

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP  
GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL  
Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7.00pm Monday 30 January 2017**

**Members Present:**

Chairman	Mike Stares
Members	David Wilkins
	Stephanie Bridle
	Nigel Gilson
	Tom Rothwell
	Kevin Bulmer (GPC)

**Officers Present:**

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff
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15 members of the public and press.

**16/14 To receive apologies for absence**  
Enid Worsley.

**16/15 To receive any declarations of interests**  
None.

**16/16 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2016.**  
**Resolved:** After minor correction from the first draft circulated, that the amended minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**16/17 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda**  
Item 10, The Chairman reiterated that the second Bramhill report with all relevant documents including the terms of reference would be published at the earliest opportunity. The report had just been received that afternoon.

**16/18 Public Forum**

**1** Derek James, Croft Road, asked that more notice be given of the meetings. The Clerk explained the current notice system (7 days) and that subscribers to the Council's website receive regular emails including all meeting dates.  
Mr James commented that a letter had been sent today to the Chairman detailing issues to be considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) following legal advice they had received.

The Chairman noted the letter had been received and that the NPSG was committed to taking it into account as with all other submissions made to them.

Tom Rothwell, commenting on one aspect of the letter, stated that he had spoken to the Chairman of the NP at East Bergholt: The circumstances there were specifically related to District Council policies; however the NPSG are aware and researching the case further.

**2** Helen Scurr, Chairman of Governors, Goring Primary School, read from a prepared note reiterating their concerns about the Plan being narrow but that a meeting had been arranged with the NPSG for the following week.

The Chairman explained some of the reasons for the current position and looked forward to working together with the Governors.

**3** Andy Best, Wallingford Road, commented on GNP6, raising questions about visibility, changes from first to second Bramhill reports, that development proposals had been accepted without the NPSG or Site Selection Management Group (SSMG) having seen reports and that it appeared to have been assessed differently to other sites (design aspects). The Chairman stated that this was incorrect, that the SSMG had been fully involved throughout and that the approved methodology was being followed and applied consistently, including the approval of the independent SSOG. He reiterated that the SG

Signed: N. Gilson

Dated: 27 April 2017

has demonstrably and rigidly implemented a policy throughout this project of being open and transparent and that in line with this the Bramhill Supplementary report, the Terms of Reference provided to Bramhill and the Developer Documentation provided to Bramhill will be openly published on the NP web site. Some design aspects were submitted for a number of sites, not just GNP6 and all of these are addressed in the supplementary report.

- 4 Tom Rothwell and The Chairman reminded that all assessments are still interim and remain so until all reports and associated appraisals have been reviewed by the SSMG and the NPSG. Also that adherence to the predefined methodology has to be approved by the independent Site Selection Overview Group (SSOG). Kevin Bulmer commented the final decision on the Plan will not be until the village has voted in a referendum. Tom Rothwell outlined the whole consultation process again.
- 5 Richard McNeill asked for the second Bramhill report to be released immediately. The Chairman commented that it would be like having just a few chapters of a book – the intention is to publish it as soon as practicable, as part of a pack, to include all the relevant information.

Sarah Morton, Wallingford Road, asked if it was worth including the few additional houses on this triangle of land. The Chairman stated the aim of the NPSG has been to work to objective measures as prioritised by villagers during wide consultation and avoiding individual judgement.

#### **16/19 To receive Chairman's Report**

Since 21 November the exhibition had taken place on 10 December, which had over 350 attendees and mainly positive feedback. The NPSG had some time off over Christmas and New Year. The interim stage of the SSMG process has been completed. Two key meetings had taken place with SODC and John Howell MP.

SODC had clarified the process for releasing the NP to the Parish Council (GPC) to decide if it should go for consultation. The pack will include a Sustainability Appraisal, Statement of Basic Conditions, Consultation Appraisal and Flood Sequential Test. Following GPC consultation any amendments to the NP need to be made prior to submission to SODC. There is no further opportunity for amendment once the Plan goes for SODC consultation and before subsequent Examination. It is now likely to be late March before submission to GPC with an aim to work to a referendum as soon as practicable.

Tom Rothwell reported on the meetings with John Cotton and John Howell. Key points being about SODC's lack of a 5 year land supply and a Neighbourhood Plan White Paper.

#### **16/20 Matters for future discussion**

None

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 1946 hrs.