

Border Group Parishes Neighbourhood Plan
Steering Group Meeting
20th October 2016 at 7.000pm
Lingen Village Hall

Minutes

Those Present:

Parish Councillors:

Philip Barnett, Maggie Brown, Stephen Chilman (Chair), John Walker, Simon Whiteman,

Current Steering Group Members:

Philip Barnett, Sally Barnett, Stephen Chilman (Chair), Clive Gurney, Chris Jack, Jackie Morris, Ian Morris, Philip Morris, Tony Swainson (Secretary), Harley Thomas, Joe Thomas, John Walker, Simon Whiteman, Glyn Williams, Bruce Williamson, Moira Williamson, Glyn Williams.

Steering Group Members Present:

Philip Barnett, Stephen Chilman (Chair), Chris Jack, Jackie Morris, Philip Morris, Harley Thomas, Joe Thomas, John Walker, Simon Whiteman, Moira Williamson, Glyn Williams.

Others Present:

Bill Bloxsome (Data Orchard), Sally Barnett, Geoff Bevan, Simon Brown, Ben Chilman, Margaret Chilman, Peter Davidson, Sheila Davidson, Carole Dixon, Tom Dixon, Brian Lewis, Adrienne Marsden, Mike Oliver, Trevor Pritchard, Ervil Protheroe, Neil Radnor, David Thame, Beverley Thomas.

1. Welcome:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Steering Group Meeting and explained that members of the public could raise items at point 5.

2. Apologies:

Clive Gurney, Tony Swainson

3. Conflicts of Interest:

The Chairman declared that Philip Barnett, Joe Thomas, Harley Thomas and Glyn Williams had all declared an interest.

4. Minutes of 3rd May 2016 Meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and agreed.

5. Chairman's Report:

a) It was explained that at the meeting held in August 2016 a procedural error was discovered (this was when the Steering Group had voted to take the plan to Regulation 14 in November 17th, 2015). The minutes were not strong enough and this caused the need for this Steering Group meeting tonight. Herefordshire County Council NDP feel that the

plan is sound. The reason for this meeting tonight is therefore to check the plan and prepare it to go ahead to Regulation 14.

At this point The Chairman offered questions from the Public.

6. Review of the re-issued NDP Regulation 14 Consultation Draft)

a) David Thame raised a number of points about the plan in particular that he felt there should be a vote on the plan; concern that the number of people who have understood the plan is less than 60; few people have been involved in the plan; many of the issues eg broadband, live/work units, affordable housing had been overlooked within the plan and that site assessments had not been given.

The Chairman replied that this process has been ongoing for 3 years and that the questionnaire went out to 560 residents in the Border Group with a 67% response. We have had many consultation evenings during that time and have advertised both on the Border Group website and noticeboards at every stage.

b) The Chairman stated that in the plan there are 3 sites identified for live/work units and that affordable housing is difficult to achieve with small developments as is the case in our plan.

c) Councillor Walker insisted that no changes had been made to the plan in light of consultations at Regulation 14 last time and therefore questioned whether or not they would be this time.

d) A Walford resident raised concern that very little consultation had taken place in Walford. This was reiterated by John Walker and David Thame. At that point The Chairman and Bill Bloxsome both explained that Walford came into the process at a slightly later stage than the other villages and therefore it is now important that these residents get an opportunity to make comments at Regulation 14.

e) An open discussion took place between a number of residents and Bill Bloxsome over various aspects of the plan and it was explained that by going back to Regulation 14 all concerns could still be voiced.

f) Some amendments have already been made to the plan including: - a re-drafting of the Nursery site at Lingen in line with the owners request

- the site at the south end of Lingen village has been reduced back to one plot
- the number of houses in total for the Border Group over the time frame of the plan now goes from 44 to 43

7. Discussion on Public Consultation matters prior to next Parish Council Meeting:

a) Bill Bloxsome explained the Regulation 14 process and timeframe and The Chairman agreed with his comments and felt in light of some of the criticism that he had heard this evening every household should be leafleted this time round.

b) Councillor Brown added that she would like to see paper copies of the plan distributed in the villages, especially Walford, however The Chairman felt it would have to be limited as the document is lengthy. As well as being put on the websites it will be displayed in

each village and a number of copies can be printed to be circulated. It was also felt that some discussion evenings at the beginning of the consultation period may well be useful.

c) Councillor Walker reiterated that he felt the Steering Group and the Border Group Parish Council had a lot of landowners on them and how are people who are not landowners to have their say? To which Bill Bloxsome responded by saying the Border Group was not unusual in his opinion as this was the case in many other villages around Herefordshire. d) A discussion then took place between Bill Bloxsome and members of the public over various aspects of building sites and how to make the policies remain as written.

e) Bill Bloxsome raised issues over data protection and Councillor Brown saw no reason why it should not go on the website this time.

f) The Chairman thanked everyone for coming to this meeting and hoped that going forward we could all work positively together for the good of the Community. He will speak with Bill Bloxsome concerning the content of this meeting tonight and bring a proposal to the Parish Council at the next meeting. If the consultation period falls over Christmas we will extend by a week at least.

8. AOB

9. Date of next meeting:

Not discussed as the Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday 25th at Adforton.

Meeting finished at:

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm