

**Wolston Neighbourhood Plan**  
**Minutes of Steering Group meeting 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

NUM		Action
<b>Open Forum</b>	No matters were raised.	
<b>18.42</b>	<p><b>Apologies and acceptance of reasons for absence:</b> Apologies were received from Tracie Ball, Sonya Cross (SG), Caroline Payne, Tim Harvey-Smith.</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Jock Rainey (SG chair) (to end of item 18.47), Lesley Blay (SG), John Church (SG), Wendy Gilsean (SG), Roger Ingles (SG), Clare Malyon (SG), Dave Smith (SG), Graham Tyler (SG), Laurie Wright (SG), Tim Willis (SG) (project manager), Linda Barratt, Keith Francis, Bob Grainger, Paul Jennings, Kevin Payne, Debbie Pritchard, Peter Randall, Jessica Ramsay, Gillian Waddilove.</p>	
<b>18.43</b>	<p><b>Declarations of interest in items on the agenda</b> – Roger Ingles and John Church declared interest as a member of Allotments Association committee; Clare Malyon declared interest as an allotment plot holder; Lesley Blay declared interest (later) as a vice president of the Allotments Association.</p>	
<b>18.44</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> of the Steering Group held 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were circulated: it was proposed by LW, seconded by CM and agreed that this was a true record and signed.</p>	
<b>18.47</b>	<p><b>Allotments:</b> (item moved up in the agenda as JR had to leave early)</p> <p>JR reported on his attendance at a meeting between Parish Councillors, representatives of the Allotments Association, himself for the NDP and Godfrey Payton, land agents for the Wilcox Trust and Rosconn, a land promotion company. The Wilcox Trust are trying to monetise assets, and one way of doing this would be to sell a plot for development. This meeting was to suggest options for plots in Wolston, one of which is the North side of the Allotments site. Some illustrative options were presented, including for a secondary allotments site at the Rugby end of the village. No specific proposals were put to the Parish Council.</p> <p>PCllrs and JR made clear their wish to retain Open Spaces within the village, and stated that the NDP will seek to protect the allotments by all means possible. Maria Meede, PC clerk, attended to take notes and has prepared minutes. These are to be agreed by the PC and by Godfrey Payton and Rosconn.</p> <p>In questions, it was established that Rosconn had consulted officers of RBC, but not approached borough councillors. The Allotments Association are to consider the matter at their AGM in March. Members of their committee who attend NDP meetings want the current site protected and would not support a split site option. It is understood that the PC remain supportive of the Allotments Assoc'n and the NDP position.</p> <p>Some SG members have been approached by many villagers asking what development is going to happen: as the NDP team we need to emphasize that we have not changed our position and are proposing the site as a Local Green Space. JR stressed that this meeting was a 'fishing exercise' by Godfrey Payton to try to recruit support in the village for this potential development.</p> <p>An attendee raised 2 points about housing need in the village: 1. The HNS showed a need for 29 'Local Needs' houses within the next 5 years of which 19 should be affordable or social housing, and 10 small houses for the open market, but the illustration shown was for 46 houses. JR said that the proposal from Rosconn was for 46 houses but all present for the village said that was not the housing need as per</p>	

	<p>the recent HNS; 2. The type of housing most needed in the village is social housing for young families, or for elderly people – this is supported by HNS data. Another attendee asked about a possible development on the derelict garage site opposite Bennetts Court: RG responded that there are current discussions between the Parish Council and RBC for a small number of small market houses on that site.</p>	
<p><b>18.45</b></p>	<p><b>Progress against the Project Plan:</b> TW, Project Manager, mentioned that an updated Project Plan was being circulated in the meeting, assured the meeting that the target date for a completed Draft Plan is still achievable, and asked working group leads to give brief updates.</p> <p><b>Housing:</b> RG: Local Call for Sites: RG reported that in addition to direct mail shots to all known landowners in Wolston by RBC advertisements had also been placed in the Rugby Advertiser (21<sup>st</sup> February edition), the Avon Grapevine (pub. 18<sup>th</sup> February), and on our website. The closing date for responses is 22<sup>nd</sup> March; any responses received will only indicate that the owner is willing to put the site forward. It is anticipated that any site assessments will be completed by end of April.</p> <p><b>Environment:</b> CM: Character Assessment – a lot of work is being done on this; one part will be on favourite views – the group will be requesting photos that encapsulate the character of the village and your favourite view.</p> <p><b>Economy:</b> DS: the Business Survey is now ready for distribution. His team has worked on identifying businesses in the village, but if anyone knows of a business that has not received a survey form, please contact him. LW suggested a more professional approach would have been to post the surveys; DS &amp; CM assured the meeting that their expert had said personal contact on delivery was an opportunity to engage and was preferable.</p> <p>GW hoped that the website will be ready to go live in the next few weeks.</p>	
<p><b>18.46</b></p>	<p><b>Communications &amp; Engagement: JRa:</b> Events to publicize all sites for which we might make assessments are being planned and a summary sheet was circulated in the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>18.48</b></p>	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p>No other business was brought. The meeting closed at 8.11pm.</p>	
	<p><b>Next meetings:</b> CG 19<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm, Parish Council office at the Baptist Church. SG 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 7pm at the St Margaret’s Church Rooms.</p>	