

THORNDON INTO THE FUTURE

Minutes of meeting of the Thorndon Neighbourhood Plan Committee On Monday 12th February, 2019

Attendees:

Stephen Page, Chairman
James Hayward, Parish Councillor
Gemma Burton
Pauline Smith
Ian Poole, Places4People

Meeting held with consultant Ian Poole in attendance to go through Draft Document Review and next steps.

JH confirmed that the site assessment is underway. He had a request from Emily Pugh for more clarity and Ben Castell, leader of the design package, will be speaking to JH on Wednesday to discuss the next phase. JH will need to do an interim year-end report of how much has been spent and what is left to spend it on. JH will e-mail sites to IP.

IP showed examples of work he has done for other parishes. TNPC will need to identify character areas, character analysis, architectural details, design guidelines and specifics. An appendix to the Plan will refer to other source documents to evidence the plan document and our draft initial plan will now need to be realigned to act as one of the supporting documents.

JH has had a discussion with AECOM and informed them we did a District Council call for sites in the last 24 months and JH was told that this would be adequate. NB: JH has added the paddock area off of Stoke Ash Road to the site list (for approximately 4 houses, could be semis). Also will add site in Hall Road.

IP stated that the village character assessment needs to be done. AECOM are doing the design work. TNPC must now look at potential local green spaces, areas not necessarily playing fields but green spaces that make an important contribution to the village. This can be for example wide verges or areas where people get together for things like firework events etc. These may be designated in the plan and no development would then be able to be built on these areas. TNPC must also look at important views in and out of the village. IP will send TNPC a pro forma document to identify green spaces and suggested high resolution panoramic photographs are

taken of views. IP will send TNPC the guidelines for the photographic evidence. Listed buildings should be noted, but also other buildings that are deemed important, ie. Victorian school building, church, old mill, pub, old fire station, ex police house, rectory, reading rooms etc. SP said he would go into the English Heritage site and search for the listed properties.

IP said that as the design work and site assessment are taking place, a drop-in event to go through this information should be held in a couple of months time to give villagers a chance to have their say on whether TNPC has taken the right characteristics, important views, potential development sites etc into account for the plan.

JH and SP discussed whether we should come up with a list of names of people living in the village but not already on the TNPC who may have important views on the content of the plan document. However, IP stated that would not be necessary as it would be covered by the invitation to the drop-in event.

JH suggested that the Village Sign be used for the cover of the Plan document, perhaps as a logo, with another picture of the village as the main feature picture to sum up the character of the village.

IP noted that the timetable has slipped a little. Agreeing vision, objective and policy content of the plan will come from IP who suggested the draft vision could be used for the proposed drop-in event. Consultation with MSDC on the plan should be started by end of June.

Suggested date for drop-in event was Saturday 11th May in order to have time to get everything ready for it and time to encourage as many villagers as possible to attend. GB suggested we leaflet the village, get Claude Brand to send e-mail with the flyer, JH to put in Village Life magazine and put flyers around the village such as in shop, school, church, pub, village hall etc. JH will source printers for flyers.

IP stated that the Local Plan should have been published in February but now has been put back to June at the earliest so IP will go to them at officer level and ask if what we are proposing for housing is OK and at same time see if he can glean further information from them. IP will also include the level of development we have had already. Their base date for this is 1st April 2018 and any new permissions granted since that date will come out of proposed housing amount. However, IP said that they are now taking a new look at the classifications for villages and not sure if Thorndon will still be within the hinterland classification. If so around 15-20 houses will be required. IP stated that as long as the plan identifies how it will meet the housing requirement, the plan should carry weight so that we will have a policy that says we have a provision for x amount of houses and growth will be met by xxx sites and the remainder will be infill plots etc.

JH suggested that the Village Website should contain more information regarding the preparation of the plan. JH will arrange for the Plan information to be put on the Home page of the website and SP agreed to update information to be added to the website at regular intervals.

Drop-in event suggested for 11th May – PS to book Village Hall and JH to arrange payment for booking via Parish Council. JH to arrange for flyers to be printed. Flyer information needed for third week of April to enable JH to put into Village Life magazine.

It was agreed that TNPC members would meet on 21st February (and possibly morning of 22nd February) in order to go around the village and take photographs.

Next meeting suggested for March. Date to be decided.