

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meetings/Coronavirus

Following the revised Coronavirus policy that was introduced yesterday and adopted by the Parish Council in the Parish Meeting last night

I have copied below extracts from the Parish Meeting. The Parish Council has with immediate effect cancelled Planning and NP steering Group Meetings. It is expected that Gov.UK will also cancel all full Parish Meetings in new guidelines that are expected to be issued on Thursday of this week

This does not mean no work can be undertaken on the NP but there will need to be a co-ordinated approach, without meetings and the Chairs of the steering groups will provide more information once a revised approach is agreed.

- 9.3 MEETINGS - Unless there is a relaxation in National Government policy, Parish Meetings have to be open to the general public.
- 1. With immediate effect cancel all Planning Meetings and postpone the start Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group meetings until further notice. Therefore the Parish Council would only hold full Parish Meetings, The APM and the Annual General Meeting unless granted permission to cancel.
- 2. Clerk to request that Parish Meetings and the AGM are moved from the Committee Room to the Main Hall. This may require revised dates and Parish Meetings may need to take place on days other than just Mondays. Agendas and signs on the door would make it clear to Members of the Public that The Parish Council hold no supplies of hand gel and alcohol wipes for those attending public meetings
- Resolution - Cancel future Planning meetings
- proposed by Cllr P Walsh Seconded Cllr P Sibley – All in favour
- Resolution - Postpone until further notice NP steering group meetings

Proposed Cllr P Sibley Seconded Cllr Mrs D Dearden All in favour

- 42/03/2020 11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – see agenda item 9.3(1)
- i) Update to The Terms of Reference for the NP – Proposed Cllr P Sibley Seconded Cllr P Walsh – All in favour (*for info this was the change of numbers in each steering group to allow all volunteers to take part*)
- ii). The Parish Councillors held a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) committee meeting on Monday 2nd March. Councillors were pleased to see the level of support and agreed to increase the number of members of public and the POW+R in each of the steering groups to include all those who expressed an interest. This will ensure the process can move forward more quickly and remove the need for a 'selection' process. It was important to ensure that each Steering Group had a good cross section of skills and knowledge. Where a volunteer expressed an interest in a particular group Councillors have tried to accommodate this. Once

individuals have confirmed their willingness to participate in the Steering Group that they have been selected for it should be possible to 'firm up' the groups. It may however be necessary to make some small changes to the groups if some volunteers now decline to be involved. The Chairman of each of the Steering Groups will be contacting the volunteers from the list of residents and members of the POW+R. **Members of a Steering Group must complete a Code of Conduct form before joining a steering group.** Code of Conduct forms are published and viewable on the Parish Website for transparency purposes .

- The clerk has emailed EDDC for details of the new lead for NP's in EDDC . A meeting with the new lead is now on hold due to Coronavirus restriction
- The Councillors would like to see the NP brought to completion as soon as it is possible and had hoped to complete the process by the end of the financial year. The timescales will now very much depend on the impact of the rapidly changing Coronavirus Restrictions and the need to cancel meetings of the steering groups/public meetings and a public referendum. Elections for Town and Parish Councils are currently postponed for 12 months and it is expected that the NP public referendum will fall into this category as it is facilitated by the EDDC electoral team. On this basis this the NP could now not be completed in the financial year 2020/21.

Thank you for your understanding

Kevin Finch

Parish Clerk

Dated 17th March 2020