

Shaftesbury Neighbourhood Plan Group

Notes of meeting on Thursday 3rd October 2013 at 4.00 pm in the Mayor's Parlour.

Present: Rachel Caldwell (RC) Shaftesbury Civic Society/ Shaftesbury resident
Brian Hughes (BH) Melbury Abbas & Cann
Sue Minshaw (SM) Shaftesbury resident IN THE CHAIR
John Mitchell (JM) Melbury Abbas & Cann
John Parker (JP) Shaftesbury resident
Janet Swiss (JSw) Stour Row resident
Richard Tippins (RT) Shaftesbury Resident/STC

1. Apologies had been received from David Kerswell, Clare Pestell and Jan Scott.

2. Notes from last meeting - Agreed.

3. Matters arising

A Letter of Confirmation had been received from Sarah Jennings at North Dorset District Council. The designation of the Shaftesbury, Melbury Abbas and Cann Neighbourhood Plan was approved on 16th September 2013. The application had been made by Shaftesbury Town Council. The area was identified by a map attached.

4. 'Locality' application

RT provided an example application form. Members went through the questions and answers were noted. Some questions arose: for example in regard to local consultation re Health and Schools.

Reference was made to the visit of the team from Gillingham led by David Beaton. This took place on 5th December 2012, after which representatives from Shaftesbury (LD, TC and SM) attended a meeting at NDDC with Trevor Warwick on 12th December 2012. Progress since then appeared to have been unduly slow.

RC undertook to look up the record of the Gillingham visit and referred to papers which had been left with us at the time. She will provide RT with a copy as soon as possible in order that he could make comparisons and send our application in the coming week.

RT advised the meeting that he is attending meetings in a private capacity, not as a member of STC. Comment was made that the STC Strategic Plan does not give prominence to the Neighbourhood Plan.

JP considered it to be essential that we talk to a consultant in order to give shape to the plan and determine time scales. He estimated the overall cost would approximate to £20,000.

BH offered to contact Sarah Jennings for further advice, and to invite her to come and talk to the group.

5. Further actions

RT was anxious to obtain costs. He advised SM to contact DCA regarding the application she had sent last June. RT suggested our application should be marked 'Shaftesburyplan'.

BH asked about the web site and RT spoke to this. It is intended to link our site to the Town and Melbury parish web sites.

6. Any other business

Thanks were recorded to JS who had sent out the file for 'Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan'. The document contains 40 pages and is most comprehensive.

It was noted that the map of our plan covers a large area, a great part of which is rural in nature. JSw considered we should ensure that farmers are aware of the proposals. JP suggested making publicity available at the Market.

7. Next meeting

The date had been fixed for Thursday 17th October 2013 in the Mayor's Parlour.

Note: It was decided to start the meeting at 5.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 5.15 pm.