

**Wolvercote Neighbourhood Forum**  
**Minutes of Steering Committee Meeting**  
**9 November, 65 Five Mile Drive**

**Present:** Christopher Hardman (Chairman), John Bleach, Mary Brown, Paul Buckley, Cllr Jean Fooks, Cllr Angela Goff, Graham Jones, Richard Lawrence-Wilson, David Stone, Val Tate.

**Apologies:** Cllr Steve Goddard

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** Tuesday 11 May 2016 accepted as correct.

2. **Matters Arising: none**

3. **AGM**

The format of the meeting held on 26 October in Wolvercote Village Hall did not succeed in getting feed-back about the policies. Attendance was disappointing especially since there had been widespread advertising and a representative from Savills came to speak about the Northern Gateway. It was agreed that the sign-up sheets should be stored in one place and that the mailing lists need regular updating.

**Actions:**

- RLW to act as archivist, collecting all sign-up sheets and important documents.
- VT to update mailing lists.
- AG to prepare checklist for necessary actions prior to future meetings AGMs

**Northern Gateway**

The proposal that there should be an extra 300 houses at the Northern Gateway was brought to light at the AGM. Although the source of this proposal was not known and it was clear that Savills were not aware of it. The Committee trusts this number will be corrected back to 500.

PB commented that a revised master plan is expected in Feb 2017 following by an application for outline planning permission for Phase 1. The committee agreed it is essential it has an opportunity to read and comment on the draft application before it is presented publicly. CH confirmed that this is the intention.

4. **Publicity.** Views about using the large number of remaining leaflets distributed to all households were varied but they certainly cannot be used for some time. It was decided that we need an active Facebook page. VT agreed to manage this. As noted above, e-newsletter mailing list also needs updating and details of those attending meetings added.

**Actions:**

- VT to contact Linda Johnson-Bell to get access to our Facebook page and determine current state
- VT to contact Anne Charles to discuss updating mailing list.

## 5. Plan, proposed timetable and budget

**Grant Application:** Adam Symons's proposed timetable and budget (already circulated) was discussed. If applied for now, any grant received has to be spent by the end of March 2017. It was clear that the Steering Committee considered the timetable too optimistic. There was, however, complete agreement that we needed Adam's help. It was proposed that the first part of his timetable might be funded by CIL money that is supposed to be available to help with the construction of Neighbourhood Plans. This would be investigated by local Council members. If available, the fund can be used to finance the first part of Adam's timetable. After March 2017 we could seek six months' grant funding from Locality.

**Actions:**

- Local councillors to investigate CIL funding
- CH to consult Adam about funding plan

### **Summertown Plan**

JB spoke to Sam Clark (SC), Chair of Summertown NF (SNF) and leader of North Oxford's Low Carbon group at the AGM. SC was very positive about our policies, and suggested including something about sustainable low carbon buildings in our plan.

CH has also spoken to SC about the SNP which is going to public consultation at the end of January. The plan is available on-line and members of the committee were advised to look at this and, in particular, to consider how similar their policies are to ours as there is obviously an advantage in the two Plans agreeing where there are matters of common interest if they are to succeed in influencing local development plans.

The committee discussed one difference between the two plans – the issue of students which are opposed in Summertown, not mentioned in Wolvercote's plan. AG believes that students wouldn't want to live as far out as the Northern Gateway. JF mentioned that the University urges planners to recall that there are different classes of students: part-time, undergrad, post-grad etc.

### **Neighbourhood Character Assessment**

GJ is continuing to develop this and is meeting students from Brookes to see how far their projects can help. Suggests running in parallel with policy writing.

### **Business and Retail**

GJ will lead groups considering this part of the plan. There will be two meetings on Monday 28 November from 2.00pm to 4.00pm and on Wednesday 14 December from 10.00 am to 12 noon.

6. **AOB:** The Committee offered its thanks to Jenny Attoe for her excellent work supporting the committee.

7. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday 7 December at 65 Five Mile Drive.