

**MINUTES OF MEETING 15.03.18**  
**Colerne Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

Time	7.30 - 10.30 pm	Location	Colerne Old School
Present	Steve Ayres (SA) Jacqui Bradburn (JB) Gary Brain (GB) Bob Child (RC) Bob Jones (RJ) Sue Jones (SJ) Jane Mellett (JM) Mary Mellett (MM) Peter Mellett (PM) Anne Nicholas (AN) Alison Turnbull (Guest speaker)	Apologies	George Batterham (GeB) Jeff Bishop (JB) Peter Brookes (PB) CT Crabbe (CTC) Tom Hall (TH) Brian Mathew (BM)
Next Meeting	<b>19th April 2018</b>	Chair: Recorder:	Jane Mellett Mary Mellett
Agenda	<p><b>Item</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Apologies</li> <li>2. Minutes of Last Meeting</li> <li>3. Matters Arising</li> <li>4. Feedback on meeting with Simon Smith</li> <li>5. Renewable Energy (15 minute brief with Alison Turnbull)</li> <li>6. Sites Report - Discussion and Approval requested</li> <li>7. Consultation Survey - update and discussion</li> <li>8. Planning for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exhibition, including first stages of design statement</li> <li>- Launch of survey</li> </ul> </li> <li>9. AOB</li> </ol>		

<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b> Minutes approved as a true record. Mary to publish minutes on website.	<b>MM</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HH confirmed that the report on the business survey would be presented at next meeting.</li> <li>- JM confirmed that Place would be continuing to work with the group in the new financial year.</li> </ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Feedback on meeting with Simon Smith</b> RJ, JB and JM attended meeting on 14.03.18 with Simon Smith (SS) (WC link person). JM to circulate report of meeting ASAP. It was revealed at the meeting, that	<b>JM</b>

	<p>contrary to information from DIO, the One Public Estate funding secured was £50,000 for an infrastructure survey of Colerne Parish and surrounding areas and the funding bid for an infrastructure survey of Chippenham area failed.</p> <p>New Wilts Local Plan (the next strategic plan) will take effect from 2026, which according to SS would be the significant policy for any development of the Barracks.</p> <p>SS's reaction to the Design Statement was discussed which led to a general discussion on whether the Design Statement should be integrated into the Plan (which would hold more weight but end when the plan ends) or be a stand alone item (which would exist ad infinitum). A vote was taken:</p> <p><b>Unanimous vote in favour of including the design statement as part of the NP, not as a separate document.</b></p>	
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Renewable Energy</b></p> <p>JM explained that local public opinion and appetite for renewable energy was not yet confirmed and that it would only be pursued further if the consultation survey returned favourable results.</p> <p>Alison Turnbull (AT) introduced herself: a Colerne resident, she has experience working in project development for renewable energy schemes for 25 years.</p> <p>SA and AT had met previously to explore the renewables options for Colerne:</p> <p><b>AT explained the following options:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solar farm at airfield could be a viable option</li> <li>- Wind not likely because planning restraints are prohibitive.</li> <li>- Anaerobic digestion and biomass is an unlikely option because transport links are not sufficient.</li> <li>- Hydro, no capacity. Questions were asked re possible hydro at Slaughterford Mill: AT suggested it isn't viable: scale too small, legislative issues, extraction licence and finance are prohibitive. However, there is local example - Bath and West community energy have a hydro system working at Bathampton Mill, but took long time to develop and Colerne Parish has no waterways of equivalent size.</li> <li>- Biomass (small scale) no experience. Anaerobic Digestion scheme is very fine tuned, quality of gas is an issue. Small development, would have to be a closed system, carefully managed. AT suggested not a likely option.</li> </ul> <p><b>Following Solar options debated:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AT suggested the most viable option for the community as a whole would be a ground mounted solar scheme.</li> <li>- Problems: planning, grid connection, need to sell power you generate.</li> <li>- The life-cycle assessment of solar is positive, it can be classed as sustainable. Biggest carbon footprint is from transportation from China, but after c. 7 years they pay this back in Carbon saved.</li> <li>- Breaking technology taking off is battery storage.</li> </ul> <p><b>Possible upcoming developments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On an individual scale, building regs. may change, which states that all new roof tiles must be integral PV.</li> <li>- Battery storage becoming increasingly viable.</li> <li>- Changes to legislation to allow supply licence to sell energy generated locally direct to local people (at present it can only be sold back into the grid). There is mounting pressure on Ofgem to change the law to allow distribution within a</li> </ul>	

	<p>local supply group.</p> <p><b>How to generate returns for the community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Smaller scale system potentially viable where community invests to put panels in a field and get around a 5% return on their investment selling energy back to the grid.</li> <li>- Airfield - A large site so larger returns but a grid upgrade maybe needed which is costly.</li> </ul> <p><b>In summary, AT suggested</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Colerne has the potential to do something with renewables, probably solar.</li> <li>- Battery storage has potential increase the options available.</li> <li>- Community involvement - potential for a community energy scheme - locals invest, own the project and get a return on their investment. Locals couldn't be consumers of their own power, because a supply licence or private wire are needed (not viable).</li> <li>- As a local example, The Bath and West Community Energy is an Industrial and Providence Society, similar to a Co-operative. Even with reduced feed in tariffs, Bath and West Community Energy get a 7% return. Contract for 25 years, 5% back to investors. There are also options for part return where individuals put a percentage back into community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Thanks were given to Alison for her time and expert knowledge</b></p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Sites Report - Discussion</b> A report examining the sites identified by: WC SHELAA, NP Call For Sites and SG survey was discussed.</p> <p>The sites group explained that the decision to include any of the sites in the NP cannot be taken until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wiltshire Council has advised on what level of Strategic Environmental Assessment is needed and an SEA is undertaken.</li> <li>- Local need is ascertained through the results of the Housing Needs Survey and NP survey.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unanimous vote in favour of investigating the viability of 5 sites detailed with WC</b></p> <p>SJ to liaise with JB to decide how and when to be in contact with David Way at WC.</p> <p>Question raised: If the survey supports gradual growth can the NP be used to limit the speed at which any development can occur? JB to advise.</p>	<p><b>JB</b></p>
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Consultation Survey - update and discussion</b> Peter Mellett, making progress - an A5 information booklet plus an A5 survey booklet to be produced integrating the comments submitted by SG in an edited and abbreviated form. Once PM has completed a draft, whole SG to meet to discuss (about 2 weeks from meeting).</p>	
<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Planning for:</b> - <b>Exhibition, including first stages of design statement</b> JM confirmed draft of the 'what is' Design Statement to be displayed at exhibition along with work prepared by GeB showing examples of different types of development that are happening around the UK. <b>Request for SG members to help manning the exhibitions on 21st and 22nd April And also for VH &amp; PC AGM on 22nd May.</b></p>	<p><b>GeB</b></p>

	<p><b>- Launch of survey</b> JM confirmed that she was handling the logistics of delivery and collection: Pinewood and Southwood will have a street warden, collection points at Guard House.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>AOB</b> Questions raised over the results of Housing Needs Survey - no news as yet re. when the results will be published by WC. <b>Date of next meeting: Thursday 19th April 2018</b></p>	