

GOODWORTH CLATFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP) STEERING GROUP (SG)

RECORD OF PUBLIC MEETING 7 FEBRUARY 2017

Location	Village Club, Goodworth Clatford
Present	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group [Peter Kiddle; Bob Houghton; Ros Stockdale; Geoff Scard] and 130 parishioners.
Time	8.40 pm start; 9.30 pm finish

Background

This public meeting had been called to brief the village on the results of the NP questionnaire and to recruit volunteers to take the plan to the next stage. The meeting had followed a refreshments interval prior to which the Parish Council had been seeking parishioners' views on the possible purchase by the Parish of open pasture land in the centre of the village.

Introduction

Peter Kiddle introduced the NP Steering Group members and outlined the purpose of this public meeting. This was to encourage more involvement by parishioners in the production of the NP. He reminded the meeting that the NP would need to be aligned with the recently adopted TVBC Local Plan but that NP process should produce a document that was more specific to the Parish being based on local knowledge and the wishes of the village as gathered from the replies to the NP questionnaire. He also reminded the meeting that the NP process would be completed by a formal Yes/No referendum. A Yes vote of more than 50% would be required for the NP to be adopted. Power Point slides for his presentation and those of the three other Steering group members are attached for reference. The meeting was recorded by audio and photographic means.

Peter Kiddle summarised the results of the questionnaire. For the 638 copies distributed to electors in the village, there had been an 88% return. It was believed that this level of response represented a National record. The results showed general agreement on many issues, be they positive or negative aspects of Goodworth Clatford. All the results were being included on the NP part of the village website (goodworthclatford.com).

Environment and Countryside

Geoff Scard briefed the meeting on Environment and Countryside aspects of the NP. He emphasised that the plan covered the whole of the parish which extended far beyond the built area of the village from the A303 at Picket Twenty in the east to Clatford Oakcuts in the west. The parish included a variety of land usage including active agriculture, woodland, leisure activities (a golf course and horse grazing) and other industrial activity (oil well, solar farms, sewage treatment works). He emphasised the landscape value of the parish and how this could be recorded in the NP to stress its importance. He referred to the TVBC Local plan which reinforced environment and countryside aspects – the landscape, the value of the rivers and streams, biodiversity. He recommended that parishioners familiarized themselves with the local plan on the TVBC website.

Geoff Scard appealed for help with two sub working groups – one to cover environmental issues such as pollution, sewage and flooding and one to cover countryside issues including landscape, the rivers biodiversity etc.

Transport, Traffic and Business

Ros Stockdale reviewed Transport, Traffic and Business results from the questionnaire. With regard to such items as traffic speed, parking and road surfaces, she stressed the need for evidence to provide the basis for policies in this area. She was seeking volunteers to work on sub-committees for her three topics.

Community, Infrastructure and Amenities

Bob Houghton reflected on the community aspects of Goodworth Clatford and its special character which made it a popular place in which to live. His vision for the Communities, Infrastructure and Amenities Group was that it should aim to retain and improve facilities and amenities that make the village such a desirable village in which to live. The NP offered the parishioners the opportunity to record what they wanted from the village. Bob Houghton sought volunteers to populate three sub groups covering community, infrastructure and amenity topics.

Housing

Peter Kiddle reviewed the questionnaire results on the topic of housing. He emphasised the need for the village to work together to produce the housing policies. He sought volunteers to join sub groups covering: housing umbers; the settlement boundary; retirement and affordable housing; strategic gaps.

Question Period

A 20 minute period of questions followed the Steering Group presentations:

Jenny Rundle wished to know whether minority groups such as gay and lesbian parishioners would be represented in the production of the NP and, if so, how. In response, Peter Kiddle suggested that Mrs Rundle joined the Community sub group to ensure that the interests of such groups be included. Jane Eastwood, Parish Churchwarden, advised that there used to be a Care Group in the village which provided voluntary care for parishioners including transport to hospital appointments and so on. This Group folded because the need appeared to subside. However, if the need could shown to still exist then perhaps this was another topic for the Community sub group.

One parishioner asked how villagers would be kept informed of progress on the NP. Peter Kiddle advised that parishioners are kept informed via emails, the Goodworth Clatford website and at Parish council meetings.

Alan Willens (Parish Councillor) referred to the Parish Emergency Resilience Plan which had been recently completed and the system of Village agents. Again, Peter Kiddle suggested that Alan Willens' membership of the Community sub group would

ensure that these issues would be included in the drafting of NP policies.

Ed Turner (Parish Councillor) asked about the deadline for the production of the NP document. Peter Kiddle advised that he hoped that a draft document could be ready within 6 – 9 months.

Andrew Gibson (County Councillor) had experience of dealing with Village Agents and advised that some projects could be funded by the County Council.

Anne Keenan (professional landscape gardener) offered her assistance to the Countryside sub group.

Richard Mason expressed his concern about the power of the NP, after his previous experience with the Upper Clatford Village Design Statement (VDS). Peter Kiddle reassured him that the NP would have legal authority, it being one level up from the VDS.

David Drew (TVBC Councillor for neighbouring Harewood Ward) advised that he was supportive of Parish Councils in dealing with individual planning applications and in producing NPs. He was also supportive of young people aspiring to live in, and get involved in, village communities.

Volunteers for the Sub Groups

The meeting closed with volunteers entering their contact details on sign-up forms with their indication of the sub group in which they were interested. The volunteers are listed on the attached document, under the sub group headings:

G T SCARD

9 Feb 17