

Lound with Ashby, Herringfleet and Somerleyton Neighbourhood Plan

Minutes of Steering Group meeting held on Wednesday 15th June,
at Crown House, Somerleyton.

Present: Tony Wright, Jenni Livingstone, Maureen Gibbs, Chris Morris,
Paul Strowlger, Rita Flatt, Louis Smith, David Pugh, Nicky Mathers

Apologies from: Miles Thomas

1. Membership of Steering Group.

Gerda Gibbs has left the steering group as she has recently become Chair of Somerleyton Parish Council, and didn't feel she could do justice to both roles. She will still have an interest in Neighbourhood Planning and will follow our progress via the Parish Council.

David Pugh and Nicky Mathers were welcomed to the group.

2. Minutes from last meeting.

The minutes from the meeting held on 11th May as circulated were agreed.

3. Oulton's experience of Neighbourhood Planning.

Tony Wright talked about Neighbourhood Planning, and what Oulton village had done so far. He said the incentive for starting the plan was an application to build over 50 houses on a green field site close to a listed building. An initial open consultation meeting was held in 2014 at Oulton Community Centre to gather residents' views, and this was followed up in 2015 by a second consultation event. Oulton are using the views expressed at these meetings to develop a questionnaire which will be sent to all residents. Questions are being grouped into topics such as Housing & Planning, Health, Transport, Health & Education, and Environment. Businesses and other local stakeholders will also be consulted.

When the responses to the questionnaire are available, a planning consultant will be engaged to write the Neighbourhood Plan.

Tony stressed the importance of working closely with Waveney District Council, who already have a range of information we will need. This includes basic data from the 2011 census, a housing needs survey, an environmental survey etc.

He also stressed the need to document and record all the consultation events we hold as these form an important part of the evidence we have to include in our Neighbourhood Plan.

Oulton have already worked on their plan for over two years, and have are likely to need another year to complete it. A lot of commitment is required from Steering Group members.

4. Area Designation Form.

The area designation form has been received by WDC, who will now arrange a consultation to see if there are any objections to the area being proposed.

5. Project Plan.

Paul has drawn up a draft plan and explained that activities are grouped into phases. Each phase must be completed before moving on to the next phase. He agreed to arrange a meeting with Jo McCallum at WDC to make sure we are planning to do things in the correct sequence.

6. Publicity.

Some information about Neighbourhood Planning will be made available at Lound's village fete on 25th June. The objective is to publicise the fact that Lound and Somerleyton are starting the process of producing a joint Neighbourhood Plan. Similar opportunities to publicise the plan will taken by Somerleyton.

It was agreed that a documents archive would be set up on the Lound Parish council website, so that members of the public can access minutes of our meetings, and other documents relating to our Neighbourhood Plan. A link to this archive will be set up on the Somerleyton Parish website.

7. Next Meeting.

The next steering group meeting will be on Wednesday 20th July at 7.30pm at Lound Village Hall.