

## SHERSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

### Notes of meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7.30pm in Sherston Village Hall

PRESENT:

Mr J Matthews (JM) - Chairman  
Mrs Sarah Wood (SW) – Admin Support

<u>Representatives of the following</u>	<u>Groups/Organisations</u>
Mr J Knight (JK)	Sherston Allotments
Mr Freeth (NF)	Sherston Churches
Mr G Morris (GM)	Sherston Parish Council
Mr M Rea (MR)	Sherston Village Hall
Mr A Price (AP)	Sherston Scouts and Youth
Mr M Johnson (MJ)	Sherston Old School Committee
Dr P Petit (PP)	Sherston Tolsey Surgery
Mr C Minors (CM)	Wiltshire Council
Mrs Al Llewellyn Palmer (ALP)	Sherston Pre-School

Definitions: Neighbourhood Plan (NHP)

Two members of the public was at the meeting

Item
<p><b>42. Apologies for absence</b> Mrs I Johnston (IJ), Mrs H Quirk (HQ), Mr S Harvey(SH) Mr M Rea (MR) and Mrs J Curson (JC).</p>
<p><b>43. Matters arising</b></p> <p><b>43.1 Workshop Report</b> CM still working on finished document.</p> <p><b>43.2 Time Line</b> CM circulated timeline to group. Main changes to original time line is the target date is now June not May. Although still ambitious CM thinks that it is achievable. The group were all happy with the new date.</p> <p><b>43.3 NHP Area Designation Application</b> This was formally approved at the Parish council meeting in November. The form has been completed and signed and sent to Wiltshire Council. The next stage is to publicise the application. It will need to go on the website and notice boards to allow for comments. The consultation period will run for 6 weeks and it will have to be mentioned at the December Parish council meeting. <b>ACTION</b> - CM will give information to SW.</p> <p><b>43.4 SA/SEA Nominee</b> At last month's meeting JM volunteered to be the SA/SEA nominee. MJ has offered to help JM in this role. JM and MJ will be visiting Wiltshire Council within the week to discuss both the Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Strategic Assessment. They will also visit the estate department to clarify land owned by Wiltshire Council and any land put forward for possible development by local landowners.</p> <p><b>43.5 CABE</b> The Design Council have organised a free neighbourhood planning workshop for groups in the south west. The workshop will include presentations on what has been learnt from other projects across the country, opportunities to hear from local groups and dedicated one on one time with experts from the design council to discuss specific projects. The workshop is on 27<sup>th</sup> November in Swindon and MJ, JM and GM will be attending. <b>ACTION</b> – CM to resend agenda and information to attendees.</p>

#### **44. Draft Objectives.**

CM sent the Neighbourhood Plan draft objectives to the steering group (document 1) MJ and JM have looked at the document and made the following amendments:

1. Suggest changing the order of the objectives to give higher priority to those issues deemed most relevant to the village – see below.
2. Suggest adding at least 3 additional objectives – see below.
3. Suggest re-wording some of the objectives to make them clearer (more specific?) – see below.

#### **Objective 1:**

The Plan will support the provision of facilities considered important for a vibrant community.

#### **Objective 2:**

The Plan will ensure that all future development in the village is of the highest relevant standards.

#### **Objective 3:**

The Plan will facilitate opportunities for new and existing businesses and social enterprise that benefit the community and support the delivery of advanced fibre connectivity to all parts of the village.

#### **Objective 4:**

The Plan will provide for a limited amount of housing to meet an identified local need.

#### **Objective 5:**

The Plan will seek to provide for existing and future leisure, recreational, community, sporting and social needs.

#### **Objective 6:**

The Plan will facilitate measures for managing traffic in and around the village.

#### **Objective 7:**

The Plan will encourage the sympathetic management of the countryside surrounding the village so as to retain and/or enhance it's high quality, improve biodiversity and provide other longer term benefits to the local community.

#### **Objective 8:**

The Plan will encourage a move towards a low carbon economy which includes local food production and the generation of renewable energy.

#### **44.1 Draft Objectives discussion**

CM explained the nature of the process and the difference between policy and process will become clearer in due course. It is important to know what the objectives are so the policies can be based on them.

JM informed the group that the draft objectives are not intended to be a final version but a start for discussion. Not all the objectives will be in the plan and additional ones may become clearer further down the line. CM was happy with changes and informed the group that the list is a good starting base in which objectives will continue to change and evolve. CM suggested that 8 objectives could lead to 8 policies and asked if there was scope to combine a couple. What also has to be asked is can some of them can be achieved through Wiltshire's Core Strategy.

JM asked the group if it agreed in the order being changed, making the point that for Sherston protecting the community was a higher priority than more development. The group supported the new order. The discussion was that the objectives are very clear yet detailed and yes some objectives could be combined with others.

JM then asked if all major issues have been stated. AP thought that some areas objectives have been omitted such as thermal heating and asked was it because it had previously been discussed and dismissed or simply missed out. AP also mentioned that improved public transport should be on the list along with safer cycling. These points have been raised by

the scouts in their consultations; otherwise he believes the document is a good starting point.

The plan will be produced by Sherston not Wiltshire Council and the steering group should continuously consult with the public as objectives are realised, especially before the formal stage. Sites will have to be mentioned once they have been identified.

The steering group have been asked to discuss the plan with their separate groups as much as possible asking for feedback and ideas however more formal consultations will need to be undertaken in the new year. At the next public consultations the public will learn about what the objectives are, and what direction things are moving. This will allow for feedback and for them to comment on what they have heard.

JM reiterated that the list will evolve and change over the next few months. It was agreed that it should remain as it is so people can understand the objectives. It was also agreed to adopt the draft objectives as a discussion document to take further in future meetings. JM thanked MJ for all his hard work on the document.

#### **45. Site Identifications**

Maps of the village were circulated and Informal discussion took place regarding potential areas that might be viable for development. Discussion has already taken place between the PCC and WC regarding the redevelopment of the vicarage site and the PCC has notified the Parish council that the cemetery will be full within 5 years. Other sites to be considered are North End Gardens, Anthony Close, land between Easton Town and Home Farm, the allotment site and land behind the school.

Jo Curson will be vital not only with her experience with public consultations but when assessing the suitability of Anthony Close and Northend Gardens.

Potential sites like the allotment site will be supported or dismissed due to its key central location. JK reported that although an alternative site might be offered, it would be on the outer edge of the village thus not as accessible to plot holders, and many plot holders have dedicated many years to their plots.

MJ and JM are to talk to WC regarding land owned by them in the village such as behind the school and what land has been put forward by local landowners.

MJ informed the group that care has to be taken so not to panic people when discussing sites, but there must be no secrecy in the process. All ideas need to be explored carefully, tactfully and as openly as possible. Site identification and geography will be explored further at the next meeting.

#### **46. Future Actions**

1. JM to talk to J Curson about forthcoming consultations.
2. Members to discuss objectives and possible sites with discussion groups and report back at next meeting.

#### **47.AOB**

JM reported that on 2<sup>nd</sup> November officers from the department of Communities & Local Government came to discuss progress with members of the steering group and Chris Minors of Wiltshire Council. They were pleased with the progress of the plan and offered assistance in future if required. JM also met with Mr Don Foster who visited Malmesbury. He informed JM that more funding from his department may be possible.

#### **48. Time and Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be on 18<sup>th</sup> December. JM thanked all members for attending.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm. These notes were taken by Sarah Wood, admin support to the Steering Group.