**KINGTON AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP**

**Consisting of the Parish and Town Councils**

**Kington Town Council Kington Rural and Huntington Parish Council**

 **Lower Harpton Parish Council**

**Minutes of a Meeting held on 11th October 2016 at the Old Police Station, Kington**

**Present:** M.Fitton (Chair)

 M.Lloyd (Huntington)

 E.Banks, R.Bradbury, (Kington)

**In Attendance**: three members of the public

**Apologies for Absence:** R.Widdowson

It was **noted** that S. Williams had resigned from Kington Town Council and will no longer be a member of the Group.

**Minutes of a Meeting held on 13th September 2016**

It was noted that the correct number of housing sites that are required in Hergest is 15 (not 16).

The remaining Minutes were agreed as correct

Matters arising from the Minutes

A member of the public said that he considered that there had been insufficient public consultation on potential housing sites in Kington. The Chair responded that a further full public consultation will be arranged when the draft Plan is completed early in 2017.

**Proposed housing sites in Kington**

MF reported that he had been informed that from the assessments made to date HC officers had no major concerns about the sites in Kington that have been identified. It had already been made known that the Kington sewage plant currently has only very limited capacity to service more housing and that an upgrade is needed before that housing targets can be met.

Comments from HC are still awaited on the site in Lower Hergest close to Arrow View.

**Update on Huntington**

M. Lloyd reported that his draft paper containing Policies relevant to Huntington had been considered by the Huntington Steering Group and will now be discussed at a full public meeting to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on November 8th.

 **Improving Kington High Street**.

MF reminded the meeting that improving the High Street to make it more pedestrian friendly was requested by about 90% of respondents to the KLAP questionnaire and that here had been various schemes proposed during the last twenty years. One of the objectives of KANDP is to support the local economy and that the High Street is a major part of the economy as well as serving other functions.

MF thanked David Raven for reviewing past proposals and for formulating suggestions.

DR pointed out that the whole space is very narrow and possibly insufficient for a two-way traffic flow and widened pedestrian paths each side. If one-way vehicular flow were used there would need to be a contra-flow system for emergency vehicles and buses. Another option might be a form of pedestrianisation which had been proposed previously. It was noted that there has to be provision for vehicles loading and collecting and for the passage of some very large vehicles.

It was felt necessary to consider matters in more detail, to discuss options with the Chamber of Trade and to obtain a properly measured profile of the street to include Duke St and Bridge St between the Library and Market Hall St.

It was **agree**d that if after a full public consultation there is a preferred option there could be a Policy in the NDP to give strong support for it whenever funding became available.

**Public consultation on the Draft Plan**

MF reported that sections of the Plan are now being drafted and Clare Rawlings will be working on it during the next couple of months.

It was **agreed** that a public consultation at a venue in the town booked for one week could take place in February 2017. There would be wide publicity beforehand.

**Date of next Meeting**

It was noted that November 8th had been booked for the Huntington Parish consultation so the Steering Committee would need to be arranged at a different time.

It was **agreed** that the Chair would propose a date to be circulated.