

Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

Held on Monday 15th January 2018 at 7pm in the Meeting Room at Diss Youth & Community Centre.

Present: Graham Moore (Scole), Corinne Moore (Scole), Mike Bootman (Palgrave), Alison Wakeham (Burston & Shimpling), Roger Greenacre (Stuston), Paul Curson (Roydon), Steve Leigh (Stuston) and Deborah Sarson (Diss Town Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence were received from Val Pudney (Palgrave), Ursula Halton (Brome & Oakley), David Goldson (Roydon), Graham Minshull (District Cllr), Jessica Fleming (SCC Cllr) and Simon Olander (Diss). It was noted that David Traube (Diss) has resigned from Diss Town Council.
2. Chairman – the Steering Group unanimously elected Mike Bootman as the permanent Chairman following his stated intention to resign from Palgrave Parish Council making him independent from any of the parishes.
3. Minutes – the minutes of the meeting held on 18th December 2017 were agreed and signed as a correct record.
4. Matters Arising – an update on the proposed Babergh Mid Suffolk ‘merger’ was provided which noted this has been delayed following a political challenge.
5. Vision & Themes:
 - a) the collective final document was considered and discussed at length and it was agreed that each parish would review the parish specific local issues;
 - b) the consultation process was finalised; date agreed for end of consultation of Friday 9th March, with up to six weeks consultation; aim for end of January to get it distributed; ‘pull off’ section at end for consultation responses; paid for delivery to all parishes; investigate Freepost return option.
6. Greater Norwich Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation – the consultation on the GNLP was noted and it was agreed to formulate responses at the next meeting of the Steering Group.
7. Duty to support – DS advised that there was no further update on the funding opportunity from South Norfolk Council; Adam Nicholls had now left SNC and had set things in motion before leaving **Action: DS to chase**
8. The SG received an update on the business summit being chaired by Richard Bacon, MP to be held on Friday 2nd March. An appropriate venue was being sought because the Park Hotel has a prior booking. The Golf Club was proposed and RG (as the Chairman; interest duly noted) agreed to ask the General Manager to make contact and confirm availability/price **Action: RG**
9. Future Focus - to consider the future focus and priorities of work to start gathering evidence including requesting evidence from the lead LPA re:

Housing markets/housing needs - two different assessments for each LPA, if SN is included in the BMSDC+ Ipswich+ Suffolk Coastal model it changes outcomes, no doubt the same applies to the GNLP Area model. Waveney District was omitted from Suffolk

model because it is a distinct area and it is possible the Waveney Valley is its own housing market area;

Retail assessments - again two different, neither combines catchments for Diss Area;

Potential growth numbers - only indicative, spatial distribution decisions yet to be taken which will influence these as will any change to Objectively Assessed Need;

The traffic study;

NHS - to establish population/size of catchment area necessary to generate investment in enhanced healthcare facilities;

Educational requirements - will depend on growth but need early discussion.

10. Planning Applications – updates were received two planning applications that may have implications for the development and delivery of the NP:
 - a) BP garage application – it was noted that the previous ecology and flood objections have been withdrawn following additional information provided by the applicant; there was concern that the Highways objection was not strong enough and the Cty Cllr had been asked to raise our concerns about the lack of strategic input from SCC on this planning application, which if approved will be restrictive to future DDNP options; MB to draft a further response on behalf of the SG setting out our concerns that this application is premature and prejudicial **Action: MB**
 - b) Marstons application for a hotel and retail on the south side of Park Road, Diss – again there is concern this development is premature and prejudicial to the DDNP and could result in harm to the town centre economy, to traffic congestion and to future access to and enhancement of the River Waveney. MB agreed to draft a response **Action: MB**
11. Website – AW again asked for information from each of the parishes to put on the website. She had set up a mailchimp account for distributing information to interested people; it was noted that the consultation would direct traffic to the website which would host an online survey for consultation responses.
12. Digital Mapping – MB provided an update on digital mapping options based on a comprehensive response from Andrea McMillan, who is shortly to leave BMSDC. Most data can be supplied or sourced but the matters re systems on which it would be hosted, access to data, training and license fees have yet to be considered.
13. Next meetings - regular meetings of the Steering Group will be held on the 3rd Monday of each month unless otherwise notified:

19 th February	18 th June	15 th October
19 th March	16 th July	19 th November
16 th April	20 th August	17 th December
21 st May	17 th September	