

**MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING MEETING - HELD AT 7.00 PM
ON WEDNESDAY THE 20TH JUNE 2012 AT THE WAVENDON COMMUNITY
CENTRE.**

Present:

Cllr John Mears (Bow Brickhill PC)
Cllr Beverley Thompson (Bow Brickhill PC)
Peter Lousada (Bow Brickhill PC)
Robert Hill (Woburn Lions FC)
Cllr Graham Bushell (Little Brickhill PC)
Cliff Roberts (Little Brickhill Resident)
Arif Ahmed (River Island Clothing Company)
Michael Geddes (Woburn Sands Town Council)
Alan Kemp (Parish Clerk – Wavendon PC).
Cllr David Hopkins (Ward Councillor & Wavendon PC – in the chair).

Apologies:

Cllr Norman Wilkes (Wavendon PC)
Bruce Stewart (MKC)
Iain Stewart (MP)
Cllr Terry Reynolds (Walton Community Council)
Sara Mann (Wavendon Day Nursery).

1. Introduction:

Cllr Hopkins welcomed everyone to the first meeting and explained that Wavendon Parish Council had decided to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the total area included in the boundary of Wavendon. It was also confirmed that Wavendon Parish Council's neighbourhood plan application will be advertised within the Milton Keynes community, over the period of Monday the 21st May 2012 to Monday the 2nd July 2012.

2. Process to be followed:

Cllr Geddes from Woburn Sands Town Council gave a brief introduction to the processes that must be followed in order for a plan to be developed and these are noted in **Appendix 1** attached to these minutes.

3. Issues identified:

The following issues were highlighted.

Recreation / Leisure Facilities.

- Additional football pitches (with good drainage).
- Recreation ground requires levelling and re-seeding, providing adequate drainage.
- No funding for after school activities or senior citizen clubs. The cost of maintenance in a small Parish is prohibitive.
- Probably need additional recreational land + facilities – leisure centre etc for growing population.
- Need to better organise cyclists on roads and in forests.
- Update children's play area? Possible adventure playground for older children – BMX Park possible.
- All weather playing surfaces.
- Greater indoor sporting facilities required.

Retail:

- Already well served by Woburn Sands and Kingston shops.
- No shops in Wavendon.
- Allowing small retail outlet at Magna Park.

Transport:

- Bus service to Magna Park – greater frequency.
- Walton Road requires traffic calming measures – used as a rat run.
- Public transport is generally a poor service – however it is not well used.
- What happened to dial a ride?
- Traffic reduction through rural towns and villages requiring east west trunk road.
- General standard / up keep of existing road surfaces not satisfactory in places.
- New east – west link road required.
- Redways – build them in.
- A421 single carriage running to M1 will be an issue for residents and businesses.
- Build in Grid Roads.
- Good bus services.
- Traffic - A5 flyovers are needed.

Employment:

- Link to retail shop at Magna Park – raise funds for Wavendon. Parish owned?

Health:

- Dental treatment is too expensive because of funding issues.
- Wavendon will need a Health Centre / local dentist etc.
- GP's to cover the growth of Wavendon.

Schools / Education:

- Adult education is excellent?
- Sufficient schools + pre-school provision.
- Must have adequate primary and secondary schools – MKC and Bedford to co-operate.

Other:

- Retain rural village, i.e. do not allow Wavendon to be consumed into Milton Keynes.

4. Meeting Summary:

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending this meeting and stated that everyone will be kept up to date with the development of the neighbourhood plan for Wavendon.

5. Next Meeting:

Should a further meeting be required, this will be advised later.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Appendix 1

Neighbourhood planning

The Localism Act, which received Royal Assent on November 15 2011, introduced new rights and powers to allow local communities to shape new development by coming together to prepare neighbourhood plans.

Neighbourhood planning can be taken forward by two types of body - town and parish councils or 'neighbourhood forums'. Neighbourhood forums are community groups that are designated to take forward neighbourhood planning in areas without parishes. It is the role of the local planning authority to agree who should be the neighbourhood forum for the neighbourhood area.

The criteria for establishing neighbourhood forums are being kept as simple as possible to encourage new and existing residents' organisations, voluntary and community groups to put themselves forward.

Neighbourhood forums and parish councils can use new neighbourhood planning powers to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood. These are described legally as '**neighbourhood development plans.**'

In an important change to the planning system communities can use neighbourhood planning to **permit** the development they want to see - in full or in outline - without the need for planning applications. These are called '**neighbourhood development orders.**'

Local councils will continue to produce development plans that will set the strategic context within which neighbourhood development plans will sit.

Neighbourhood development plans or orders do not take effect unless there is a majority of support in a referendum of the neighbourhood.

They also have to meet a number of conditions before they can be put to a community referendum and legally come into force. These conditions are to ensure plans are legally compliant and take account of wider policy considerations (e.g. national policy).

Conditions are:

1. they must have regard to national planning policy
2. they must be in general conformity with strategic policies in the development plan for the local area (i.e. such as in a core strategy)
3. they must be compatible with EU obligations and human rights requirements.

An independent qualified person then checks that a neighbourhood development plan or order appropriately meets the conditions before it can be voted on in a local referendum. This is to make sure that referendums only take place when proposals are workable and of a decent quality.

Proposed neighbourhood development plans or orders need to gain the approval of a majority of voters of the neighbourhood to come into force. If proposals pass the referendum; the local planning authority is under a legal duty to bring them into force.