

MINUTES OF THE

THURLESTONE PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE

Held in the Yeo Room of the Village Hall on 18^h November 2014 at 7.30 pm

Present: Tony Goddard (Chairman) (AG), Kit Marshall (KM), Jill Munn (JM), Robin MacDonald (RM), Chris White (CW).

Apologies: Alan Taylor Bigg.

Absent: Ian Bramble (District Councillor), Charlie Mitchelmore, Peter Hurrell and Bronwen Zaffiro.

Paperwork

AG provided each member with paperwork as follows:

- The themes as taken from the SHDC Our Plan
- Copies of the slides as provided by Phil Baker of SHDC for his presentation
- The Thurlestone Parish Plan
- The Local Government Association Neighbourhood Planning Guide for Councillors

AG requested that members should familiarise themselves with this paperwork before the next meeting.

KM provided a copy of the Thurlestone Parish Survey 2009 on which the Parish Plan was based. It was agreed that this survey (a summary of the responses to which appear in Appendix 2 to the Parish Plan) would need to be repeated with additional questions in preparation for the Neighbourhood Plan. It was thought that funding might be available for this. RM volunteered that the Village Voice organisation could be used to distribute the Survey Questionnaire.

Starting point for Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that the Parish Plan provided a good basis on which to build. It was the second in a series, the previous Parish Plan having been prepared some 15 years previously.

At the same time, it was clearly sensible to incorporate the themes set out in Our Plan so that the Neighbourhood Plan covered as far as possible the same themes.

The meeting compared the themes from the SHDC Plan with the Actions summarised in the Table of Contents and Appendix 1 to the Parish Plan. It was found that there was a considerable overlap between the issues addressed in the two plans. However, bearing in mind that the Neighbourhood Plan is a “development” plan, it needs to concentrate more on land use than did the Parish Plan.

Requirement for additional skills

It was accepted that it would be helpful if the committee could recruit additional architectural and/or town and country planning skills. A retired town and country planner who lives in the Parish was identified and will be approached by JM.

RM suggested contacting Nicholas Johnston, the new owner of the Bantham Estate, who was described as young and entrepreneurial, to see if he would like to contribute to the discussion.

The Hotel and the Golf Club should also perhaps have an input.

Perhaps a circular could be distributed asking if people with skills would like to contribute to the community and the preparation of the Plan.

Various issues and ideas

- It would be helpful to have in the Plan a list of recent developments. There was a proposal for three development sites of which two have been turned down and the third was identified for development not before 2016. The recent SHDC identification of sites for development identified none for Thurlestone Parish. It might be helpful to have a statement from the Bantham Estate whether it has any plans for development which ought to be mentioned in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- There are numerous sporting and cultural activities in the Parish and they should be identified in the Plan. Clashes between functions for various activities is a regular occurrence and perhaps a person or persons under the aegis of the Parish Council could be a central coordinating point to avoid these clashes.
- Similarly, heritage assets, listed buildings and archaeological sites need to be identified.
- There is nothing in the Parish Plan about Our Resources and the Neighbourhood Plan needs to address the issue of renewable energy and windmills and the like.
- RM suggested that it might be helpful to undertake an audit of land use in the Parish.
- There was agreement that the Neighbourhood Plan must develop a policy on second homes. The Parish Clerk can provide an up to date Electoral Roll and SHDC has the data necessary to identify how many houses in the Parish are second homes.
- Similarly, there needs to be a policy on the recent trend towards houses being demolished and replaced with inappropriate houses. There has been a long standing grudge in the Parish that the planners disregard their views and the Parish Council is determined as a separate issue to deal with this problem.

Application form

Although there was some cynicism whether the views of the Parish would be allowed to be expressed in the Neighbourhood Plan and if so expressed, would in practice be applied by the planners, the Chairman was authorised to prepare and submit the application form (which was read out to the meeting) and for that purpose to obtain the necessary map to accompany the application.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 8th January 2015 at 7.30pm in the Yeo Room.