

BURBAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING PARTY

GROUP MEETING via ZOOM CONFERENCE

September 3rd, 2020 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

1. Members Present: Cllrs Richard Flemming [Chair], Paul Williams, Howard Wilkins, and Mary Sherwin,
In Attendance: Debbie Shaw, Philip Crowfoot and John Hayes.
2. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Keith Lynch, Mike Hall, and Lucie Hoelmer.
3. Minutes of meeting held 13th August 2020: It was agreed by all present that the Minutes of the meeting held 13th August 2020 be accepted as a true record of said meeting.
4. Matters arising from these Minutes: There were no matters arising
5. Chairman's report:
 - 5.1 Locality confirmed there could be £7.5K to apply for to complete the NHP task and would have to be used by 31st March 2021, otherwise any unspent funding would have to be returned. As there remains circa £8.0k in the Parish budget that is still available, Paul Williams proposed to use the remaining funds of the Parish Council allocation and not the Locality funds at this time , and if needed, apply for the Locality fund in Spring 2021.
THIS PROPOSAL WAS PUT BEFORE THE MEMBERS WHO VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO FOLLOW THIS ACTION AND CURRENTLY NOT TAKE UP THE LOCALITY FUNDING.
 - 5.2 Ecological Surveys:
It was agreed that some of the Burbage Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan funding balance could be used for more surveys, but it was deemed necessary to check with Leicestershire County Council ecology survey department as to costs and time element for a new survey of Burbage [possibly highlighting the most important sites first].
6. HBBC response to questions posed 4th September 2020
The Chairman was able to provide the meeting with the following responses to questions he had posed to HBBC regarding the review of the Burbage Neighbourhood Plan.
 - Q. Could Burbage have a separate Service Level Agreement [SLA] to other Parish's due to size and residential numbers?
 - A. The SLA must be identical to other groups of Parishes, e.g. Market Bosworth. However, as Burbage Parish Council already has an agreed SLA there will be no need to complete a new one, just amend where needed, i.e. the timetable to complete the review.
 - Q. Can Burbage Parish Council continue to use John Preston at Rural Community Council (RCC)?
 - A. RCC will be available for advice, etc. up to the Regulation 14 stage, also assist with project management, finance and planning issues. Consultation to build a robust and evidence-based report/plan.
 - Q. Can Burbage Parish Council use a planning consultant to assist in the review of its current Neighbourhood Plan?
 - A. Yes, if needed. HBBC confirmed that it probably would be advisable to seek the assistance of a qualified planning consultant.
IT WAS AGREED BY ALL MEMBERS TO SEEK A SUITABLE PLANNING CONSULTANT TO ASSIST WITH THE REVIEW OF SAID PLAN.

Due to the lack of information from HBBC on housing numbers for the local plan, Cllr Williams requested that the NHPWP, on behalf of Burbage Parish Council, formally write requesting the housing assessment needs numbers from HBBC, and if no response is provided, continue asking on a regular basis, say six monthly.

7. The Chairman has received from Locality a summary of its interpretation of the recent Government White Paper title "*Planning for the Future*", which is as follows:

- The scope of the Local Plan [LP] may be reduced.
- LPs may no longer allocate specific land for development. Automatic planning in growth areas. More likely to contain design plans, i.e. Local Authorities will not have the last word with housing allocations.
- Neighbourhood Plans can have design codes rather than housing numbers.
- Neighbourhood Plans cannot allocate land/houses.

There is also a parallel second consultation document about the period up to the *Plan for the Future* White Paper, 'kicks in', which could be in 2 - 3 years.

However, HBBC's anticipated housing need of 4500 dwellings borough-wide could double with an emphasis of moving new housing development from the city to the shires and from rural to urban areas.

Between now and the referendum it was agreed that the Burbage Neighbourhood Plan needs to concentrate on wildlife, housing design and environment matters, e.g. the wildlife corridor which will need defending [CHECK WITH SURVEYORS AND THE EXISTING CRITERIA 2013]

Philip Crowfoot requested that perhaps Lucie Hoelmer could contact Sue Timms [LCC] on any availability to do surveys [subject to there being no conflict of interest for Lucie]. There are 4 sites that were not accepted due to historical information and outdated information.

8. NALC reports [see reports 10-20/11-20/12-20]

Discussion took place regarding the NALC consultation papers 10-20/11-20 and 12 -20. It was agreed by all present that due to the complexities of the questions and answers required, advice will be taken from HBBC and the NHP WP will endeavour to provide a response by September 17th, 2020. The Chairman agreed to write to HBBC requesting sight of its responses to the NALC questionnaires.

Debbie Shaw had started that a response to another NALC documents is required by 29th October, 2020, therefore it was agreed discuss these papers at the next group meeting.

9. Meeting closed at 9.17 pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday, October 15th @ 7.30 pm.