

STAPLEHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW GROUP

Minutes of meeting held on April 17, 2019.

1. **Present:** John Kelly (JK) Chairman, Cllr. Joan Buller (JB), Robin Kenworthy (RK), Cllr. Tom Burnham, Cllr. John Perry, Margaret Arger (MA), Colin Bowden (CB)
2. **Apologies:** Robin Oakley, Colin Love, Cllr. Gill Smith, Cllr. Adele Sharp.
3. **Membership of Group:** no change.
4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** RK queried whether Item 12 should be amended to have the same heading as for the parish council. After discussion it was agreed appropriate for Item 12 to remain as it stands. (Item 16 on present minutes)
5. **Matters Arising, not covered by the agenda.** None.
6. **NPRG Terms of Reference:** Following a full and frank discussion it was agreed the acceptance or otherwise of the terms of reference should be deferred until after the parish council elections. It was also agreed the parish clerk would be advised of the residents being members of the group for the new council which would include those Cllrs. who were not standing for re-election. (MA)
7. **David Wilson Homes land north of Marden Road:** JB reported further meetings had been deferred by David Wilson Homes. Jeffery Close and surrounding areas were still having parking issues with developer's vehicles. The new roundabout has no lighting with traffic lights in place. CB highlighted still no wheel washing on site or suitable car park for developers to ease the parking problem. MBC did not appear to be pro-active regarding conditions being adhered to and it was not yet confirmed if the hours of working variation had been agreed by MBC. JB reported Bovis development in Headcorn appeared to be causing similar issues of concern, though Redrow has been very compliant and pro-active with the PC.
8. **Proposed Sustainable Garden Community in Marden:** General discussion regarding the lack of joined up planning between MBC; TWC and Ashford Council. It was felt strongly by all that this development was not in the right place, with no proper highway links to anywhere and would increase the pressure on Staplehurst Station, the crossroads and the A229. Agreed NPRG would continue to monitor.
9. **Reported Decisions:** JB/JP raised the four appeals going through for Maplehurst Paddock, Udene Barn Stud, Blossom Lodge and Perfect Place. Gypsy and Traveller requirements under planning remain an issue.
10. **Asset of Community Value:** Parish clerk has advised of meeting April 30 @ 11am in the parish office. JB and JK to attend.

- 11. Lodge Road and Station area regeneration:** JB reported nothing new. Parish council looking at further meeting with William Cornall (WC) who was going to draw up three options for the site. The mix of various parties involved with the area makes it difficult to gain a consensus. TB reported any increase for car parking at the station could involve adding a tier via a Solum/Keir/Network Rail partnership
- 12. The Parade:** Dropped kerbs in place on Offens Drive at the back of Spar. Nothing further to report.
- 13. Sainsbury's:** nothing to report. JP advised any other supermarket showing interest would be dependent on Sainsbury's being willing to sell.
- 14. Wimpey Field Nature Reserve – Access:** TB reported on a meeting called by Helen Grant MP last Friday including PC, Taylor Wimpey, Management Group and residents. Taylor Wimpey had agreed to come back to Helen Grant by this Friday. Issues remain ongoing. Walking access agreed but vehicle access still an issue and gate access still to be resolved. CB raised this as an ongoing issue when developers don't pass roads onto KCC highways and when home owners don't own their front gardens. JB reported Redrow have a "Trim Trail" which will be available to everyone and residents on the new development will be made aware.
- 15. Cycles Routes:** agreed by all to remove from future agenda's.
- 16. Accessibility for persons with mobility problems:** RK led the discussion advising of the correspondence with Eric Hotson (EH) County Cllr. Regarding responsibility for enforcement of parking on pavement EH had responded by advising KCC as highway authority have no powers of enforcement to prevent pavement parking. MBC as the street parking authority do have powers but only when there is a breach of parking restriction. Kent Police would only take action if there was permanent parking restricting access to property or pedestrian flow. RK advised the Transport Select Committee has launched an inquiry into pavement parking. JK advised the Scottish Government's Transport (Scotland) Bill will introduce a national ban on pavement parking and double parking. RK requested NPRG write to the PC asking them to contact the Police, KCC and MBC supporting enforcement which was agreed by all present. Copy to EH.
- 17. AOB:** CB raised the dangers of the overgrown hedge outside Surrenden on pedestrians' using the footpath and being forced closer to the highway and passing lorry's etc. Agreed CB would take photographs to be forwarded to parish clerk. (MA) PC to be asked to liaise with land owner. RK reported hedge around Bovis pond had been removed. JB advised PC aware of infringements.

Meeting closed 9.40pm. Next meeting May 22, 2019 at 8pm.

M.A. Arger.