

Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan
Minutes of meeting held on
24 November 2014 at 8.00pm

Present: Jeff Tutt (Chair), John Peto, Terry Fitchett, Julian Owen,
Louise Blackshaw (Secretary), Stella Scrivener (Planning Aid England),
25 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Philip Coulson, David Datlen, Julie Datlen

Jeff Tutt welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 23.10.14 had been previously circulated and were agreed and signed as an accurate record.

3. Current Position

JT gave a summary on what has been happening during the year with the Neighbourhood Plan. The area (Boughton and Dunkirk) was officially designated by Swale Borough Council in September 2013. The Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire and Housing Needs Survey have been sent out to all households; the housing survey recently completed with over 25% response. The information from these surveys gives the background information, and most importantly the views of the community, which are needed to enable the plan to be written.

Next Steps

A draft plan will be written and will be available for comments from everyone in the community. Following this it will be submitted to an independent Inspector for it to be validated. A referendum will take place where all those on the electoral roll will be entitled to vote on whether it should be adopted.

Once adopted the plan is a legal document and will sit alongside Swale Borough Council's Local Plan and will be taken into account when deciding on future planning applications/development within the designated area.

4. Professional Advice

Catherine Hughes, the planning consultant appointed to give advice on developing the plan, had produced a Position Statement giving her initial thoughts from the results of the questionnaire on what the community want and how the plan will look. It was pointed out that Business Use had not been included. JT will discuss with Catherine and ask that this is added.

Jeff Tutt introduced Stella Scrivener from Planning Aid England.

Stella gave an overview on what is happening with Neighbourhood Planning throughout the country. There are 30 Plans at Referendum stage and 1000 at a similar stage to us.

Stella gave a helpful summary on what a Neighbourhood Plan is, what it can do and what it can't do and the process of developing the plan through to Referendum stage. She then answered various questions from the floor.

5. Housing Needs Survey

The draw took place for two prizes for a meal at the White Horse and a meal at the Red Lion. The lucky winners were: D Coles and Mrs J B Collyer

6. Timeline

Jeff Tutt will circulate the latest version.

7. Finance

The £6480 grant funding will be spent by 31/12/14. Currently looking at whether there is an opportunity to apply for a bridging grant for additional funds. It is not known yet whether there will be any additional grant money available from April 2015. Also continuing to speak to Swale Borough Council to see whether any funding is available.

Fundraising – wine and wisdom evening to be arranged in the New Year.

8. Communication

Peter Williams is currently speaking to community association/clubs who meet in Boughton & Dunkirk to make them aware of the Neighbourhood Plan and how they can get involved.

9. Date of Next Meeting: 16 December 8pm