

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th October 2018 in the Sports Pavilion

Those present: Chairman Alex MacGillivray, Nick Gant, Ben Kimpton, Christine Arbenz, Tim Parsons and Alan Marler

Apologies from Peter Dennison Pender

Minutes of the last meeting held in July were approved.

Alex gave an update of the state of the Lewes District Council Local Plan Part 2 and its apparent lack of a 5 year housing supply, with no midyear estimate.

Alex gave the group an update on the comments received from Thea Davis, Neighbourhood Planning Officer of Lewes District Council, on the housing policies created by the Steering Group.

The Steering Group, as a whole, was disappointed in the way our efforts to create a workable document have been reduced to observational status.

We are still not sure if any affordable housing will be created in the main development site.

The amendment to the development site BA1 proposed in the latest version of Local Plan Part 2 will absorb half the original BA01 site that was proposed for additional recreational space for Barcombe. The Parish Council will pursue this.

A new site BA10 has appeared in the latest (2018) SHEELA document, viz. to release land for 50 houses in the field opposite the new village hall. This proposal has been rejected by LDC largely on landscape character effects. Again this site was not communicated to the Parish Council.

The new boundary map has been issued with the boundary cutting through the gardens of houses at the bottom of Grantham Bank and The Grange – the Parish Council will make comment to LDC.

Discussion centred on the housing supply position and the “Housing in Barcombe – an Overview”, paper written by Alan Marler in August. A vote was taken to decide whether or not to continue with the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan and to disband the Steering Group.

The vote was unanimous in both discontinuing work on the Neighbourhood Plan and disbanding the Steering Group.

It was also felt that there would be no enthusiasm for re-creating the group should an opportunity present itself for a new neighbourhood plan.

It was decided that all relevant paperwork would be added to the Barcombe Parish Council website for future reference.

It was decided that the Neighbourhood Plan would be circulated to the Parish Council and used as a blueprint for further development in the village.

Alex and Alan will prepare an entry, to be placed in the December issue of the Barcombe News, explaining the position and what we have learned from this exercise.

The Parish Council will write to the LDC planning department to explain why we are pulling out from writing a Neighbourhood Plan.