



No:0903/2020

## **Necton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of Neighbourhood Plan Sub - Committee Meeting held on Monday, 21st September 2020 via Zoom**

**Parish Councillors present:** Alice Spain - Chair  
Fraser Bateman -Vice Chair  
Jean Bass  
Ken Barrett  
Nigel Wilkin - Breckland Councillor  
Genine Curtis (Notetaker)

**Additional attendees:** Howard Cardus  
Kathy Barrett - Govenor - Necton CoE  
Primary School  
Phil Hayton

#### **1. To receive apologies for absence:**

David Moncaster  
Mark Jennings

#### **2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation**

*Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Necton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.*

None recorded.

#### **3. To approve minutes of Sub -Committee meeting of 17th August 2020(to be signed retrospectively at first face to face meeting held).**

Minutes from the meeting held on 17th August 2020 were approved and duly agreed to be signed retrospectively at the next face-to-face meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Sub-Committee (proposed by Alice Spain and seconded by Jean Bass, agreed unanimously)

#### **4. To discuss changes in the Planning System following the White Paper Meeting held 16th September 2020 and the future of the Neighbourhood Plan.**

A reply has been received from CPRE regarding the White Paper as to whether or not a Neighbourhood Plans (NHP) would still be viable. The response is in favour of NHP's although there are concerns that this paper will remove the ability for the normal person to have any say in the system. A full copy of this in full can be issued if requested.

Following a zoom meeting with Susan Heinrich, she also agreed the a NHP would be useful. The question is how to respond to the White Paper. The deadline to do so is 29th October. Although the CPRE is well thought out, some attending this meeting thought the NHP would be ignored. Breckland appear to want a consolidatory reponse from all Parishes, but it was proposed by Fraser Bateman that we complete our own submission in response so that our views are put forward and not lost or diluted in the process. It was suggested that a small 'task force' be put together and then bring the findings to the next meeting for approval prior to the deadline date of 29th October

We possibly have 3 options:

**Option 1.** Do we go ahead anyway and just say we will plough on regardless of the White Paper?

**Option 2.** Do we stop now?

**Option 3.** Do we proceed in the short term, without spending any money, until the White Paper has been through Parliament and is rejected/ amended/approved and then make the decision as to whether or not we continue with the NHP.

Following discussion Option 3 was proposed by Alice Spain and seconded by Kathy Barrett. Voted on unanimously. Alice Spain, Jean Bass and Fraser Bateman to prepare reply to the White Paper proposal.

#### **5. To discuss the proposed Vision Statement following the White Paper Meeting (previously sent out by Jean Bass)**

The Vision Statement is as follows:

*'This Neighbourhood Plan Committee will endeavour to provide a clear, concise and accurate Neighbourhood Plan. We further agree to listen to and encourage the many diverse views of the village to ensure we move forward with the support of the Necton community'.*

This was proposed by Alice Spain and seconded Fraser Bateman. Voted on unanimously.

It was requested by the Chair that everyone consider what aims and objects they feel we should have then and forward them to Genine Curtis to compile and distribute for discussion at the next meeting.

## **6. To discuss how the Sub-Committee should work - Aims & Objectives**

It was suggested that certain people may be able to do specific jobs within the Sub-Committee. Justine Luckhurst is assisting with the Parish Link. It was also suggested that consultation with the villagers take place but, due to Covid, this may not be possible at present and a questionnaire may be the best way to reach and engage the villagers.

Alice Spain, Phil Hayton, Jean Bass and Genine Curtis agreed to put together a draft questionnaire for discussion prior to circulation.

It was felt that contact should be made with other Parishes who have completed a NHP to see if any of their questions would be applicable to ours. Residents would require a detailed understanding of the aims and objectives of the NHP prior to a questionnaire being circulated.

It was also suggested that a map would be a pre-requisite for circulation with the questionnaire, but there appeared to be general confusion as to how far our boundary lies. A plan is needed to show the area we are talking about.

North Pickenham and Holme Hale were asked if they wished to join forces with us to compile a joint NHP. North Pickenham do not wish to and Holme Hale have yet to respond. It was felt that until we decide for definite how we are proceeding, a joint venture may not be viable. The Parish boundary would be the boundary for the NHP.

We need to be mindful of the fact that if we incorporate an area that is smaller than the whole Parish, then that will leave some outlying areas over which we have not made any opinion or taken in any views on what might happen there so that could leave some remote parts of green countryside open to perhaps future development and we haven't taken that into account in our plan.

We need to make it known that more space for businesses would be viable as well as residential properties so that we can generate local economy and work enabling people to live and work locally without having to use the A47 or the non-existent bus services. Sustainability is one of the key issues we should be focusing on.

Fraser Bateman and Alice Spain to form a sub-set looking at map(s) to take this forward. Alice Spain also suggested that we might like to show areas for industrial, conservation, residential and other things we will want to put in the NHP.

After further discussion it was felt that the issue of the map(s) should be put to one side, but it was also noted that a questionnaire without a map is a questionnaire without context. This would be taken on board when preparing the questionnaire.

## **7. To discuss when and how consultation with residents will take place**

Information regarding the NHP to be put in the October issue of the Link (time permitting) stating that Questionnaire will follow. This was also discussed in Item 6 and will be further discussed at later meetings.

Boxes and 'drop-off' points for completed questionnaires would be accessible around the village when required.

#### **8. Update and Report on draft boundary for Neighbourhood Plan**

Discussed in Item 6 - further discussion to take place at next meeting.

#### **9. Update on application for the Neighbourhood Plan**

Carried forward to next meeting in the absence of Mark Jennings.

#### **10. Updates & Progress Reports from Sub-Committee Members on Actions Arising from Previous Meeting held 17th August 2020**

Discussion took place regarding a resident in the village who works for Anglian Water. It was decided that it would be worthwhile to ask this gentleman if he would consider joining the Sub-Committee if not now, then at a later stage in the process. All agreed that this would be beneficial as long as there is no conflict of interest for this gentleman.

#### **11. To confirm proposed date of next meeting**

Date of the next meeting is - Monday, 19th October 2020 via Zoom. Invitations to join this meeting will be sent out by the Justine Luckhurst, Parish Clerk

Meeting closed at 8.46pm