

OCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Development Planning Group

Notes from meeting held on Tuesday 29 March 2022

Present: OPC - Dick Thomas (Chairman for the meeting),
Barry Thorne,
Lesley Fletcher (Clerk for the meeting)
Other members of team - Charles Calvert,
Gordon Lee-Steere, Henrietta Senior, Rupert Senior

Apologies: James Lee-Steere, Jo Page

1. Introduction of new members

DT introduced three people who had volunteered to join the NDP Team.

Giorgio Biasuzzi to lead on Natural Environment
Clive Bordoli to work on Design and Design Codes with RS
Claire Read to work with GB on Natural Environment

Current team members introduced themselves to the new members.
All gave permission for e-mail addresses to be shared.

DT stated that the Natural Environment topic (as perhaps other topics) may be set up as a sub-team, holding their own meetings then reporting back to the main NDP Team.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2022 were agreed.

3. Register of interests

It was noted that several members had yet to send through the completed forms.

4. Report on status of survey

LW from SCA had sent through interim responses. The deadline date for responses had been extended to 4 April 2022. 138 replies had been received to date. A 50% target number would be 180, so over 150 replies would be best. Noted that in responses received to date a lot of useful information received but that questions had been skipped in a number of responses.

5. Review of village meeting held on 15 March 2022

DT had written up notes and circulated to members of the team.

There had been approximately 45 parishioners at the meeting. DT had prepared a PP presentation. There had been a fair bit of discussion between those present. JG (consultant) had been present and noted that it had gone well as a consultation with the village. The presentation, notes and photos could all be used as evidence regarding consultation. Parts of the Character Appraisal had been made available for comments.

Comments from the team:

- all well known faces at the meeting - how to attract 'new' / 'younger' faces to these events

- suggestion that weekend/day time sessions and workshops could be held, being more convenient for some parishioners. These could be 'pop' in sessions where there was an exchange of information.

DT stated that he intended to hold two more similar presentations in July/August and September/October. Updates on the work done on the plan would be given at these presentations.

6. What is an NDP / Vision Statement

DT had drafted the above documents and sent to JG.

JG had made a few additions to the first document and had suggested a slightly different format for the second. DT had circulated the documents.

It was noted that the referendum would take place at the same time as the May 2023 elections (organised by MVDC). Looking at other NDPs it would appear that most seem to get a 'yes' at referendum stage with comments from parishioners. It was agreed that any information given to parishioners should be 'jargon free, user friendly and presented in normal language'. HS to carry out checks.

Vision and objectives: DT stated that this should encapsulate what the team would be looking to do. Key Objectives identified at this stage: housing, zero carbon, natural environment and recreational facilities, local businesses, transport and parking, community facilities; but it may be that these are expanded at a later date. Leaders were needed to take on responsibility for sections. Statements can be refined / changed as work is done on the plan. The emphasis may change, statements would not be final until the document was ready for submission. More draft statements could be produced for further discussion. The order of the priorities in the vision statement could be changed.

It was noted that if the MV Local Plan was accepted then it would have to be accepted that more houses would be built in the village. DT stated that more regeneration in the village was required, younger families were needed to enhance the facilities, affordable housing must be maximised. It was noted that property prices in the village made it difficult for young families to buy houses in the village but there were a number of properties available for renting.

The village was traditionally a farming community but there were now a number of other businesses in the village. The rural economy should be encouraged. The 'new' local businesses may not be used/encouraged by those in the village. The results of the survey would identify what was needed in the village - perhaps childcare facilities and a café, not industrial workshops. Again, when survey results are available - discussions could be held re. schooling but to note that currently there are surplus school places in the south MV area.

7. Natural Environment

GB had talked to JG about this part of the plan - JG had sent through various links to documents. GB stated that he now had ideas as to how to proceed. This would be a topic with many sub topics (which would be relevant to the area). Evaluations would be made on other critical areas such as flood risk. GB had looked at other parish examples. However work on this topic may involve costs so an estimate of costs must be submitted to the team. Work done on this topic in the previous draft plan was to be sent to GB.

It was noted that any new housing development had to fit in with the natural environment;

Jayes Park Estate has a tree planting programme. Although zero carbon emissions was important it was noted that many houses in Ockley were old and were not energy efficient.

8. Funding

DT reported that a grant for funding had been received for the year up to 31 March 2022 for £9637. Accounts received to date from JG and Surrey Community Action (Character Appraisal) had been paid. £7329.67 of the grant remained unspent and had to be repaid by 14 April 2022. Cheque signed for repayment but one further signature required. Re-application to be made when process opens in new financial year. Re-application would not include amount for Bimby plan as it was no longer available. However should include amounts for technical help on design and design codes, consultant fees (to ask JG if quote needs to be revised), website.

9. Website

DT had circulated notes on the website and content to be included. He asked for a volunteer to take on the design of the website and uploading documents. It was noted that a quote had been obtained from the person who set up the OPC website; this would link the OPC website to a NDP extension. A discussion was held regarding other 'build your own' websites. DT stated that he would prefer the NDP information to be added on to the OPC website. CR to upload information.

10. Leaders for Sections

- a) Setting up survey for Ockley businesses to work alongside main survey - JL-S
- b) Transport and parking - GL-S and JL-S
- c) Heritage - volunteer needed
- d) Recreational facilities - volunteer needed

The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.