

Notes of a Meeting held by Zoom on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **Sutton Benger Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

**Attending:** Nicola Hayward, Ruth Gaunt, David Thomson, Martin Verspeak, Phil Llewellyn,

Peter Oldale, Mike Hogben: Neil Roydon

### **Minutes**

We looked at and approved the minutes of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and the meeting with Wiltshire Council on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Matters arising were taken as the main agenda items for this meeting.

### **Designation as a Large Village**

Concern was raised that our designation as a Large Village left the parish open to more development than it might hope for, So, it was agreed to investigate this designation and challenge it if appropriate. The previous listing may well have been made before the chicken factory redevelopment as housing, since the number of residents seems low and the number of jobs seems very high. As the Local Plan was under review, and there was a section on Empowering the Local Community, the timing might be right for a new approach. David agreed to pull out the factors and the current scoring, before discussing it with Ruth and then opening it up for a wider discussion.

Consultation on the Local Plan issues for the rural areas, beyond the identified development centres, is being arranged for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February. **Nicola** and **Ruth** have already asked to be included, and it was suggested that **Martin** (Monday) and **David** (Tuesday) might also apply so that we have the discussion covered.

### **Community Engagement**

The website has been reviewed, and **Martin** will be sending round his proposed text. We agreed that our names should be on the website, but that contact should be through a generic e-mail address, [sbndpgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sbndpgroup@gmail.com) **Nicola** will check that this address is still valid and let us know how we can get into it to read messages and reply.

Other formats for engagement will be available, and until the Parish Magazine is available again, we will consider posters. We will do a simple poster giving the same updated message as the website and FB page for immediate distribution. Going forward we will look at doing posters giving details of the suggested Green Spaces, asking for community input. Thereafter specific updates or milestones can be published. Phil has A3 printing capability. **Nicola** will update the Facebook pages, and we talked briefly about using the "Witchety Tree" as a common identifier (if not necessarily a logo).

### **Housing**

Phil had spent the time since the last meeting absorbing the housing info and understanding our current level of information and our currently unactioned actions. Nicola suggested he might use the model from the Ashbury Neighbourhood Plan (Ashbury Parish in the Vale of White Horse District Council). It was agreed that he should focus on the evidence and see where that leads to in terms of policies.

## Green Spaces

Peter had taken an overview to identify Green Spaces on the Wiltshire Map and other updates. In terms of next actions **Peter** asked the NDP team to review the 'Green Spaces in 'Greenspace Skeleton Suggestion doc.' (pages 2,3 and 4) and to give feedback by next meeting. These were also shown on the **Map: Sutton Benger Existing Open Space (Updated April 2020JW.pdf)** and the **Map: Sutton Benger Improvements (Updated April 2020 JW.pdf)**. These are all on shown on the link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VAeTgigcQZvlQ4y0GMHyrMjHNGI80XPG> In terms of what makes a Gren Space, it appears that there must be easy public access; the land must be special to the local community; and it must be local in character. So, there may be formal - chosen – sites and some informal, but favourite, sites for a limited number of people. We are still hoping to get the results of this work completed by the end of February. The Parish Council has access to a mapping tool which may prove useful.

## Character Appraisal

After some discussion we agreed that we need a skeleton NDP – chapter headings and the like – and that **Nicola** be asked to provide this. This would identify missing chapters and perhaps topic papers, but it was noted that much of what we might need is already available. This additional information would lead to an update and partial rewrite of the NDP itself. **Nicola**, with support from Mike, would look to the headings and topics from the Ashbury Neighbourhood Plan.

## Next Meeting

This meeting ended at 7.25pm and we agreed to reconvene again on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm.

David Thomson  
3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

(Note:- Where your name has been **emboldened**, it implies there is an action for you)