



## **Medbourne Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 May 2016**

**Present:** Bernadette Lee (Chair), Councillor Gidley-Wright, Councillor Easton, Martin Delaney, David Nance, Trevor Pemberton, Caroline Jack, Meriel Godfrey, Bill Barrie, Graham Thomson (Clerk to the PC)

In attendance: Gary Kirk, Your Locale

**1. Apologies:** Nickie Philbin

**2. Welcome:** The Chair welcomed all to the meeting

**3. Declarations of interest:** None

**4. Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 20 April were accepted as a true record following the correction of dates.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

##### **5.1. Revised Harborough Housing Options**

Although the revised options state 22-34 houses there is indication that this might increase by up to 15%. Evidence to date suggests that numbers agreed in Neighbourhood Plans will be protected against further development.

##### **5.2. Locality Funding**

To note that the first application was accepted and funding received. Gary Kirk advised that an application could now be made to Awards for All. This was agreed.

**GK/GT**

##### **5.3. Membership of MNPAC**

There had been no response to recent flyer. It was agreed to leave this to the open day and attempt to identify people at that event

**6. Public Representations:** There were no members of the public present

#### **7. Developing the Neighbourhood Plan - Role of MNPAC and PC**

TG-W gave background to the decision to form an advisory group and the roles of the Councillors who attend. He wanted to ensure that committee members were clear as to the role and why an Advisory Committee was set up as opposed to a Steering Group. It was acknowledged that progress to date had been slower

than some people expected but as the structure has been put in place the pace and depth of work will increase significantly although the MNPAC will need to continue working within national guidelines and Neighbourhood Plans remain the responsibility of Parish Councils because of the Statutory status. This offers protection to MNPAC should there be a legal challenge. It was also confirmed that the PC does want to involve the whole community as much as possible to influence and support an agreed Neighbourhood Plan

## **8. Parish Council Meeting Report**

Nothing specific to report other than reported under matters arising

## **9. Medbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Visioning Exercise**

Gary Kirk circulated an updated background paper to reflect the revised options for housing development. This set out the 6 key theme areas identified in the national planning context. The paper described briefly an overview of the National Policy, the HDC Core Strategy in respect of each theme as well as what was needed to be considered with the Medbourne NP and what questions need to be addressed locally. Discussion took place as to how the previous questionnaire should be linked to a revised version. It was agreed that what needed to be acknowledged was the agreement to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. It was also important that the approach must be to ensure that the open event sought to identify what was important to those living in the village and that there was a real opportunity to influence all aspects of the plan including housing location and design. Each theme was explained and discussed. It was noted that perceptions were not always reflected in the available data, supporting the need to seek local views as to what was important to the village. There was considerable discussion on each of the themes with a number of issues raised that would benefit from discussion with the wider community including the importance of local facilities, how and whether they could be protected and what additional facilities might be of benefit. The key themes are:

- Planning Policy Context
- Economy
- Community Facilities
- Transport and access
- Housing and the Built Environment
- Natural Environment

These would form the key areas to be examined with those attending the open day. It was agreed that this was a very informative session.



### **10. Open Event Saturday 18 June**

Availability was clarified and the need to involve those villagers who might have a specific interest in one or more areas. BL reported on the pre-meeting and what had been agreed. Committee members were encouraged to be involved in circulating flyers on a door to door basis including, where possible, knocking to encourage support. Arrangements for refreshments and the availability of information was confirmed. The importance of the event and ensuring those living in the village understood the value of the event and their involvement. Further action and planning to be led by sub group. **TG-W/LE/MG/CJ/BL**

The meeting closed at 21.20

Date of next meeting Wednesday 15 June 2016 at 19.30