

Sherston Neighbourhood Plan Review Working Party

Here are the notes of the meeting of the working group, held on 9th September 2024 at 7.30:

Present:

- Martin Smith (MS)
- Mike Johnson (MJ)
- Kath Talboys (KT)
- Catherine Stephens (CS)
- Ben Smee (BS)
- Tanya Burgess (TB)

Apologies:

- Nigel Freeth (NF)
- Richard Skeffington (RS)
- Jane Hirst (JH)

Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on 22nd July were approved.

Matters Arising:

Following the request for further information:

- Regarding the request to the Wiltshire Council for a housing needs survey template. **Action MS has yet not had a reply and will follow up.** It was also noted one of the proposed consultants might have a lead on this for us.
- MS was able to report that there will be no help from Wiltshire Council during our questionnaire and community consultation period proposed for September and October.
- MS reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Review Working Group files are now accessible on the Parish Council Share portal. With a good proportion of the group also on the PC, this was seen as satisfactory.
- A survey monkey licence will cost £99, **Action MS will seek PC approval for this cost to be covered at the September PC meeting.**
- MS has applied on the PC's behalf for the membership of the Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA); this gives a licence for use and publishing of OS maps for the reviewed plan.

Further Landowner further update:

- BS followed up with Green Square re Anthony's Close . He spoke to Eliza Garrett, and it looks like though there are areas they plan to improve, Sherston is currently not on any list for this to happen. Ben was passed to Sophie Palmer for further information. **Action BS will kindly chase up.**

Action NF will provide an update at the next meeting on any further landowner contact and potential sites.

Following the request for landowner questionnaires completions and responses received, the below is the current reach:

- The Kings (Tetbury Road) -confirmed
- G Alvis (Plot 9)- confirmed
- The Robinsons (Tetbury Road) -confirmed
- NF (Easton Town No 6 rear) -confirmed
- The Goldings (Sandpits Lane) -confirmed
- John Shipsey -declined
- Eric Mandell's' estate -still outstanding
- The Smith (top of Thompson Hill)- confirmed
- K Bird (Sopworth Road) -confirmed
- The Darcy's -still outstanding
- The Moulders -interest shown only
- The Thompsons (Grove Road)- still outstanding

In addition

- Diocese- no change

It was agreed there was enough interest to potentially meet the current additional target of 30 extra homes for the village and if proves necessary with the recent government change exceed this in future years if required.

Grant Funding

- There was a discussion on whether to complete the grant application, which may be up to £18,000 and would be instrumental to afford the technical consultants; or to work alongside the consultant appointment process, recognising proposed providers have offered assistance with the application. It was agreed CS and MJ to move forward on a draft application, which can have the proposed consultants review before the submission if this remains on offer. It is hoped that the application could be submitted by the end of September, with the likelihood that the decision would be late October/ early November.
- Four potential technical consultants have been approached, one did not wish to progress, one is yet to reply and two have offered their required submissions. The

two submissions were presented slightly differently, one on a daily rate (£578 x 23 days) and the second on a fixed rate task by task basis. Following discussion the task focused, though slightly more expensive, would be preferable. Depending on the level of success in grant funding this allows for task prioritisation and the consultants blending with the abilities of the group, dynamically revising actions as to the funds available. Their experience and this more collaborative approach noted in their submission. They are local (Wilshire based- Salisbury). Their cost was £16,500 but with a potential grant of £18,000 this was feasible and of no risk to the PC. MLP thus agreed by this group as the preferred provider and this to be taken to the PC meeting on Thursday. It was recognised the PC would hold the governance, contract and finance. This group as a task group of the PC to offer the operational support. MLP have supported Brinkworth and **Action MS will request feedback from a contact there.**

- If the grant and consultation appointment prove successful, the group proposed an introductory meeting with the consultants to clearly define working together. It was suggested that the PC are the lead but offer delegated powers to this group in line with the detailed actions in the proposal which will from the contract. MS and TB can be contacts for in-between meeting required decisions. There to be progress reports to the PC each month. There to be consultant attendance both in person and online with this group. It was suggested the PC may wish to consider aligning some budget to the Review in case funds received are not in full.

Community Engagement

- It was noted that it would be preferable to have the consultants on board for a community consultation event and process, including the questionnaire and multimedia approach (PC website, social media, Cliff Hanger etc). The community engagement thus to move from October to November.

AOB

- There is still no progress on the new surgery. There has been a meeting with MS and our new MP with the CEO of the ICB. The ICB acknowledged they are still wading through their estates toolkit to model services need to what they have. They appeared to be supportive of a new building but would not offer a timeline for a decision despite MS's efforts. The ICB, surgery and greater PCN (Primary Care Network (North Wiltshire surgeries) are also meeting shortly.
- It was not felt that Lime Down will have any long-term impact on housing being attractive in the area going forward.

Next Meeting- Monday 14th October at 19:30 in the North Building (*with some flexibility to push back if the grant decision and consultant appointments are not yet made*)

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Agenda for the meeting on 14th October 2024 (DRAFT)

- 1. Apologies**
- 2. Approval of minutes of the meeting 9th September 2024**
- 3. Matter Arising from the minutes-**
 - Progress on actions**
- 4. Landowner further updates**
- 5. Community Engagement update**
- 6. Grant funding update**
 - Technical consultancy appointment update**
 - Grant application update**
- 7. AOB**
- 8. Next Meeting**