

Lound with Ashby, Herringfleet and Somerleyton Neighbourhood Plan

Minutes of Steering Group meeting held on Wednesday 5th September 2018,
at Somerleyton Village Hall.

Present: Jenni Livingstone, Maureen Gibbs, Chris Morris, Graham Nourse,
Miles Thomas, Paul Johnson, Jason Wharton, Paul Strowlger, Louis Smith.

Apologies: David Cook, Rita Flatt, Mike Brackenbury.

Copies of the minutes to go to the following who have agreed to help without attending all the meetings: Gerda Gibbs, David Pugh, Nicky Mathers, Richard Hartgrove.

1. Minutes of the last meeting.

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June were a fair record.

2. Informal meeting with WDC.

Jenni, Graham, and Louis attended an informal meeting at WDC on 16th July to discuss our draft Neighbourhood Plan. Dickon Povey, Jo McCallam and Rachael Tucker attended for WDC, with Dickon leading the discussion. We talked about each of our proposed policies, and Dickon suggested some changes to clarify and improve them. After the meeting Dickon typed up his comments on the proposed policies and on the draft plan in general, and sent them to us.

The descriptions of the existing villages included in our supporting evidence were particularly praised as a good starting point for our design briefs. The Steering Group expressed their thanks to Mike for researching and writing these descriptions.

3. Funding for Planning Consultant.

We have been awarded a new grant of £2030 from Locality.org to pay for a planning consultant to help with the completion of our plan.

We have also been awarded a technical support package to help with writing the design briefs, which are a key part of the plan. AECOM have been appointed by Locality.org to provide this support package.

4. WDC comments on draft plan.

There was a long discussion about the comments received from WDC. While some of the comments can be addressed by minor changes to the wording and layout of our plan, the proposed planning policies need more significant adjustment:

LAHS 1 Housing Mix. We have proposed that 50% of new residential dwellings should be 1 or 2 bedroom houses, but this could only be justified by a local housing needs assessment. It was agreed that we should revert to the Waveney housing mix policy, but try to include the need for small dwellings in the design briefs.

LAHS 2 Layout of development. Policy to be reworded to clarify that both public and private open space is required.

LAHS 3 Design of new developments. This policy to be rewritten when design briefs have been completed. We will need to go through the descriptions of the existing villages and pick out the key features which contribute to the existing character of the villages, and ensure that these features are taken into account in the design briefs.

LAHS 4 Green Space. This needs to be combined with LAHS 2.

LAHS 5 Public Rights of Way. Policy wording to be changed as suggested by Suffolk County Council.

LAHS 6 Parking. Leave our wording as it is.

LAHS 7 Community Facilities. Adjust wording as suggested by Dickon.

LAHS 8 Support for Business. Take out sentence on agricultural land. Adjust wording as suggested by Dickon.

5. Section 6 Housing.

This needs some redrafting, particularly from 6.3 onwards. Include the site for a new Somerleyton village hall and sports pavilion as a potential development site.

Section 6.4 should pick out the key elements of the existing design styles as described in the supplementary information.

Section 6.5 should consist of the design briefs which we hope to get from AECOM.

6. Views of Landowners.

It was agreed that the landowners of the proposed development sites would be asked if they had any design proposals to suggest.

7. Next Meeting.

The next Steering Group meeting will be on Thursday 4th October at Lound Village Hall, starting at 7pm.

Louis Smith