

**NOTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN TEAM MEETING  
HELD VIA ZOOM IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN SONNING ON MONDAY  
2 NOVEMBER 2020**

PRESENT: Jeremy Gilmore (Chairman NDPSG), Rebecca Bullard, Nigel Borshell, Trefor Fisher (SPC), Mike Hart (Society), Bob Hine (Society), Bob Hulley, Peter Morrison, Mark Sanders, Lesley Bates (Minutes).

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Tony Farnese (SPC) and Ian Runnals.

WELCOME. The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting. Mr Fisher said that the new Parish Councillor Andy Halliday was keen to join his group and this was welcomed.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (5 October 2020). The minutes, having been circulated were taken as read.

The Chairman said that David Woodward (Eye & Dunsden) had been assisting other parishes, in particular Kidmore End, in producing their plans.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION AREA.

Mr Hart hadn't been able to produce anything so far but had been looking through other plans

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. Mr Sanders said that the first draft and questionnaire would be ready the following week for comments. Mr Sanders said that people's perception of development were different, he had spoken to Westy (Sonning Church), who had been engaging with young people. Mr Sanders said that he felt that electronic questionnaires wouldn't reach everyone, and he would be happy to help deliver paper copies. Mr Morrison asked if Mr Sanders had started from scratch. Mr Sanders explained that he had downloaded quite a few examples of Questionnaires, some of which included responses. Many were similar to each other. Mr Hine said that 17 pages of questions might be a bit daunting, but it would be possible to just use examples that applied to Sonning.

LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENT. Mr Borshell had looked through a of Questionnaires and thought some too long, there were however some that related specifically to Sonning. The Hurst version wouldn't take anyone too long to complete as most required yes or no answers, Mr Borshell's only criticism was that some were leading questions and would provide the answers they wanted.

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY Mrs Bullard said that she had sat down with Mr Gilmore and found that Facebook and Sonning Buzz people had signed up after reading the information there. Allison Halliday had a market research background and would be a useful contact and Mrs Bullard would be keen to involve Alison once the questionnaire was in place and others had shown an interest in assisting. A seperate focus group to review the questionnaire to see if it reflected their view of Sonning might be helpful. It was agreed that this would be very helpful. Mr Borshell said that he would appreciate Mrs Halliday going over the questionnaire to ensure it was homogeneous. The Chairman asked if a different questionnaire should be produced for different age groups. Mr Hine felt that the questionnaire ought to be inclusive, everyone's view was important, and the questions had to be kept short or simple. Mr Hart was concerned that everything could get too complicated. There was a short discussion about how the questions would be weighted, should a 16-year old's answer carry as much weight as a 75-year-old. Mr Morrison said the replies from different age groups would be different, how would

the views of two different age groups be picked up. Mr Borshell suggested a note accompanying the Questionnaire to say that further copies were available. Mr Hart felt that younger people's views on development were more important therefore one Questionnaire per person rather than per household would be appropriate and it would be useful if the age of the respondent were known. If 50% of the community wanted development in a particular area, then WBC would have to take this on board. Mr Fisher said that some people may not want any development and Mr Hart said WBC would have to accept that. The possibility of people filling more than one form was mentioned but Mr Fisher said that in Hurst each Questionnaire had an ID. Mr Fisher thought that knowing the age group was important but this was likely to add to the workload. The Chairman said that his preference was for one copy per household initially but with additional copies available on request.

TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE. Mr Fisher said that he had been working on the transport side and was about to circulate to his group. Mr Fisher wondered about Infrastructure and what might be included, perhaps communication, utilities, green space, buildings of particular interest such as Pearson Hall, Sonning Church, pubs the pavilion and did it overlap the work being covered by a different group. Mr Hart said that he was puzzled about which questions to ask and the Chairman said that it was possible that the Questionnaire might just be asking what residents wanted to change in Sonning. Mr Hart asked if one question might be how do you value King Georges Field and another might be how respondents saw the school developing. Mr Hulley asked if the intention was to ask people to put a value on things and if so, who judged value. The Chairman said that it was possible to put a second, more detailed questionnaire out, depending on the results of the first. Mr Borshell suggested a question asking if there were enough green spaces and work from there, another might be were more footpaths wanted, once the answers were received the next steps could be agreed. Mr Hulley asked if the school grew how would pupils get there, as pupils were likely to travel from outside Sonning. The Chairman said that careful consideration should be given to setting the questions, it wasn't for the Working Group to decide the school's future. Mr Borshell said that once the answers had been received and a draft put together then the bus company could be asked about the impact this might have on them.

PARISH MAP. The Chairman asked if there was any other material WBC should be asked to supply but it was agreed that there was not. The Chairman said that volunteers were needed to review the draft Questionnaire, he would check the list showing those who had signed up. There was some discussion about the timing. After Christmas was the general consensus, given the time limitations, and the aim would be to have the Questionnaire ready for distribution by the New Year. It was agreed to aim for the end of November to have each groups' draft questions completed so they could be turned into the draft Questionnaire for the test group to review as soon as possible. Mr Borshell offered to read through other groups drafts if requested. Mr Hart didn't think his group would have many questions and Mr Fisher said that he hoped Mr Halliday would be able to assist him and the Chairman agreed to contact Mr Halliday.

WHAT ELSE. Mr Borshell said that it would be worth asking Mr Driver to look over the draft, the Plan wasn't just about the village but the wider parish. Mr Hully would take another look at the Hurst version. Mr Fisher said that he would like the answers on transport to be of the 'strongly agree/agree/don't agree' style although he would defer to Mrs Halliday's view on this.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING. The next meeting would be held on Monday 30 November at 6.45 pm, immediately following the planning meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.05 pm.