

PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH OCTOBER 2016 AT 7.00 PM IN THE PETER TRIM HALL, ST. GEORGE'S CENTRE

PRESENT: Councillors J. Draper (Chairman), Ms J. Atwell, Mrs S. Cocking, C. Gover, R. Nowak (from 7.20 pm), Mrs S. Reynolds, D. Symes and R. Wild, together with Andy Matthews (Working Group)

IN ATTENDANCE: Ian Looker (Town Clerk) and Leo Henley Lock (Working Group)

306 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. Flack.

307 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Cocking declared a non-pecuniary interest in Portland Community Partnership and Mr Matthews non-pecuniary interests in the MEMO project and Portland Community Partnership.

308 – MINUTES

a) Meeting Held on 29th June 2016

b) Meeting Held on 7th September 2016

The minutes of both meetings were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

309 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING

No items were mentioned.

310 – OPEN FORUM

No issues were raised.

311 – PLAN UPDATE AND PROJECT BUDGET

Mr Matthews explained that the agenda papers were repeated from the inquorate September meeting, but he had provided an update to Agenda Item 7 to take account of recent developments. The Management group meeting in June (8th) had shown a need to give the Plan more publicity and with some Community Partnership funds he had been able to do this. The updates to Agenda Item 7 would help put that spending information in the public domain. The Partnership was requesting the Council for some assistance with the expenditure involved in the publicity drive without naming a specific amount. The Council had budgeted £3,000, of which £238 had been used. A grant from Locality totalled £4,500, primarily aimed at consultancy support. Just over half of it had been spent or committed to date.

In response it was proposed by Cllr. Gover and **RECOMMENDED** – that the Council donate £250 towards the Partnership's expenses.

Mr Matthews went on to advise that a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) had been carried out to be followed by a settlement and character study, which had not yet started. This should help to identify potential development areas.

312 – PROGRESSING PLAN POLICIES

The Committee looked at the draft policies in turn. Among the points noted were the following:-

EN1: The Environment Agency will advise of an update on coastal erosion management via the SEA as they are taking a more active approach in planning matters.

EN3: This has proven one of the more difficult policies to establish. Geological issues needed to be added. The intention was to agree a network of “green” sites that would identify those areas at risk from development. Recent appeal decisions have helped with this.

EN 5 and 6: Definitions of sustainability needed to be a factor. Leo Henley Lock (DWT) had been undertaking analysis work in regard to aspirational areas of the Quarry Nature Park.

EN7: Three properties on Castle Road had been identified as potential development sites but were also regard as “buildings of note” and the Borough would be asked to classify them as such. The outstanding conservation area appraisal included a lot of relevant information, but also could be updated by Neighbourhood Plan work.

EN8: Consider re-use in the light of encouraging sustainable access.

EN9: The importance of open gaps and quarry parks was emphasised. The proposed Heritage and Character study should assist with this and design issues.

BEs: One emphasis in the policies will be the need for encouraging small businesses, including light industrial sites among the housing. Another aspect was a review of public sector assets. With some sites likely to become available positive development of them should be encouraged. Mention was made of hospital provision on the Island.

HOs: Cllr. Nowak expressed concern that the current supply of local housing sites was below official requirements. It might lead to local control of development being lost. Concern was also expressed that improvement of the infrastructure did not seem to be keeping pace with extra housing locally and nationally. It was also noted that the Council might benefit eventually from s.106 money, though not at present.

TRs: Studies for the Western Growth Corridor needed to take account of the Island. Representation had been made and it is understood that reports may be available in the new year.

CRs: “Pocket” green spaces would be encouraged. A review of the current location of these and shops etc. was being undertaken.

STs: It was queried whether these took account of projects planned for the future such as Jurassica.

From the Chair Cllr. Draper proposed that the leaders for the policy areas bring reports to the next meeting as a catalyst for further discussion.

313 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled to be on Wednesday, 9th November 2016, to be held in the Peter Trim Hall, St. George’s Centre, Reforne at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.

Signed: (Chair) Date: