said he was disappointed at the NPAB response to the masterplan for site PYR 2. He felt that the lack of expansion for sports was letting the clubs down. He did acknowledge that it was a master plan and could be updated. GB pointed out that NPAB had said “in broad support”. The planning application will be in outline with all matters reserved. WPC has not formulated its response yet.

TH asked that the NPAB meet with the sports interests and a discussion was needed.

SB responded that he had been working with the cricket and football clubs for some time and that their requirements were so large they would not fit on the site. (The area for housing is 4/ha and each club would ideally like an extra 2/ha each).

AM added that this had been discussed at the interface meeting last week – there is a small pocket of land which had been offered initially adjacent to the boundary with the sports field which may be able to accommodate a junior football pitch but there are differences in levels and access through the hedge line may not be possible. Agreement from Beechwood would be needed. The outcome of discussions at the interface group will go to Emma Bowerman and be followed up with a meeting with Providence Land.

The results of the Sports Survey will be important to inform decisions.

ii. Update on delivery of the Edge Road (OCC Cabinet Meeting September)

OCC Cabinet meet tomorrow and are expected to approve additional funds for the edge road at Benson. The Watlington edge road is going to this committee in September although it is still unclear why this is necessary and what the Cabinet needs to approve.

7. Oxfordshire Plan 2050

The consultation on this runs to October. To be added on the agenda for the August or September meeting.

8. AOB

None

9. Next meeting – 16th August

THERE BEING NO OTHER INFORMATION THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.48 PM