

Long Melford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting Minutes

Held at the Old School Community Centre on Thursday 22nd July 2121 at pm

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action Required
1. Welcome & Apologies	JE chaired the meeting. Apologies from LT, JN & LM Present: JE, IM, JB, IB, DW, CW & JT	
2. Minutes of the previous meeting	Previous minutes and those from the two previous meetings are still with the Clerk. JE to obtain memory stick from the clerk to make other arrangements.	JE
3. Update on informal Regulation 15 Pre-submission consultation	IM, JE & DW. Informal submission was submitted to Babergh. IM advised they gave mixture of feedback on protocol/consistency and some substance and in most cases the wording will be amended accordingly. The policy map has also been altered and regarding the rural gap, we feel justified in our policy and will stand by this. Our wording re Chilton Woods is adequate.	
4. Anticipated timing for Regulation 15 submission	IM advised that Babergh seem keen to progress our plan in a timely manner.	
5. Website and full plan documentation update.	JE advised that Indigo Ross were sent amendments three weeks ago and he has received the update today. There are a couple of items to be amended and once this has been done, he will send a copy to the committee members. (Now Done) IM has created a 15-page document to demonstrate we have conformed to the NHP Basic Conditions. This will be updated on our website and will be ready for submission soon, along with a Statement of Consultation.	JE
6. Date for public meeting	There was some discussion regarding this item and it was finally agreed not to have a public meeting. We agreed we should announce the present position via Melford Matters, NHP Facebook page and Suffolk Free Press and that we would ask Babergh for assistance with the wording of the announcement, including the dates the Babergh consultation will take place,	JE

	as this consultation will be the opportunity for members of the public to comment again on the Plan and for others to comment.	
7. Bloor Homes Update	DW advised he watched the recent Babergh meeting live online. Councillors present raised questions regarding the dead-end roads and Councillor Malvisi gave a very good speech, making it clear that LMPC did not support the development. The decision was deferred as Babergh did not feel that Bloor's proposals were 'good enough'. Energy efficiently, water recycling, mix of housing, housing styles, a road crossing and the nursery location were all mentioned as lacking in the proposals from Bloor. The PC Bloor Group working party will compile a list of issues to raise and then arrange another meeting with Bloor to advise what the PC would like them to do and then submit this to Babergh.	
8. Cycle Path Project	JT advised that the LMNHP suggested four cyclepath routes were entered onto the Babergh Cyclepath/Footpath online consultation on the 6 th June 2021 and promoted on the LMNHP Facebook page and the LM Facebook page. The consultation has now closed and there were twenty-four suggestions made relating to the parish of Long Melford. The LMNHP suggestions received support from twenty-one individuals online. The active travel charter has not been progressed and will be worked on, but not urgent as our routes are with Babergh and will ultimately be logged with Suffolk Country Council by them. IM suggested that in the future we might be able to look at grants to have a joint project with SCC to expedite our routes.	JT
9. Biodiversity Group Update	JB advised that the group is increasing in size and have a presence on Facebook, including the LM & LMNHP pages. An application has been made for trees/hedging which is looking promising and volunteers are ready and waiting to plant. A project is underway with the aim of converting identified Babergh green spaces in the village into wild flower meadows and possibly private landowners too. This would involve scarifying and sowing seeds and residents will need to be briefed that this is no a 'no mow' policy and their support gained. The group is working with the PC and Country Park team and has arranged to clear the footpath and overhanging branches on the Melford Walk over the weekend 31 st July/1 st August and the drainage issues will be looked into. There has been community involvement from the Beavers, Cubs, School and it planned that the children will plant tree seeds for future	

	planting in the village and they will be encouraging wildlife into their own gardens. A grant of up to £1,000 is being applied for to help with the costs of this.	
10. AOB/Date of next meeting	JE will contact us with the date of the next meeting. JE to consult with Babergh regarding their timeline and we will hold our meeting when it is relevant to the next stage of the consultation process.	JE

JE	Cllr Jonathan Ewbank
LT	Cllr Lisa Tipper
JN	Cllr John Nunn
LM	Cllr Liz Malvisi
IM	Ian McDonald
JB	Jane Burch
IB	Cllr Ian Bartlett
DW	Cllr David Watts
CW	Chris Watts
JT	Julie Thomson