

Minutes of the Brightwell-cum-Sotwell Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 at 7.45pm in The Church Room, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell

Present: Jason Debney, Celia Collett, David Fox, Helen Baines, Bob Nielsen, Adrian Wood, Steve Capel-Davies and Lucy Dalby.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from John Rodda and John Arbuckle.

2. Scoping Report Update and Screening Questionnaire

There has not yet been a response from SODC to the draft Scoping Report . The Screening Questionnaire has been resent to Rona Knott the new SODC contact who will send it to the consultees this week.

3. Housing Needs Survey

It was agreed that the steering group were happy that ORCC have completed the questionnaire as requested.

There was a 41% return rate - which is good compared to the national average but low compared to the return rate of the Community Led Plan Questionnaire.

It was agreed that the results are a good starting point but that the steering group may wish to go back to the community with further questions.

It was agreed to put a summary of the results on the website.

The results show that there are housing problems at both ends of the age scale with both the young and old wanting 3 bedroom houses.

The Community Land Trust was more popular with respondents than Rural Exception sites. However a barrier to the CLT is cost and the fact that a RES is land that wouldn't otherwise get permission. It was agreed not to rule out either option at the moment and consider on a site by site basis.

The desire to build your own home was also popular so must be considered.

Three questions stand out particularly:

Q12 – just under 10% wish to move but can't with 2/3 looking to move outside the parish.

Q14 – lack of suitable housing is preventing people from moving.

Q16 – reasons for wanting to downsize – older end coming through strongly.

A breakdown of results by age will be requested.

It was agreed to hold workshop events to find out the sort of houses people wish to downsize to and any other points requiring further information.

All to look through the results and identify key issues and trends for potential workshops.

#### 4. Neighbourhood Plan Timeline

The lack of response from SODC has delayed the agreed timeline.

It was agreed that landowners should be approached sensitively and in some cases in person.

Scoping report – sustainability can't be assessed until there is something to appraise. Some sustainability work can be carried out as the process goes along but the Sustainability Appraisal can't be completed until nearer the end of the timeline.

The new timeline was agreed.

#### 5. Site Identification

It was agreed to start by identifying sites unwanted sites and then to consider brownfield sites.

It was agreed that there is to be no housing on open farmland between settlements.

The four settlements of Clapcot, Mackney, Sires Hill and Brightwell-cum-Sotwell will be considered first followed by Frogs Island and Highlands.

The steering group identified some areas of interest on a map of the Parish.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> July for further work identifying sites.