

Wickhambrook Neighbourhood Plan
Working group meeting
7.00 to 9.00 pm Tuesday 31 January 2023
NOTES

1: Attendance:

- Those present: Tracey (Chair), Roger, Penny, Emily, Di, Tara, Sue and Richard
- Apologies: Sandra, Maro and Jamie

2: Minutes of previous meetings

- We agreed these as a fair record and there were no matters arising
- **Richard to send notes from 13 December to Hilary for website**

3: Report and update from the Parish Council

Tracey reported the following updates from the Parish Council:

- The planning application at Aldersfield Place Farm in Ashfield Green will be going to appeal
- Tracey has updated the PC with news of progress from the WNPWG

4: Report and update from online meeting with Ian Poole

Tracey, Richard and Hilary met with Ian on Teams on Monday 30 January 2023:

- Ian had met with West Suffolk who confirmed that the Local Plan will now move more slowly – aiming now for consultation phase in winter 2023
- This gives a little more time for the Neighbourhood Plan
- AECOM had provided some outline development proposals for site 4.12a – however:
- West Suffolk planners had looked in more detail at site 4.12a – they now want to give the southern section of the site over to drainage and a pond so want no buildings there
- West Suffolk want only small-scale buildings in mixed use Class E – for example, single storey farm outbuilding style
- These preferences may also mean there will be space for fewer houses – for example, 35 or 36
- West Suffolk willing to support proposals to have part of the site managed by a Community Land Trust to provide affordable homes (maybe 12 to 15) for use in perpetuity by people with strong local connections
- Any access road to the site will not come via the Claydon access road (used by heavy vehicles) – vehicular access would be via a new opening off Bunters Road
- There may be pedestrian and cycle access at Thorns Corner

In discussion we noted:

- PC is in touch with Lavenham Community Land Trust to share experiences and ideas
- To provide firm evidence, we can ask the village as part of our consultation if mixed use in Class E is wanted
- We can ask if village residents want allotments
- AECOM will provide revised outlines taking account of above points for mid-February – we can then take these outlines to consultation with the village

- Ian can help to prepare leaflets and display boards etc

Ian had received a draft of the Landscape Appraisal for all the sites around the village considered at Issues and Options. **Richard to circulate to group. Everyone to read and send comments back to Richard.** We can then have a Teams meeting with the report's author.

We noted a likely new timescale for future work for the group:

- Consultation on development briefs (with villagers and owners of site 4.12a) during February and March 2023
- 'Pop-up' events should begin after meeting of Parish Council on 23 February
- Neighbourhood Plan draft text to go to PC in early May (e.g. 8 or 11 May)
- Neighbourhood Plan consultation with village end of May
- Launch event and referendum at Annual Parish Meeting by start of June 2023

5: Planning for phase one consultation with village – the site

In addition to putting material into publications like The Scene and the Parish Pump, we discussed a number of options for 'pop-up' events at, for example:

- 'warm place' lunches
- fire brigade recruitment events
- Sunday events – the vegetable stall and farmers' markets
- the MSC on Saturdays when the fish and chip van is operating
- village clubs and societies including the horticultural society or yoga

We have funding for three short videos that could go online. These could be as simple as 'slide shows' of images (e.g. artists impressions of the AECOM development options and/or photos of the village) with a soundtrack. **Emily will locate the headings, titles and fonts etc we used in previous communications with the village.**

We discussed draft text prepared by Sue, Emily and Richard. We agreed:

- this is a 'catch-all' text that needs to be chopped up into various sections for different purposes (e.g. online information, leaflet, response sheet etc)
- questions about Community Actions should be presented separately (for example, as posters at an in-person community event)
- a brief leaflet should focus on site 4.12a, with questions for the village on the AECOM options, the 'mixed use' proposal, allotments and the idea of providing affordable homes via a Community Land Trust
- the leaflet version should have tick boxes in it so people can respond to AECOM outline development proposals etc
- the leaflet questions should also be available online for people who prefer to respond this way.

To facilitate hard copy returns of the leaflet:

- **Roger will check if we could fix a returns box outside the MSC**
- **Tracey will ask if we can put a returns box in the old phone box near the shop (which is a Parish Council asset).**

Richard, Sue and Emily will prepare a draft of the leaflet when we have AECOM's revised proposals for development options for site 4.12a.

We agreed that we should pay someone to deliver any leaflets around the whole parish.

6: Planning for phase two consultation with the village

We agreed to defer this to a future meeting.

7: Update on actions from previous meetings

Richard has opened two folders in Dropbox for photographs and invited members of the group to participate. It should be possible now for people to add photos in the shared folders up to their own storage limit. **Everyone please to check that the system works and to add photos in high resolution with a title to show location and date. Emily will prep an invite to encourage more people to add photos.**

8: Date and time of next meeting

- **7.00 pm Thursday 16 February 2023 (subsequently postponed)**