

"Knebworth aims to be a vibrant and inclusive village community, a great place to live that is distinct and separate from its neighbouring communities. A place that aspires to good design and improved environmental performance where everybody has access to green spaces. A community that will accommodate sustainable growth and development in its population, services and infrastructure that embraces our values, has the minimum impact on local nature and wildlife and that ensures Knebworth's fundamental rural character is maintained."

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee meeting – 20th March 2019 8:00pm, Village Hall
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Attendees:

Graham Dormer (GD, vice chair)
Jacqueline Veater (JV)
Paul Ward (PW, KPC)
Lorna Allen (LA)

Roy Oostwouder (RO)
Robert Sprigge (RS)
Claire Graham (CG, KPC)

Apologies:

Clint Bull (CB, chair)
Andy Nation (AN)

Penny Berry (PB)
Lisa Nash (LN)

1. Minutes from previous meeting

- Accepted
- Matters arising – points incorporated into agenda

2. Review of Open Day (ALL)

- 175 visitors
- Very successful. Hourly presentations well received.
- If another Open day were to be held, it should be run in a similar format
- Observations from questions and discussions:
 - Lack of clarity / understanding – NHDC LP vs KNP
 - The limitations of a Neighbourhood Plan
 - The need to develop an Action Plan

3. Review of Open Day comments and feedback (JV)

- Feedback forms/comments – 69 received – all on Dropbox
- All policies supported, but some opposition noted in individual comments.
- Several comments indicated that some residents are still confused regarding:
 - The boundary/difference between Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan
 - Hence several objections were actually about the Local Plan
 - The limitations of a Neighbourhood Plan, hence the need to develop an Action Plan.
 - Things that KNP can do nothing about, e.g.:
 - the nature of businesses occupying retail/commercial premises, hence comment 'more restaurants'
 - The frequency of trains or buses.
- Two fulsome sets of comments were received: 10 pages from a professional planner and a couple of pages from the NHDC Traffic engineer
- A request from PTW for discussion re the 'Grain Silo' (Silage store)

- JV is compiling a summary of all comments (First draft presented). Although they will be categorised by subject area as comments may cover more than one subject
- Each group will need to review the entire set of comments for potential changes to Policies or adding to the Action Plan
- Deadlines for completing (TBC)
- JV thanked for her work on the feedback

4. Landowners (PW)

- A Landowners meeting was held in early March
- A significant strongly supported proposal was that any 'Planning gain' should be retained within Knebworth rather than diluted into NHDC funds for the whole district. The use of such monies should be determined by the view of Knebworth residents. A charity may need to be set up for the purpose.
- See Document entitled 'Cost of Community infrastructure' for a list of proposed projects.
- No date has been set for the next engagement with Landowners

5. Next Steps

- What do we need to do now to move forward?
 - See Document entitled 'Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan – Revised Programme – March 2019 to completion (dated 20/03/19)' in the Project Management folder
- Next big milestone – Presentation of Policies to NHDC, for comment and verification (late April?) – leading toward full Regulation 14 Consultation in June - July
- Expecting no action required by KNP on the Strategic Environmental Assessment – NHDC have recently produced one – Our Policies will improve on it consequently we should not require an SEA
- Actions:
 - Scope to be produced for an application for funding for Technical assistance on Transport (GD)
 - JV to share Open day feedback summary
 - All groups to review Open day feedback summary to consider if policies should be modified and develop Action plan alongside Neighbourhood plan
 - RO to develop a Style guide for documents

6. A.O.B - None

7. Date of next meeting

- Wednesday 17th April

8. Meeting closed at 9:40 PM