



**Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Delivery and Monitoring Group Meeting
held at Corsham Town Hall on Thursday 20 June 2024**

Present Councillor S Abbott (Chair)
J Peeters (Resident)
Wiltshire Councillor D Walters
P Whalley (Resident)

In Attendance K Gilby (Finance and Planning Officer)
D Martin (Chief Executive)

In Attendance Online Councillors T Bush, N Farmer

DMG 189 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillors G McCaffery and R Williams, C Johnson (Pickwick Association) and P Tapscott (Resident).

DMG 190 Election of Vice-Chair

Agreed: to defer this item until the next meeting.

DMG 191 Public Question Time and Petitions.

There were none.

DMG 192 Declarations of Interest

To receive any Declaration(s) of Interest under Corsham Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

There were none.

DMG 193 Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Delivery and Monitoring Group Meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2024

Agreed: That the Minutes be approved.

DMG 194 Matters arising from the above Minutes

DMG 182 – The Batscape Update is with Johns Associates who are finalising minor amendments. It is hoped to have the final version back by 21 June 2024.

DMG 182 (DMG 176) – The Finance and Planning Officer would email Spatial Planning at Wiltshire Council to ask why traffic impact is not used as a criteria for site selection and whether it could be included in the criteria in the future. Also, to what extent traffic impact is currently taken into account when selecting sites and how this is evidenced.

DMG 184 – Regarding a start date for the NP Review our Link Officer at Wiltshire Council had advised ‘ideally NPs should be for a minimum of 15 years... ..It doesn’t need to correspond exactly to the same as the Local Plan timescale given... ..It could start from 2023 or 2024.’

DMG 195 Vision and Objectives Survey – Results

Nearly 30 responses to the survey had been received and most were supportive of the proposed vision and objectives. Of those, 79% agreed with the proposed vision and over 70% of respondents agreed with each of the proposed objectives. Other items put forward for consideration in the revised Neighbourhood Plan included a new railway station; provision of infrastructure for young people and children; creation of amenities and employment space, especially on new developments; improved transport links especially from the villages; an additional supermarket; better health and well-being centres; a bigger doctors surgery; more pharmacy facilities; another school; more allotments; a greater focus on the villages and continued protection of the rural green buffers.

One objective was not as well supported as the others – ‘Corsham will be a town which recognises its responsibilities within the wider community of Wiltshire.’ Whilst most agreed with the objective, some of the respondents were unsure what was meant by this.

Agreed: The Chief Executive and Finance and Planning Officer would circulate suggested alternatives to the final objective to the Group for consideration.

DMG 196 Neighbourhood Plan Review Consultants

Following interviews on 27 March 2024 DLP Planning were appointed as consultants to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan Review. Their Initial Policy Review Report and provisional programme were discussed.

Agreed: All Town Councillors and Members of the Group would consider the proposed changes to the policies in the report and provide feedback on the changes and any omissions to the Finance and Planning Officer by 9am on 2 July 2024. The Finance and Planning Officer would supply information on where to focus people’s efforts.

DMG 197 Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 24-13 – Housing Land Supply and Housing Delivery Test

Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 24-13 was discussed. There were some concerns that Wiltshire Council could only demonstrate 4.2 years of housing land supply. Whilst at the moment, due to the stage the Local Plan Review had reached, Wiltshire Council only had to demonstrate a four-year housing land supply, this situation would change if the Local Plan was not adopted by December 2025.

Agreed: That Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 24-13 be noted.

DMG 198 Cotswold National Landscape (formerly AONB) extension

The Pickwick Association has asked if the Neighbourhood Plan Delivery and Monitoring Group could ensure that the proposal to extend the Cotswold National Landscape is appropriately reflected in the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Town Council had discussed the matter at the Council Meeting on 12 February 2024 (*Minute 239/23*) where it was resolved:

- i) That Corsham Town Council supports, in principle, the Pickwick Association's proposal to approach Wiltshire Council seeking an extension to the Cotswold Natural Landscape (formerly AONB) to include land immediately to the north of the A4.
- ii) That consideration be given to including the whole of the Pickwick Conservation Area and whole of the Corsham Conservation Area, with the exact boundary being agreed at a later date.

Agreed:

- i) To ask the Pickwick Association if there had been any changes made to the proposed boundary;
- ii) That the inclusion of the proposal in the Neighbourhood Plan Review be discussed with the consultants (DLP Planning).

DMG 199 Chippenham Neighbourhood Plan - Made May 2024

Wiltshire Council had taken the decision pursuant to Section 38A(4) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004, to make the Chippenham Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plan can be found at - https://chippenhamneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Chippenham-Neighbourhood-Plan_Made-May-2024-002.pdf

The Chippenham Neighbourhood Plan was discussed.

Agreed: Members of the Group would consider the policies contained in the Chippenham Neighbourhood Plan and provide feedback to the Finance and Planning Officer by 9am on 2 July 2024. The Finance and Planning Officer would supply the Group with information on where to focus their efforts.

DMG 200 Date and time of next meeting.

Thursday 5 September 2024 at 7pm in the Town Hall.