

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9TH APRIL 2014

PRESENT: Councillors T. Munro (Chair) L. Ames, R. Denton-White and R. Wild

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk), Bill Buchan (Neighbourhood Plan Working Group), Paul Weston (Planning Consultant), Sandie Wilson (Portland Port) and one member of the public.

Cllr. Tim Munro in the chair.

153 – ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Wild proposed and it was **RESOLVED** – that Cllr. Tim Munro be appointed Chair of the Management Group.

154 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Miss Amanda Munro, together with Jan Farnan (Weymouth & Portland Borough Council).

155 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

156 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH DECEMBER 2013

Minute 150 – Application to Borough for Grant

RESOLVED – that the first sentence be amended to read, “Mr Weston said there was uncertainty about the process of applying to the Borough for a grant.”

With this amendment the minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

157 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

158 – OPEN FORUM

There were no questions or comments.

159 – PLAN UPDATE, INCLUDING EVIDENCE GATHERING

Agenda Item 9

Cllr. Matthews reported on the Working Group meeting of 3rd April 2014. Rachel Barton had expressed her willingness to be a member of the Working Group. A draft evidence report of 140 pages had been produced together with a summary report to give people an overview.

The Clerk was asked to provide members of the Management Group with copies of the evidence report.

It was agreed to admit Sandie Wilson as a member of the Management Group, although this would need formal approval by the Town Council.

Cllr. Matthews conceded that more input to the evidence report remained and Mr Weston said that the summary report was provisional, being based only on the opinions of three individuals. He agreed with Cllr. Matthews that there was more information out in the public domain yet to be included, but the evidence report as it stood did indicate a “direction of travel.” From the chair Cllr. Munro thought the summary should merely be noted at present.

Cllr. Matthews referred to pages 4ff of the summary report where there was an analysis of the information gaps. It was hoped to fill those in within the next six weeks.

He also said that it was the Working Group’s intention to proceed with a business survey from funds already allocated. Meanwhile Bill Buchan was organising a young people survey.

It is intended to produce a public update on the Neighbourhood Plan to go in the Free Portland News close to the Council’s monthly list of meetings.

The Plan website’s first phase should go live in early May with links between it and the Council website. The next meeting of the Working Group is scheduled for 9th May.

160 – MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUP

At present the Group comprises Bill Buchan, Niall Gault, Mark Jackson, Richard Keenan, Andy Matthews and Doug Pigg, with Rachel Barton likely to join.

161 – PLAN DELIVERY OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

Mr Weston reported that the Plan was currently six weeks behind schedule. He thought that by exerting some effort this could be made up by the summer. It was intended to make some impact in May and June to aid the public consultation process.

Part of the Working Group’s next meeting would be devoted to analysing the delivery of the project plan.

162 – BUDGET ALLOCATION

Cllr. Munro raised the question of obtaining funding from the Borough. The Clerk was asked to pursue this.

163 – RAISING AWARENESS

Cllr. Matthews was asked to carry out any necessary action in this regard.

164 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Management Group will take place on Tuesday, 13th May 2014, starting at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 7.40 pm.

Signed: (Chair) Date: