

Minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Task and Finish Group, Mon Oct 12th at 6.pm, by Zoom

Present: Cllr Ian Bradbury, Cllr Michael Ladd, Cllr Michael Rowan-Robinson (Chair), Cllr Jessica Jeans, Cllr Will Windell, Graham Denny, David Palmer, Tom Bright, Wendy Green, Katie Flodin

Apologies: Cllr David Beavan

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a revised version of the Housing section of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Chair read out an email from Ruth Bishop, incorporating comment from Dickon Povey, of the ESC Planning Department, which was strongly supportive of the revised Housing section. A few minor amendments were offered, including the suggestion that affordable housing delivered by a Housing Association be added in the hierarchy of options in SWD2 and SWD3, which the Chair commented seems a good idea. The Chair said that the new version made the changes required by the previous meeting of the group, and that it was now a much more general set of policies providing a vision for the next twenty years. Cllr Windell proposed, and Wendy Green seconded, that the document be accepted. The Chair said that he wished to go round the table and ask each member of the group for their comments. All essentially supported the document as it stands, except for Tom Bright, who had a minor concern about the wording in the 2nd par of SWD4 about working away from home, and David Palmer, who was strongly opposed to SWD5 on holiday lets. The Chair allowed him to expand on his objections but pointed that rest of the group supported the policy. Cllr Windell's motion that the revised housing document be accepted, subject to minor amendment by the final document team (the Chair, Cllr Jeans and Tom Bright), was passed by 9 votes to 1.

The Chair said that the Housing section would now be sent forward (after minor amendment) for Reg 14 consultation. He expressed the hope that this might be the last meeting of the group, although it is possible it may need to meet again if significant revisions are called for in the Reg 14 process, or by the Examiner. He said that Southwold NP had been a long process but that it will have been worthwhile because we are delivering a very substantial NP, with several innovative policies in it. He thanked the group for their work and for attending this meeting at very short notice. The meeting was closed at 6.30pm.