

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Those present: CF, AG, DC, MS, CR, JS

Apologies: JM, TB, DH

The purpose of the meeting was to have an open conversation on the current status of the Plan and the way forward after the decision by Hart D.C, to not support the 3 sites as nominated in the latest version.

CF and CR gave updates on the background to this decision (primarily based on a new Environment agency flood map indicating all sites are now considered to be at risk from flooding). The Steering Group and Parish Council are both dismayed by this decision given the opportunity that Hart has had over many months to raise their concerns yet did not give any indication in advance on this. As a result, CR will be scheduling a formal meeting with Daryl Phillips at Hart to convey our feelings on the decision and determine if there is any opportunity to change the view. Now that local elections are complete this will be arranged as soon as possible and CR will draft a response to Daryl Phillips which will be shared with the Steering Group in advance of this meeting.

If the view of Hart to the 3 proposed sites cannot be changed CR will request guidance on whether any other site previously included in the assessed sites (and specifically Wintney Court or Grange Farm) would be supported before any further work on the Plan is performed. If a potential site is identified that Hart will support this will then need to be reviewed with both the Steering Group and the Parish Council to ensure their support and acceptance. If a site is obtained that is acceptable to both a new revision of the Plan should be produced together with a further public consultation.

If no new site can be agreed to by Hart or a site is identified which is not supported by the Parish Council it would appear that the only option for going forward would be to produce a new plan without any sites or housing numbers and therefore could only use generic housing policies. It was the view of the Steering Group members present at the meeting (and also supported by JM) that if this was the case the Neighbourhood Plan will have been compromised too much from its original remit of community led input and views. The Steering Group would therefore have to question its purpose and continued Plan involvement with the consequence that further revision of the Plan should be made directly between the Parish Council and our consultant, Liz Bourne.

There was a discussion around Wintney Court and the issue that now exists with the site being close to the proposed Murrell Green settlement as defined in the new Local Plan. A suggestion was made to potentially have a meeting with the trustees of Wintney Court to see whether there may be an opportunity to mitigate this but no firm actions were agreed on this.

Finally CF agreed to draft an update for the June edition of Contact and a proposal for this was issued after the meeting.