



## **Wolvercote Neighbourhood Forum**

### **Steering Committee Meeting**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

**2pm. 65 Five Mile Drive**

**Present:** John Bleach, Mary Brown, Christopher Hardman (Chairman), Katherine Kaye, Richard Lawrence-Wilson, Sadie Paige.

**Apologies:** Cllr Paul Buckley, Cllr Steve Goddard, David Stone

### **1. Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> October Steering Committee meeting were approved.**

### **2. Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**

- Oxford Brookes student project. MB and CH have sent more detailed project brief to Adam Symons. Students will be selecting their projects over the next few weeks.
- £2000 of Oxford City Council CIL money has been received. Thanks to Steve Goddard for making that happen.
- Further funding sources include PB's (Wolvercote and Summertown) Councillor Priority Fund and the Doris Field Charitable Trust. In both cases we will need to be clear on how the money will be used.
- Partial Review of Cherwell Local Plan. Susanne McIvor attended the design workshop. Her notes will be circulated. On behalf of the WNF CH has written to the Inspector of the Enquiry making him aware of our concerns with the Plan.
- SP advised that as of last week the City Council had received three consultation comments. Tom Morris hopes to start the procurement process to appoint our Examiner this week. Work on Oxford Local Plan 2036 may impact our timetable.
- **SP to contact Tom Morris** to find out how changes to our Draft Plan (initiated by us) should be managed. JB to draft new spatial policy on energy standards, which will be set higher than the minimum Building Regulations requirements. This follows a lead by the government in July in relation to the new NPPF, giving local authorities the right to set higher standards.

### **3. Oxford Local Plan 2036**

CH and MB attended meeting organized by Oxford Civic Society at which City Council Officers delivered a presentation to help with the assessment of the "soundness" of the Local Plan.

The SC felt that this assessment should be the responsibility of the City Council but that there could be some value in SC members carrying out the assessment of the options in areas of interest. **SC members** to forward any comments/ questions to CH and SP by 6<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **4. 2018 AGM debrief - future of the Neighbourhood Forum**

Our Constitution means that most members of the Steering Committee will stand down next year leaving the future of the NF unclear. There needs to be a body that:

- Ensures that the Neighbourhood Plan is implemented
- Manages the relationship with the City Council especially with regard to allocation of CIL money
- Liaises with the community on spending priorities for CIL money.

Two options are currently being considered:

1. Change the Constitution so that the Neighbourhood Forum can continue to exist, and that some continuity of Steering Group membership is possible. **CH and RLW** will explore whether this is possible and how it might be changed
2. Replace the Neighbourhood Forum with a Community Council.
  - **CH** is discussing this idea with Headington (who will set up a Community Council and keep their NF)
  - There is an opportunity for discussing a closer working relationship with the Wolvercote Commoners Committee, which has good community ties but has funding only for the upkeep of the commons.
  - Community Council would be non-political and run by elected representatives
  - **CH** will continue with further Community Council research

#### **5. 2018 AGM debrief - results of the project prioritisation activity.**

During the AGM attendees were asked to indicate their support (or not) for the projects listed as Community Policies in the draft Neighbourhood Plan. The results, recorded alongside those from a similar exercise at Fun-on-the-Green (June 2018), were circulated prior to meeting. Following are key points/ actions arising:

- **KK** will find out how continuity of title would work in the event that the Forum decides to buy land.
- Community policies need to be drafted as projects so that funding applications can be developed.
- Planting of trees and replacing dead trees surfaced as a high priority. **CH** will contact the Tree Group and Friends of Cutteslowe Park to ask for outline proposal of their requirements.
- **CH to discuss with PB and SG** how the project to encourage walking and cycling can be articulated as a realistic project

#### **6. Fundraising**

**KK** presented a list of Crowdfunding sources for both money and labour, noting that we would not need to pay platform charges as we are not a charity. The list will be circulated with these minutes.

**SC members** to suggest projects for crowdfunding to **KK**. **KK and RLW** to review and decide which to take forward.

#### **7. Communications**

Various aspects were discussed and the following was agreed:

SP to arrange thank you message for the £96 donated to the NF at the AGM

SP to arrange for private email addresses of SC members to be removed from NF website.

It was agreed that there is no need to upgrade the NF website to secure (i.e. https) at this time. Need to review if we crowdfund through the site

**SP** to compile a list of notice boards across the Neighbourhood Area (concern that Cutteslowe Park area is under-served).

## **8. Updates on Major Developments**

### **Wolvercote Paper Mill**

Vikki Roe has been doing a good job keeping us informed of progress. Her recent email that addresses questions raised in AGM will be circulated. CH has passed comments from the Commoners (speeding and starting too early) to Vikki. Request is to “keep nagging” if there is no reaction.

**Millway Close** application has been re-submitted. It was agreed that there will be no further response on behalf of WNF.

## **9. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 10am Venue TBC**

Meeting closed at 5pm.

Thanks to Richard for hosting.

Sadie Paige 26/11/18