

Foxton Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee

Minutes of Meeting, 9th September 2015

In attendance

Committee: David Chambers, Maureen Fox, Julia King, Bernard Rice, Mike Ward, Margaret Wright (Chairman), Adele Rogers

HDC: Matthew Bills

Consultant: Colin Wilkinson

Members of Public: Beth Garrard.

Apologies: Meryl Cumber.

Declaration of Interests:

Maureen Fox: Land between Vicarage Drive and Middle Street.

Julia King. Manor House grounds and paddock behind the school.

Mike Ward: Foxton Society.

Margaret Wright: Robert Monk Foxton Charity, Foxton Society.

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June were agreed as a true record.

1. Budget

It was reported that the deadline for spending the grant is 1st October. C Wilkinson advised that the next consultation round is due soon and will stretch beyond 1st October. M Wright had emailed Locality concerning an extension to the deadline but had not yet had a reply. It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council should be held on 29th September to agree payment of an invoice from C Wilkinson for work done so far.

2. Housing Numbers

Housing numbers were discussed. The current options from HDC for the Local Plan (in preparation and due to be completed 2017) range up to 52, depending on which of the several options proposed for their Local Plan are pursued.

The committee agreed to leave the number of 27 for Foxton, to be incorporated in the NDP.

3. Review of Potential Development Sites and Way Ahead

It was pointed out that the HDC SHLAA for 2015 has 3 sites listed:

- Land between Vicarage Drive and Middle Street (site 2) deemed suitable for allocation of 17 dwellings;
- A site on North Lane deemed unsuitable because of highway access problems;
- Fisher's Farm (site 21), deemed currently unsuitable. C Wilkinson reported on the situation with Fisher's Farm. Concerns had been raised over highways access and flooding. However, he confirmed that if the landowner's agents submit a plan that indicates how these problems could be overcome, there is no reason why site 21 should not be chosen for development. It was decided to ask Mr and Mrs Turney, who own the site, whether they wish to pursue development. M Wright agreed to contact them to ask and inform them that this needed to be done as soon as possible if they wish to continue.

C Wilkinson had completed a more detailed assessment of each site to include the views of DEFRA, water companies and Highways. The view from Highways was that all sites could be developed subject to sufficient expenditure. The committee, whilst agreeing that access to site 2 was fine from Vicarage Drive or Middle Street, felt the access from these roads onto Main Street was dangerous and that, therefore, there are major potential traffic problems concerning this site, in opposition to Highways view. HDC has assessed this site as being suitable for 17 houses. C Wilkinson and M Bills both agreed that it is up to Foxton to indicate to HDC what a suitable number would be.

M Ward had previously circulated a discussion paper on sites.

All other sites were discussed, along with the points in M Ward's paper, and it was **RECOMMENDED** to the Parish Council that Hog Lane (site 3), Vicarage Drive (site 2), the Old Court House (site 13), the nursery (site 23) and Fisher's Farm (site 21) could be included in any forthcoming plan.

4. Draft Plan

There were no major comments on the policy document produced by Colin. However, whether site 21 can be included as a development and how many properties are acceptable on site 2 still need addressing as a matter of urgency.

M Wright indicated that a new chairman would need to be appointed at the next meeting as she no longer wished to continue in this role.

A meeting should have been arranged between HDC planning and the NDP committee. Since this has not happened M Bills agreed to chase it up.

5. Date of Next Meeting: 19th October 7.30 Robert Monk Hall.

D Chambers gave apologies.