Notes of a meeting held by Zoom on Tuesday 22nd March 2022

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

Attending: Nicola Hayward; Peter Oldale; David Thomson, Martin Verspeak

**Apologies**; Neil Roynan and Ruth Gaunt

**Minutes** – of the meeting on 8th March 2022 were approved and David was asked to send a copy of these to Martin for the website.

**Vision and Objectives –** We looked in some detail at the changes recommended by Bluestone. The primary reason for changes were to ensure the linkages were there between the Vision and Objectives and this would lead down to Policies in the future. We discussed a few and got our heads round some of the terminology, accepting that the Group could do little to deliver most of this and similarly the Parish Council would not be able to bring forward much of this work. However, we would be able to use it to encourage others to deliver and to guide those who might otherwise work against the vision. This was particularly the case for the community aspirations which were highlighted.

**Housing Needs Survey** – The full draft (confidential at this stage) report was discussed and although some of the answers seem to have been led by the way the question had been put, it was agreed that the conclusions were similar to the results from five years ago. This showed very little latent demand even for affordable housing, and so was generally supportive to the approach the group had been taking. **David** was asked to return the draft and ask Wiltshire Council to proceed to publication.

**Viewpoint assessment – Martin** and **Peter** would aim to get out and take some photographs in the next couple of weeks, so that we can get moving on the characteristics of each view. It was noted that the views should only be taken from publicly accessible points, although they may include sites within or upon private land.

**Green Spaces** – With guidance from Peter, we looked at the various scores to the attributes that he had assigned on the group’s behalf. We worked through some in detail and were content that the approach used by Peter was sensible, pragmatic and reasonable, and we were happy with the scoring. All the sites identified were above the threshold set in guidance. **Nicola** indicated she would tidy up some of the formatting of the document (particularly the scoring colours). Peter was asked if there were any items he was uncomfortable with, and we spent some time talking about land adjacent to the Bell Hotel car park. In other locations where the owner of the land had responded negatively, but constructively, it was felt there was a good understanding of the issues – and they might have to be dealt with in detail at the Examination. However, proposals to designate land at The Bell as Green Space had received a more emotional response which had made the situation difficult. We agreed we should not back out of the suggestion just because it was difficult but did agree to look again to see how much benefit there would be achieved in its change of designation.

**Appeal on Church View** – Wiltshire Council had written to the Parish indicating that an appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate in respect of the proposal to construct up to 24 dwellings on land to the east of Church View, Sutton Benger. The appeal would be held by way of written representations. A response, if required, would be needed by 15 April 2022.

**Funding** – Nicola had received a note from Linda to explain that the NDP expenditure, set against funding allocated, needs to be sorted out for this financial year and any underspend returned. Nest year’s expenditure would form part of a new bid, although it was understood that monies would be forthcoming for projects in progress. **Nicola** would have to seek clarification from Bluestone on the amount spent and the amount still required to finish ethe work.

**Next meeting** – we agreed to meet in two weeks’ time - on Tuesday 5th April 2022 at 6.30pm.

The meeting ended at 7:55pm

David Thomson

23rd March 2022

(Note:- An **emboldened name** implies there is an action for you)