

Minutes of the Staverton Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting held at the Village Hall Tuesday 19th December 2017

PRESENT: Chair Tony Glover (ToG), Vice Chair: Terry Gilford (TWG), Geoff Edwards (GE), Shirley Frost (SF), John Golding (JFG), Jo Gilford (JMG), Ian Weaver (IW)

Minutes Geoff Edwards

Also 6 members of the public (Motp)

1. GOVERNANCE

1.1 Apologies - M Nightingale, R Brown (Northamptonshire County Councillor)

1.2 Declaration and nature of interest – NONE

1.3 Standing Orders Policy

1.3.1 JFG stated that all Public questions and comments should be minuted as currently circumstances cannot be considered normal. JMG suggested that questions from the public could be tabled in advance. A discussion took place and it was considered that it would not be satisfactory to do so, as many questions arise in response to discussions that take place at the meetings.

JFG proposed that under Standing Order Policy (clause 4) Public questions & comments will be minuted as circumstances are not 'normal'

GE seconded the proposal. 5 For 1 Abstention (TWG) – Carried

1.3.2 Disclosure of Interests (Clause 5) - Deferred

2. OPEN FORUM

A discussion took place on where the open forum should be positioned on the agenda. ToG explained the general policy. JFG added that members of the public could also talk later in the meeting on the specific agenda topics at the discretion of the Chair.

(MotP) K Edwards reported that her feedback comments were still not on the website despite having submitted it 3 times. JMG requested it be resent to her again for input. (MotP) M Holliday said that at the Consultation Event (18th Nov) Kirkwells stated that they would be inputting and analysing the feedback forms. Subsequently JMG had input them. There was neither openness nor transparency in the process. JMG explained the process she had followed. Rupert Frost asked how Kirkwells (Consultants) had independently verified the feedback forms.

(MotP) M Holliday asked how Kirkwells could confirm the validity of the feedback when the original forms were never sent to them. ToG responded by explaining the process followed.

(MotP) K Edwards added that the system for feedback is clearly flawed in terms of input, workshop analysis and Kirkwells validation.

ToG responded by explaining the process that had been followed.

JMG stated that GE had advised of 11 mistakes in input / analysis, 3 of which, on the advice of Kirkwells Consultants, had been accepted and changed.

(MotP) M Holliday asked why Parish Council had chosen not to comment on the DDC Settlements Hierarchy, given that ToG had implied a greater risk to Staverton of being classified a 'Secondary Service' village at the Consultation event.

ToG responded that this item would be discussed under 3.4.

(MotP) G Walters asked why the Parishioners were never given the option to vote on a 'No Sites' option to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan - only for the 3 specified sites. He then asked for more honesty in future from the Parish Council.

SF gave her personal view on the current events

3. BUSINESS

3.1 Village Petition - GE JFG & JMG had validated all 107 respondents to the petition. 104 against sites being included, and 3 for sites being included in the Staverton Neighbourhood Development Plan.

JMG has 12 anomalies to confirm - people who had signed the petition for no sites, but the analysis of feedback form had been interpreted as that they were either for sites or had no view. From the Feedback Forms 41 were for sites and 55 against. When the petition is included then 41 (27%) are for sites and 109 (73%) are against the inclusion of sites. This information has been sent to Kirkwells.

JMG then read out a response from Kirkwells saying that the final decision lies with the Parish Council, but they recommend that no sites should be included within the Neighbourhood Plan.

There was then a discussion regarding the petition. Rupert Frost explained that it was a survey and essentially undertaken due to no mechanism for Parishioners to give their view on a 'No sites' option being offered by the SPC.

3.2 Adoption of the Parish Newsletter – Deferred.

3.3 JFG asked to be disassociated from ToG's previous emails to Rupert Frost as ToG had not had the SPC's authority to send them.

TWG reminded everyone that all letters should be sent via the Parish Clerk.

JMG then read out an email from Tom James (Head of Planning DDC) regarding the inclusion or removal of sites at Regulation 14.

3.4 Settlements and Countryside Local Plan Part 2 Hierarchy Paper

JMG stated that the PC had failed to respond when invited to do so by DDC

JMG had recently investigated the process advising that there were 2 forms to complete covering the Framework & Content. These are on the DDC website. The PC will hold a workshop to work through our response (deadline for consultation feedback 26th Jan 2018). JFG queried why JMG had undertaken this, as it had previously been tasked to GE to correspond with DDC.

(MotP) K Edwards said that the PC should obtain written confirmation from DDC that they can still comment on the Settlement Hierarchy. JMG responded that the relevant forms can be downloaded from the DDC Website

JFG Proposed that GE writes to Tom James at DDC to obtain written confirmation that comments can be put forward from SPC.

GE seconded. All in favour - Carried

4 STAVERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

4.1 Process Summary – Done

4.2 Policies – Done

4.3 Summary – Done

4.4 JMG Proposed that the draft SNDP & Supporting Documents are sent off for the Health Check, SF seconded. All in Favour – Carried

4.5 Health Check – Deferred

4.6 Feedback Analysis - Covered in detail earlier

4.7 A discussion took place regarding the proposed Traffic survey. JFG stated that the SNDP committee had already passed a resolution, and J Vale read out the relevant minutes. A date as soon after 8th Jan 2018 as possible was agreed (weather permitting). ToG then asked for the locations for the 3 surveys.

TWG proposed A425 near Skylarks Farm, A425 Daventry side of the Staverton Hotel, and on the A425 near the Countryman Inn. SF seconded. All in Favour - Carried

J Vale will arrange the date and exact locations ASAP

4.8 JMG advised that the consultants' brief (Kirkwells) had been agreed by the Parish Council. Any work outside the brief would be charged at £50 per hour. ToG advised that the public are free to communicate with the consultants. However the Parish Council would not be able to pay any costs incurred. JMG said it would be preferable for all communication to go via the Parish Council. JFG felt that this was not good enough as he had requested a copy of earlier correspondence over seven days ago, which he had not yet received. No one Councillor had been appointed to engage in this correspondence and it should therefore be dealt with by the Clerk. All Councillors should be provided with copies of all correspondence on this issue.

In response to a question from a member of the public, TWG agreed to provide the current total spend with consultants at the next meeting of the PC (Tuesday 2nd Jan 2018).

JFG requested that an agenda item be included on the Jan 2nd meeting to formally appoint an SNDP co-ordinator. JMG stated that she copies all the consultants' correspondence to both the Clerk & the Chair.

5. FINANCE

IW asked that it be recorded in the minutes that he has paid back to the Parish Council the cheque he received in payment for an ink cartridge.

5.1 TWG read out the CIL report. Current balance £1,011.65. The PC has another 4 years to spend it or return it to DDC. TWG proposed that the CIL report is submitted, GE seconded All in Favour – Carried

The Chair closed the meeting at 9:28 pm and thanked the members of the public for their attendance.