

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 14th January 2014 in Huntington

Present: M.Fitton (Kington) (Chair)

E.Rolls (Kington Rural and Kington)

B. James, G.Jones, M.Lloyd, P.Williams, G.Meeking (Huntington)

R. Bradbury, C.Kibblewhite, S. Williams (Kington)

Apologies for Absence: J.Jones (Kington Rural)

C. Forrester, R. Widdowson (Kington)

Minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2013

Agreed correct and signed by the Chair.

Grants.

It was noted that now the Neighbourhood has been officially registered by Herefordshire Council the Group can apply for grants to aid the necessary work, the grants to come from **Locality and Awards for All** (Lottery)

MF had registered with and obtained the application form from Locality. He will complete a draft and circulate it to the Group before submitting it.

It was agreed that the Group needs to formulate a timetable of work for the year and a plan to identify where the grant money will be needed.

ACTION: MF

The *Memorandum of a Service Level Agreement* with Herefordshire Council was circulated for signing by the three partners. It would now be submitted to HCC.

ACTION: MF

Main discussion

Members focussed on Housing and Green Spaces/Environmental issues

It was agreed that: each of the 3 parishes should work on some detailed proposals relevant to their particular areas.

Overall, the Plan would contain generic principles that applied to the whole Neighbourhood Plan Area, eg. design of buildings, sustainability, affordability with a general aim to produce a Plan for a sustainable neighbourhood.

The housing issues raised in the KLAP survey which had the majority support of the community could be the basis for the generic principles. A note on these is attached at the end of these minutes as guidance for the Group.

Housing; including numbers, locations, design, need for particular types.

Some notes had been prepared for the meeting which drew attention to various statements in the Draft Core Strategy.

It was noted that Herefordshire Council has given a target figure of 186 new dwellings by 2030 for Kington Town, that Kington Rural is placed in an HMA where the total target figure is 317 for the whole area beyond Kington Town and beyond the boundary of Kington Rural. It was noted that the only settlement in the Kington Rural area identified as suitable for rural housing is Hergest .

It was also noted that Huntington is not identified in any list.

It was **agreed** that a subgroup working on Kington needs to identify possible sites taking note of the 2012 Strategic Land Availability Assessment and to undertake an audit of any land that might be available. The views of people expressed in the recent KLAP survey to be used and any recent Housing Needs Survey data.

It was considered that it will be difficult to find sufficient land within the present Town envelope and that possible locations on the outskirts of the Town should be considered jointly with Kington Rural Group.

It is assumed that there is a need for affordable housing in Kington and means to ensuring that they are built in sufficient numbers given that there are no designated sites in the Core Strategy.

It was noted that the Core Strategy contains statements and guidelines about rural housing that the Huntington and Kington Rural Groups might wish to consider; additional principles could be specified .

It was **agreed** that it would be helpful to have a session with a specialist architect/developer who is knowledgeable about designing houses to a high eco standard; examples are present in Herefordshire and Powys that might be useful to visit subsequently.

Green space/open space/environment

Each area group to identify locations that are valued by local people so as to enable draft principles of conservation.

In Kington recreational space is important as is also space for allotments or other community use. Principles for all areas within the Neighbourhood need to identify spaces such that they will not be used for building .Audits of open spaces can be helpful.

Environmental principles that require woodlands, trees, historic sites and open spaces to be conserved and properly managed are needed.

Future themes

It was **agreed** that the Group should consider the economy, tourism, transport, employment at future meetings. It was agreed that for some topics it would be helpful to enlist the help of additional people who might have relevant knowledge and skills.

A public meeting, probably sometime in March, to inform people of the three areas about the work of the Group could be an opportunity to invite additional people to get involved in the production of particular areas of the Plan.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 26th February 2014 in Kington at 7pm

Housing issues raised in the KLAP Survey with % support for each issue

New houses to have off street parking	70%
New housing to be built on redundant sites	67%
Housing to be energy efficient above and beyond current requirements	65%
Use of local materials and traditions	63%
New housing on individual plots	46%
New housing to be built in small clusters	43%
Build using a mixture of styles and traditions	42%
Good sized gardens	38%
Larger room sizes	32%
Bungalows for people with mobility problems	29%
Affordable housing	29%
Infill between existing houses	19%