

Record of Much Birch Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering group meeting 26 April 2018.

Present. Steering Group; Dave Goldsmith (Chairman) , Lesley Gare, Chris Grover ,Coline Grover Geoff Nichol, Steve Turner (PC), Roisin Burge (PC),Bill Bloxsome (Data Orchard) Chris Gooding (Data Orchard)

1. Apologies Shirley Coates, Tricia Egerton

2. Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Finance

The Budget spend for year 1 was confirmed £5100 with £4000 remaining for year 2 (Original grant money available £9000). All payments have been passed (as required) to the Clerk to the M.B. Parish Council

Discussion about the budget for year 2 identified the need to apply for additional funds to cover the extra work on site assessments arising from the complexity of the layout and number of settlements in the parish.

Action. Chris Gooding (Data Orchard) to submit a revised assessment of costs for year 2 to include site assessments undertaken by Data Orchard Independent consultant

4. Approval of Minutes of meeting 29 March 2018.

These had been circulated and agreed.

5. Matters arising.

Mr Bill Bloxsome provided feedback on his informal review of parish boundaries including the previous settlement boundaries (ref UDP and Much Birch Parish plan 2004). Examples of factors which will need to be taken into account in planning for future Housing and development in Much Birch Parish (reference Herefordshire Core Strategy and MB Community consultation feedback) were given .Mr Bloxsome confirmed that if the Much Birch NDP is able to demonstrate the identification of sites and potential for achievement of delivery of housing numbers required for the area then the Neighbourhood plan will have significant weight in future planning decisions and may in some instances take precedence over the core strategy.

Settlement Boundaries. Action. The Chairman undertook to locate maps of the parish (previously purchased for initial community consultation) and it was agreed that these need to be updated in order to gain an accurate view of development that has taken place on the edges of boundaries since the original settlement boundaries were drawn.

6.&7

(i) Call for sites for consideration for future Housing development in Much Birch.

Mr Bloxsome (DO) advised that about 40 sites had been submitted for consideration plus some arising from the Herefordshire Council SHLAA consultation of 2015. All who have submitted sites will be contacted by Mr Bloxsome who will advise that sites will be required to be made public (as part of the ongoing community consultation) but the ownership will not be publicly identified.

(ii). Development of criteria for Assessment of sites

Mr Bloxsome (DO) referred to the objectives that should inform the setting of **criteria** in particular the results of the Much Birch Community consultation/survey 2017 together with a standard range of criteria and critical issues. The key areas arising from in an initial discussion of 26 possible areas for inclusion in a MB Criteria for Assessment policy were discussed, agreed and noted as follows:

1-5 retain

6 remove

7,8,9 retain

10 remove

11,12,13 retain

14 remove

15,16 retain

17 remove

18-22 retain

23 Avoid coalescence of settlement areas.

24-26 retain

8. Community Presentation and Consultation 2.

It was agreed that this will probably take place in autumn 2018 when further work has been done on updating of maps of settlement boundaries, the refinement of policies, proposed criteria for independent assessment of sites and site assessments.

9. AOB. Agenda items for next meeting

Updating Parish maps/settlement boundaries.

The identification of sites

Further development Criteria for Assessment of sites.

Date of next meeting Thursday 31 May 2018