

**WOTWATA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP
MEETING NOTES: TUESDAY 10 JAN 2017, WALTHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Attendees

David Hill (DH)
David Lovegrove (DL)
Cllr Malcolm Mills (MM)
Glena Rowlands (GR)

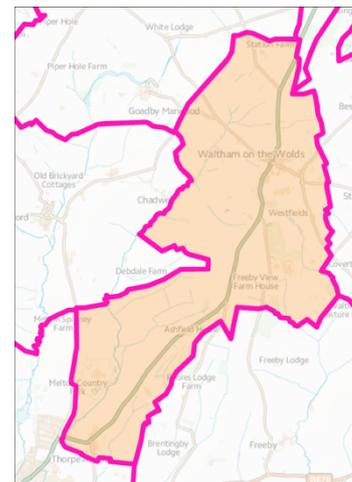
Gary Kirk (GK) – YourLocale
Cllr Martin Lusty (ML)
Cllr Peter O'Connor (POC)
Steve Ware (SW)

Apologies

Claudine Baxter (CB)

Copies to:

NP Group members, Derek Doran (DD), John Martin (JM) and James Beverley, MBC



1. Meeting aims

- Review the draft NP document prepared by GK.
- Plan required actions to refine and finalise the pre-submission Plan.

2. Update on progress

GK had, over the holiday period, drafted policies in areas other than Environment and had incorporated all the policies in an update of the whole draft NP document. He emphasised that there is still a lot to work on. The document had been circulated to everyone ahead of the meeting and the Group agreed that it was a very good basis for moving forward. GK lead us through it and we decided on actions required to finalise the pre-submission version. The target date for completion of that stage is **end-February** although we hope to improve on that.

3. Review of GK's latest draft

Forward: to be revised with less background, more explanation and encouragement for parishioners to approve. To be jointly from SW and ML. **Action: ML**

Background and context: These introductory sections are to be combined and reduced in length.

A Brief History: A shortened highlights to be included with the full text included with the Parish Profile as an appendix.

Vision and objectives: We had already drafted statements for both so we need to delve into the archives to recover them. **Action: ML (objectives – see Appendix A) and SW (vision)**

Policies – Strategy: All agreed. Additional justification is required for the Limits to Development (see Appendix B). Maps to be finalised by JM based on the final choice of development sites.

Built Environment: The whole section is to be reviewed and developed. **Action: SW with help from POC on the numbers and GR on Housing Design.** The Group discussed the advisability of introducing development sites not included in the pre-submission Local Plan. It was agreed that we should indeed do so based on the responses the November consultation. Careful wording will be required and use of 'reserve site' nomination was suggested. Improved maps will need to be drawn by JM. Other points relating to this section are:

Listed Buildings: Corrections are required to the listing (2 buildings in Thorpe Arnold are ascribed to Waltham). A recommended list of 'other significant buildings' is to be requested from the WLHG. **Action: DH**

Exception Site policy: It was agreed this was not required.

Windfall sites: We agreed to go forward with a Windfall Site definition of up to 5 dwellings.

Housing density: A recommended maximum net density of 30 dwellings per hectare is to be included.

Natural Environment: This section was well advanced. Minor corrections and refinements only are required. **Action: ML.** Points relating to this section are:

Environmental Inventory: To be placed in an appendix together with the scoring system.

Other sites of environmental significance: Map to be modified based on responses to the recent consultation.

Ridge and furrow: Conflict with the recommendation on development site 6 (off Mere Road) to be avoided.

Important views: Too many sites have been included and we need to be more selective. Photos to be taken. **Action: DL (TA) and ML (Waltham)**

Community facilities: We probably ran out of steam a little here! The section is reasonably complete with only minor refinements needed. GK is to be supplied with the PC report on High Street traffic. **Action: ML**

4. Formatting

ML volunteered to take care of collating and formatting the whole document, plus the inclusion of photographs. This will happen at the end of the process once the text is finalised. **Action: ML**

5. Next meeting: to be arranged. **Action: ML**

Appendix A: Objectives

These objectives, extracted from the NPG minutes of 27 June 2016, were previously agreed:

- Attract new developments that enhance the look and feel of our surroundings and complement our culture and heritage.
- Preserve our rural character, characterised by easy access to green spaces and open countryside.
- Mitigate the impact of development on traffic, flooding and infrastructure.
- Support thriving village amenities for all ages and social groups.

They were agreed in relation to site assessment but could be easily generalised.

Appendix B: Justifications for the Limits to Development

These justifications, also extracted from the NPG minutes of 27 June 2016, were previously agreed:

- Preservation of green space in and around the village; maintaining the open feel and easy access to the countryside that people value so much.
- Preventing development at the village fringes in areas with high-to-medium sensitivity (i.e. preserving the views of the village as part of the landscape and maintaining the important panoramas outwards from the village).
- Avoiding sprawl i.e. keeping development within easy access by foot or bicycle to the village amenities.