



Houghton Regis Neighbourhood Plan

Notes from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting: 12th September 2018 held at 6.30pm

Attendees:

David Gibbons
Carol Butler
Cllr Goodchild
Alan Winter
Cllr Carroll (substitute for Cllr Abbott)
Cllr Kennedy
Christine Clavey
Neil Fearn (arrived at 6.45)

Apologies:

Cllr Abbott (Cllr Carroll substituted)
Cllr McMahon
Cllr Welch
Cllr Thorne
Tracey Plunkett
Sally Gray

Also present: Mr Martin Small Houghton Regis Town Council Planning Consultant
Louise Senior Head of Democratic Services

1) Apologies were received from Cllr Abbott (Cllr Carroll substituted), Cllr McMahon, Cllr Welch, Cllr Thorne, Tracey Plunkett, Sally Gray

2) Draft Plan

3) Timeline

Members received a report from Mr Martin Small, Houghton Regis Town Council planning consultant, (version 7)

Members discussed Houghton Regis chalk pit land, currently 100 acres, 60 acres of which is a nature reserve, and 40 acres yet to be decided on use. Concerns were raised that if this land is left unattended it would deteriorate and become unkempt. Attempts should be made to encourage Cemex to relinquish this land.

Houghton Regis town council had aspiration of this land to hold a visitor centre. Other ideas include the land used for mountain bike track, which would be accessed from thorn road.

It was agreed that in the report, the section referring to cemetery provision, be omitted from future reports as there is a designated working group project.

After further discussion on points with the document, Mr M Small advised members that he will formulate version 8 and present to members at the next meeting.

AW felt that the document was too difficult to understand and should be written in more layman terms.

Members discussed the availability of land within Houghton Regis for further housing development and various land options. NF raised concerns if open space was to be used, as open space is gone, it is gone for good and open space are few and far between.

Members referred to a previous discussion reading the recordings of the NPSG meeting. Members felt it would be inappropriate to record these meeting due to some members of the steering group being members to the public and not councillors. Members felt that it may be appropriate to record meetings when the report from Mr Small is public

4) Date of next meeting

Wednesday 3th October 2018 at 6.30pm at Houghton Regis town council offices