

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 9th June 2015 in Huntington Village Hall

Present: M.Fitton (Chair)
M. Lloyd, G.Meakins (Huntington)
J.Jones (Kington Rural)
R.Bradbury, R.Cotterill, C.Kibblewhite (Kington Town)

In Attendance: I Caney

Apologies for Absence: E.Rolls, S.Williams, R.Widdowson, B.James, G.Jones, G.Steele

Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th April 2015

Agreed as correct

Matters arising from the Minutes

All covered by later items on the agenda

Finance.

MF reported that a new grant had been obtained from Locality for £7,980.0 to be spent by end of October this year, the funds to be used mainly for consultants, and a small portion for meetings and admin.

It had been necessary to identify consultants before the award was received. 2 consultants (Herefordshire based), Carly Tinkler and Mark Owen, had been contacted to cover technical assessments of the environment of the whole area, of the townscape of Kington and of specific sites identified for possible development. Both individuals have worked for other NDP groups and know the County well. A further consultant, L Goldwater, who had already completed some work using the previous grant, would complete the work on 'green spaces' and biodiversity in the Rural area and provide some mapping.

MF explained that the 3 consultants would need to be issued with contracts together with briefs of the work required.

All 3 had indicated their willingness to engage in the work depending in further details to be agreed.

It was agreed that MF should pursue the arrangements and for contracts to be drawn up through KTC, with written details forwarded to members of the Committee.

MF reported that an additional grant identified by Locality had been applied for. This grant had been ear-marked for Neighbourhoods with 'complex' issues, one of which was the involvement of several authorities. KANDP covers 3 authorities and has been awarded the additional grant of £6,000.0 to be used by a specified date.

MF reported that the money will be provided in the form of specialist assistance nominated by Locality. The latter appear to be Planning specialists in Manchester with whom MF has had initial contact.

There was discussion as to how best to identify work for this second grant.

It was **agreed** that an assessment of all the issues to do with **Hergest Camp** and its immediate surroundings, would be very helpful in furthering KANDP. It was noted that in addition to the use of the camp site for economic outlets, the Core Strategy allows some further housing in Lower Hergest.

Other work for these consultants could be related to assessments of specific housing sites in Kington.

MF suggested that all consultants would need to liaise with each other as well as with the Group.

It was **agreed** that MF should pursue discussion with all the consultants to agree an outline programme of work; this would then be circulated for comment to members of the Group.

MF also said that Clare Rawlings is being kept informed of our progress.

Discussion followed about resources necessary for producing (writing and printing) a draft NDP for consultation with the public. MF reported that he has been advised that funding for that can be obtained from Awards for All (Big Lottery). Herefordshire Council will organise and fund the final referendum.

J.Jones **agreed** to organise a meeting for her and MF to meet with the owner of Hergest Camp as soon as possible.

It was **agreed** that another meeting be organised with Mr L. Banks who owns part of the old camp site.

CK reported that she had met recently with the Public Health Director for Herefordshire who had expressed an interest in Neighbourhood Plans. He had intimated that his office could be helpful in providing relevant evidence on matters such as important environmental factors, road safety, demography etc.

It was **agreed** that a note should be made of this suggestion and further information requested at a later date.

Meeting with Herefordshire Council Officers.

MF reported that he and RB had met with Kevin Singleton Head of Forward Planning and Siobhan Riddle the lead officer responsible for SHLAA work. MF asked whether any resources could be provided by Herefordshire Council to help with the assessments of possible housing sites since Kington is the only Market Town where the responsibility for this task had been assigned to the Neighbourhood Planning Group.

KS explained that the resource he can provide is work from the SHLAA team. SR explained that once the work on the Core Strategy is complete she would be able to update the work and assessments of at least some of the possible housing sites. It is not clear when she will be free to provide that help, but would be able to offer some advice and refer us to relevant evidence if we contact her.

SR has been informed about the grant awards and our nominated consultants.

Kington Rural and Lower Harpton Questionnaire.

RB reported that she is analysing the responses to 'open' questions and when that is complete a report will be compiled asap.

Huntington

After discussion MF agreed to draft some policies that would be relevant to particular issues in Huntington.

It was **agreed** that it would be useful for Huntington residents if the idea and practicality of **Community Land Trusts** could be explained and discussed with their potential relevance for Huntington. **RC agreed** to identify a potential person who could be asked to talk at a special meeting in Huntington.

Date of next meeting will be Tuesday 14th July 2015 to be held in Kington.