

HASSOCKS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group held on 13 September 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre, Adastra Park, Hassocks.

Present: Paul King (Chairman) Peter Gibbons
Leslie Campbell Ian Weir
Judith Foot (for items 1-4)

Clerk: Linda Baker

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies for absence were received from Bill Hatton and Phil Mead.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 July 2012.** The minutes were taken as read, agreed by the meeting, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
4. **Draft Vision Statement.**
 - a) **Strategic Plan and Timetable.**

Paul King reported that parish council representatives had attended three events to talk to the public about a Neighbourhood Plan. Representatives had also met councillors from Hurstpierpoint parish council on 2 July 2012 to discuss their approach to producing a Neighbourhood Plan, but there was nothing Judith Foot or Ian Weir wished to feed back from this meeting. Paul King had produced a strategy identifying the next steps to develop a project plan and identifying the issues which needed to be addressed. He had also produced an outline timetable based on the strategy, and copies of both documents were circulated at the meeting for consideration.

The project had been broken down into individual work streams and it was proposed that each work stream should be assigned to a group of councillors/staff, with a lead councillor, and that professional assistance and other resources would be called upon as necessary. The committee as a whole could work on the overall vision and oversee the overall project. Members were invited to put themselves forward to lead on any of the tasks identified. Some members did not wish to do this as it was thought that the work would be too onerous. It was agreed that members would reconsider if they could contribute to any of the tasks and seek to involve other councillors who were not on the Working Group, and report back to the next meeting. If sufficient councillor support could not be identified, the alternatives would be to engage a consultant to undertake the whole process, which would be very expensive, or to recommend to the council that Hassocks did not produce a Neighbourhood Plan.

All

b) MSDC Draft District Plan: Feedback. Ian Weir reported that he had not had the opportunity to produce any detail of the points in the MSDC Draft District Plan which would be of relevance to a Neighbourhood Plan for Hassocks, and he would do this for the next meeting.

Briefly the points which might be of relevance were housing delivery, the South Downs National Park and how this might affect the growth of Hassocks, safeguarding land for tourist purposes and transport infrastructure, car parks etc.

It was agreed that in developing each work stream, as identified in the draft strategy, councillors would need to look at the Draft District Plan to ensure conformity with it.

c) Housing Needs Survey. The quotation from AIRS was noted. Until the Working Group had decided how and if it was going to develop a Neighbourhood Plan it was premature to consider a Housing Needs Survey.

5. Further Community Involvement. It was premature to consider this at this stage until further work on the Neighbourhood Plan had been done.

6. Date of Next Meeting. 11 October 2012 at 7.30 pm.

IW

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....