



**APC - NOTES OF MEETING ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015,**  
**FIRST COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP MEETING**

This meeting took place at the Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Rachel King (RK), Project lead  
Carol Henderson (CH)  
Hazel Allinson (HA)  
Geoff Conlon (GC)  
Tim Simpson (TS)  
Leigh Cresswell LC)  
Vicky Spiers (VS), Clerk  
Ros Simpson (RS)  
Glenys Rowe (GR)  
Mike Toynbee (MT)  
Rob Pritchett (RP)  
Sue Wood (SW)  
Katie Ohno (KO)

Apologies received from Geoff Uren and Jason Charman

CH opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She advised that herself, HA and TS had attended a Neighbourhood plan (NP) training course that day run by South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) and they had obtained lots of information and tips!

CH advised that with the NP will be Parish Council lead but will need lots of help from the Community Working Group (CWG) and the wider community.

CH explained why APC decided on a NP rather than a Community Plan, as a NP is a legal statutory planning document, which means any planning applications will have to go through NP.

Future planning decisions – we need to be mindful of several things, the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (issued by SDNPA where land within parishes in the Park can be put forward for consideration by SDNP for future housing development) and that there are three large fields in the middle of the Parish owned by Horsham District Council (HDC).

CH advised that APC had come up with 5 separate themes to focus on for our NP;

1. Housing
2. Environment
3. Facilities, Transport and Services
4. Employment and Tourism
5. Historic Environment

There will be two Councillors heading up each theme with help from members of the CWG.

GR pointed out that some of the themes overlapped i.e. Housing with facilities, CH agreed that yes they would.

CH talked through the process and publicity of the NP, with regard to timescales, we need to have first draft of NP to SDNPA by end of 2015. We need to engage with the community and that we need the CWG to help us do this. One way we will do this is a Questionnaire to each household.

CH advised that there will also be a public referendum where the residents vote on whether to accept the NP, need 50% to agree to get the plan through and to give it legal force.

CH also advised that there will be a leaflet drop happening in next couple of weeks to every household which will what a NP is etc.

Will also be in Parish magazine – Mike Toynbee brought copy of adverts with him and passed round. CH and HA will have a ‘pop up NP stall’ to take to community events to publicise.

CH, RK and HA then talked through the 5 groups in more detail;

### **1. Housing – run by Geoff Uren, Leigh Cresswell with CWG Members Rob Pritchard and Guy Leonard**

Amberley has no housing allocation from the SDNPA. Possibly need a housing survey to provide evidence of local housing needs. CH has asked Guy Leonard. APC hear a lot that people want to stay in Amberley but earn too much for the affordable housing but not enough to buy in Amberley.

- Need to think about what development Amberley wants/needs in the next 15 years
- Less expensive housing
- Key workers homes
- Design - update PADS

GR asked if the affordable housing had a good take up, CH advised that lots of people applied, some earned too much, local people were top of the list.

RP commented that PADS is 'silent' on a lot of the village – mainly focusing on the older part of the village – nothing on affordable housing. CH advised this would be updated as part of NP.

## **2. Environment – run by Geoff Conlon, Hazel Allinson and Jason Charman**

SDNP main priority is Landscape.

- Open spaces – rec, playgrounds, and football field etc.
- Access – footpaths & cycle routes
- Upgrade of Ruffs Path
- PROWs
- Flooding

We need some volunteers please!

RK advised that the NP will help us prioritise what Amberley wants when we apply for grant aid.

## **3. Facilities, Transport and Services – run by Tim Simpson and Carol Henderson with CWG members Glenys Rowe (school), Mike Wright (car park) and Roz Simpson**

School is on board for a new car park. Suggestion of a community centre in car park.

- Village car park and public lavatories
- Village school
- Rail & Bus
- Pumping Station
- Internet & Communication
- Churches
- Community Centre

## **4. Employment and Tourism – run by Rachel King and Hazel Allison with CWG members Mike Toynbee and Sue Woods**

Tourism important for SDNP. Hoping Sue can do a mini questionnaire for tourists at tearooms.

- Local Businesses
- Pubs
- Village shop
- Local economy
- Working from home
- B & B's
- Attractions –e.g. museum
- Information for tourists

### **5. Historic Environment – run by Rachel King with CWG member Katie Ohno**

English Heritage website lists everything that is Grade 1 or 2 listed building. Park has asked for a list of buildings that are important but not Grade 1 or 2 listed.

- Conservation areas
- Assets of Community Value
- Listed Buildings
- Churches

RK advised that this NP will be a blueprint for how the Community sees the village now and for the next 15 years.

In addition there will be a **Youth Group** – lead by Ros Simpson. Rachel Bishop will also help.

RK advised that we need additional people for each Focus group, and asked CWG that if a theme appeals to them or if they have ideas of other residents who might like to get involved, please speak to one of the councillors leading that group.

RK advised on the next stages, launch at the Museum on 28<sup>th</sup> March (GR asked if there would be transport there? CH advised yes – village bus can be used). First milestone before then would be for 5 focus groups to get together, using what we have talked about today and put more shape around it.

**The relevant Councillor(s) for each group will be in touch with all members of their Focus Groups to arrange a meeting before the launch on 28 March.**

RK advised looking at June to send out Questionnaire, this then gives April and May to look at themes/issues/ideas raised by the Community following the launch. We need to talk to lots of different groups, some already established in the school. If CWG has any ideas to let RK, CH or VS know.

MT asked if museum was open on 28<sup>th</sup> March, then could people have the option to wander round after the launch – may entice more families? HA will look into this.

SW asked if we were going to looking at the views of people who come into the village. CH and RK said definitely! CH asked SW if she could hand out a mini questionnaire to people who come into tearooms? SW agreed.

RK continued by saying that we need to be ready to write the plan by Sept/Oct, we can analyse results of questionnaire over the summer.

RK advised APC and CWG to meet at least monthly – she will send round list of dates for next meetings.

RK and CH thanked everyone for coming and CH closed the meeting at 8.55pm

V.Spiers (Clerk)  
3rd March 2015