

Notes From Conover Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Held at 7.30pm on 11th February 2021 Remote Via Zoom

In attendance: K Harris, J Blackhurst, E Marvin (Chair), R Nash, S Peters, P Gore, B Gill, K Eardley, P Smith and B Carey

Apologies: S Mackay

Public attendance: S Cole Resident

1. Welcome, apologies and introductory remarks

E Marvin welcomed all to the meeting. He would share screen as appropriate for those without meeting papers.

2. Draft Policies Consultation Update

- Review of progress – E Marvin reported that local people continued to engage with consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan draft policies. There was a query about the extent to which employment land policies should be included in the Plan. This had arisen following a planning application concerning business use and development in Stapleton. B Carey would seek out the Shropshire Council planning policies re employment land in rural areas and circulate to the Steering group. E Marvin queried whether the housing policies should be more directly linked to each settlement, rather than just Dorrington. This would be reviewed.
- Zoom consultation meetings – E Marvin reported the Zoom consultation meetings were going well and that he would be happy to continue. S Cole asked how the meetings were publicised. B Carey replied posters had been placed in noticeboards and shops, details were on the Parish Council website, on each of the community FB groups and the Parish Council FB page, and on Nextdoor. There was a banner in each village. This led to a discussion about how to achieve a more granular reach. It was agreed those aware of the Zoom meetings would use their own networks to further distribute the information. K Eardley suggested moving the Dorrington banner closer to the Horseshoes to be more noticeable. E Marvin explained that the Steering Group was not the same as a consultation event – it was a business meeting to progress the Neighbourhood Plan. The consultation meetings were open to anyone with an interest in the Parish and the Neighbourhood Plan. Paper copies of the draft policies consultation document were available from the Parish Clerk. He also explained that the Steering Group did not make decisions as such. It considered and progressed the Neighbourhood Plan but any decisions were referred to and taken by the Parish Council at its monthly meetings.
- Next steps – It was resolved to recommend the Parish Council agreed continuation of twice-monthly discussion events for the time being as they provided an opportunity for more detailed conversations with residents.

3. Parish Objectives

a) **Scoping objectives** – E Marvin screen-shared his document which summarised Parish objectives from the Place Plan and from the Neighbourhood Plan. He thought it important to consolidate the priorities so the two documents were consistent with each other and provided an work plan.

P Gore thought Heritage and Environment should include reference to litter picking initiatives, the voluntary maintenance group for Condover Woodland Park and the community-led insect garden being created next to Condover Social Club.

R Nash thought the upgrading of Condover Village Hall should be included, particularly with regard to the installation of solar panels and an air-source heat pump.

These inclusions were agreed. It was noted these were also opportunities for wider community involvement and this should be encouraged.

E Eardley liked the link between the Parish Council objectives and those in the Neighbourhood Plan. He thought community networks were important to health and well-being and suggested the Neighbourhood Plan and the Place Plan should include something about this. This was agreed.

b) **Priorities** – E Marvin thought Place Plans would be updated this year. It would be important to prioritise the Parish objectives and provide indicative costs. B Carey thought the Parish Council should have a strategic plan which fed into the Neighbourhood Plan, which in turn informed the Place Plan.

S Peter

c) **Delivery** - E Marvin said that all the priorities identified would have to be delivered by the Parish Council directly. Communities could/should be encouraged to deliver some of the priorities, with support from the Parish Council.

S Peters liked the Parish objectives document and wondered if it could be shared with residents as a poster.

J Blackhurst suggested each village to split into its natural communication groups eg The Maitlands and The Farris in Dorrington had their own Whatsapp groups and she thought other similar groups had been developed during C-19. Each group could have a community champion or spokesperson. It was agreed B Carey would be send contact details of groups known to exist and this could be mapped for each village.

B Gill said Stapleton had a good offline network and made use of noticeboards. She thought there was still chance to miss people if there was too much reliance on internet groups.

d) **Place Plan** – E Marvin and B Carey would confirm if there were to be a Place Plan update this year.

4. **Timetable for CPNP** – The timetable to early summer 2021 was reviewed and agreed. E Marvin noted that the Steering Group should start building momentum for the referendum.

5. **Date of Next Meeting** - 7.30pm on Thursday 18th March 2021 via Zoom