

KINGTON AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP

Consisting of the Parish and Town Councils

Kington Town Council

**Kington Rural and
Lower Harpton Parish Council**

Huntington Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held on 10th February 2015 in The Old Police Station, Kington.

Present: M.Fitton (Chair)

J.Jones, E.Rolls (Kington Rural)

M. Lloyd (Huntington)

R.Bradbury, R.Cotterill, C. Kibblewhite, R.Widdowson, S.Williams (Kington Town)

In attendance: Clare Rawlings

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2014

Agreed correct.

It was noted that the meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 13th January 2015 was cancelled because of a snowstorm in the late afternoon and early evening...

Matters arising from the Minutes.

MF reported that the website has now been brought up to date.

M. Fitton introduced Clare Rawlings to members as the Planning Specialist contracted to advise and assist the Group with the next stages of the preparation of the Plan.

Finance

MF reported that the final account of expenditure against the Locality Grant had been submitted to Locality on 31/01/2014, together with the required short report of work that had been undertaken. All but £30 of the grant money had been spent and it is hoped that the remaining % of the grant will be paid soon.

The Group is now without funds; MF is preparing a bid to Locality for further grant money, although it is not yet known what size of grants will be available.

A bid to the Lottery (Awards for All) will also be made.

Kington Town Council has budgeted £2,000 for 2015/16 as a contingency; this will not be available until the start of the new financial year in April.

MF reported that until new money is available we can use the time to consolidate work already done; the Rural questionnaire will need to be distributed and responses analysed by volunteers. Clare Rawlings and Lewis Goldwater, the two consultants engaged to assist the group will be able to carry out some work before April.

Clare Rawlings outlined several matters that she considers the Group should work on:

1. The target number of new houses (200) identified in the Core Strategy for Kington Town. This number is now agreed to be 160 as some permissions and completions have been achieved since 2011, the start of the Plan period... CR advised that we should query the justification of this number; the examination of the Core Strategy that is scheduled to start very soon could be an opportunity to do this.

2. When identifying sites for housing a consistent approach (devise criteria?) should be used. In addition, appropriate evidence such as landscape characteristics should be used.
3. Possible that a special case can be made to Locality for new funding because the combination of 3 Council areas makes for greater complexity than in many other NDPs. Good evidence will be needed to justify the numbers of houses and the choice of sites to an Inspector, and evidence that the schemes are deliverable.
4. The Group should consider the status of the town settlement boundary and whether or not the boundary should be formally described and recorded. This will need discussion and co-operation between the 2 Councils particularly between Kington Town and Kington Rural Parishes.
5. Probably Landscape and Environmental Assessments will be needed
6. Ditto an Urban specialist assessment of the established built environment of the town centre,
7. Consider approaching Herefordshire Council to ask for an updated version of the SLHAA.
8. Need to have an overall vision statement for the NDP area and a set of objectives to be achieved by the Plan.
9. Consider a design brief for the Cattle Market sit that can then be used if site becomes available.
10. CR suggested a meeting with Hereford Council support officers to ask for further advice and a shopping list of studies that HC might be willing to fund and/or cooperate with.

Huntington

Lewis Goldwater to make contact with landowners now that he has identified the 'green spaces' in the Parish that should be designated as such.

Kington Rural and Lower Harpton

The Questionnaire has now been corrected, a cover sheet prepared and is considered ready for printing by MAP.

ER will organise address labels; it is hoped to have it posted to every household before the end of the month.

Thanks expressed to Richie for photographs and general help.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6th March in The Old Police Station., Kington