

# Coombe Bissett and Homington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> December 2019

CC's private residence

Present: Steering group - Christine Cooper (CC), Pauline Cullis (PC), Alastair Lack (AL), David Parson (DP), Amy Burnett (AB, DinT).

Apologies: Des Hobson (DH), TM (Tim Mynott).

Actions highlighted in **bold**.

## Summary of recent progress

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### *AECOM-commissioned evidence base*

The final AECOM Design Code has been sent to steering group, PC and WC for comment. **PC to formally adopt** (likely at next meeting, 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020).

CC sent a consolidated list of comments from the steering group and PC on the AECOM Site Assessment Document. **CC to confirm whether inaccuracies have been amended and will advise AECOM.**

### *CB&HNP evidence base*

The CB&HNP Housing Need topic paper which suggests a working figure of 15 dwellings over the plan period has been reviewed by individual PC councillors but has not yet been formally discussed in a meeting. **CC has sent to WC for comment. PC to formally agree (pending whether there are any comments from WC).**

CB&HNP Site Assessment Topic Paper (which inc. AECOM site assessment data) has been reviewed by individual PC councillors by email. **AB and CC to resolve some outstanding areas to resolve. CC to send to PC and sign off (tbc column on PC preferences).** However, this may require updating if we receive comment from WC.

CC asked for confirmation from WC as to who the CB&H Link Officer as Anna McBride has moved on and was informed that it is Tim Pizzy.

## Progressing the plan

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The group agreed that the compilation of evidence base is going well, and that sufficient information now exists to start compiling a draft plan. The group is still awaiting a view from the AONB regarding suitable and potentially suitable sites and on the Design Code, and WC has not yet responded to a request from CC regarding a view from Highways on potential sites.

To expedite the plan and to ensure that the move to have the plan screened to determine whether it requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not held up (which will also explore alternative scenarios on potential site allocations) the group agreed that AB should start to put together a draft plan. The draft plan can be put to WC including all sites that the PC may wish to consider at this stage, explaining to WC that as we have not heard from them we have had to include any possibilities. Therefore, AECOM (who will carry out an SEA) can carry out further analysis on sites in the absence of a view from the AONB or WC.

**AB to draft plan early January (inc. suitable/potentially suitable sites, Local Green Spaces (LGS), views and vistas, energy and dark skies (lighting) and transport). CC to formally request an environmental screening once draft plan produced.** (However, it is highly likely that the AONB and WC will respond with a view on preferred sites before a draft plan is shared with them with a formal request for screening). **CC to request Locality Technical Support for an SEA.**<sup>1</sup>

## Views and Vistas

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The group discussed potential views and vistas that are an important natural feature to the area's character and the likelihood these may be impacted by development in the plan period. In total seven views and vistas were identified by the group. **CC to share excel document for comment. All to add any other identified views. AB to include within a Landscape and Vistas Topic Paper** (work in progress), a document that works within the priorities of the AONB and draws on several of their key evidence base and objectives for protecting the AONB in the CB&H area. **DP to take a photo of the view from Old Blandford Road.**

## Local Green Spaces

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The group reviewed the LGS Topic Paper prepared by AB. The group was satisfied that the document is shared with the PC, with a couple of minor adjustments to be made including clarifying ownership of some proposed LGS. Note: the current proposal for the Bundy field offers green community space but the land is not publicly accessible; unless development were to take place it cannot be considered currently having recreational and amenity value. **AB to update LGS topic paper and incorporate DH previous comments shared by email. CC to share with the group and the PC to comment on and formally adopt.** (NB: a list of sites with photos and other details will be shared for community comment at the Community Feedback Day).

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<sup>1</sup> NB: An SEA requires a 5-6 week consultation when finalised, prior to the formal 6-week 'Reg 14' local consultation.

## Transport

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The group discussed their preference for policy around the concept of a 'walkable village' with reference the suggestions put forward in the Community Questionnaire and corroborate this with the Parish Plan Survey results (i.e. there is a particular need along Drove Lane and Stratford Tony Road and the crossing Blandford Road needs lights). **AB and AL to set a date to discuss sustainable transport in the New Year to draft a map with potential upgraded and expanded footpath and cycle path network.**

## AOB

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AL and DP noted that the water table is 25cm higher than it was this time last year.

The Coombe Bisset church appears positively engaged with the AONB's Dark Skies initiative and has replaced their lighting to be a softer, lower-lumen variety.