

# Stoke Golding Neighbourhood Development Plan

## Minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2015 in St.Margaret's School

1. This was an open meeting. Jim Hope took the Chair, introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting to begin the process of establishing the Stoke Golding Neighbourhood Development Plan Advisory Committee.
2. **Apologies** were received from P. Spokes, R. Mitchell, A. White, R. Terheege and S. Anderson.
3. Attendees: William Alston, Bernard Arnold, Cynthia Arnold, Alex Bailey, Paula Bailey, Sarah Beale, Terry Bottrill, Glyn Chapman, Andrew Clover, Sam Crowfoot, Gary Dexter, Colin Edwards, Kathy Edwards, Ruth Fisher, Anne Fullagar, David Goodsell, Pauline Goodsell, Sally Halstead, James Hope, Dawn Malpass, Steve Martin, Bob McCreight, Keith Moggridge, Shirley Moggridge, Joyce Mobbs, Peter Mobbs, James Moody, John Moulding, Brian Ninness, Jane Ninness, Ella Orr, Chris Pegg, Jan Pettyfer, Helen Shipton, Diane Sinclair, Charlotte Smith, John Smith, Ian Reid, Janet Reid, Beryl Riddington, Dave Riddington, JA Strong, Reg Ward, Tony Witts.
4. The chair recognised the hard work that had already been put in by Sarah Beale and for the research done by Theresa Case. He thanked the Stoke Golding Parish Council (PC) for agreeing to support the establishment of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Advisory Committee. Appreciation was also given to Ella Orr(booking hall and publicity), Anne Fullagar(minutes), William Alston(offering help with finance), Sue Mitchell(offering help with finance), Di Sinclair(publicity), Charlotte Smith(publicity), Ella Orr (publicity) and Pauline Goodsell and the postcard deliverers.
5. **Feedback on previous meetings**
  - a) **Out of Parish areas - Willow Park and farms**

What is the boundary of Stoke Golding? Steve Martin said that the parish boundary excludes some businesses and houses. He has talked to Willow Park businesses, Tomlinson's at Romerden, Lychgate Fisheries and Fox Covert Farm and all regard themselves as part of the Stoke Golding neighbourhood and want to be included in the plan. Steve is to collect further information from other areas for the next meeting.
  - b) **Discussions with Higham on the Hill Parish Council**

Higham on the Hill PC is agreeable to Tomlinson's at Romerden and Willow Park being included in our neighbourhood plan. Sarah Beale will advise Higham on the Hill PC that there may be other places that we wish to include.
  - c) **Discussions with Planners**

Glyn Chapman said three approaches had been made to experts in drawing up neighbourhood plans. One was too busy to help, one provided documents for guidance and another, Kirkwells, sent a larger document with case studies. Their basic cost is £7,500, but there might be additional charges. £8,000 could be raised from grants. Glyn recommended using experts.

d) **Kirkwells and other planners**

Roy Mitchell emailed that Kirkwells had been recommended by a former colleague. They had done a significant number of neighbourhood plans.

e) **Treasurer**

William Alston reported that there had been no transactions.

f) **Facebook and social media**

Ella Orr stressed the need to use Facebook and other forms of social media to engage a wider cross section people. Ella had put together a Facebook page in readiness. Facebook etc could also be used to publicise meetings and it could be linked to the village website.

g) **Logo**

Helen Shipton had done some sketches which she would circulate for comment. What she liked about our area - the buildings, scenery, and the canal - was important in producing a design.

**6. Expressions of interest for the posts of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

Jim Hope had said he would step down if other people were prepared to chair the meetings. Roy Mitchell had indicated he would serve as Chair, Vice Chair or in any other capacity. Steve Martin and Glyn Chapman said they were prepared to co-chair, if this was possible. (Sarah Beale to check).

**7. Discussions of model for Advisory Committee**

One model is to have a large group with an active core forming the advisory committee. Another is to have a small group, say 6 - 10, who have distinct roles. The small group model would need to ensure that the advisory committee listens to what others have to say and gives people opportunities to comment. Other local neighbourhood advisory committees range from 8 to 14 in number. By a show of hands the meeting favoured the small group model. There will be subgroups. Advisory committee meetings will be open.

**8. Volunteers for the Advisory Committee**

William Alston, Sarah Beale, Glyn Chapman, Jim Hope, Steve Martin, Roy Mitchell, Ella Orr. Stewart Anderson had offered to be an adviser. This is a two year project so it is anticipated that there may be changes to the personnel of the advisory committee over time.

Jim Hope and Glyn Chapman said possible roles could be Chair, Secretary, Minute taker, Finance co-ordinator, Liaison with the PC, Liaison with the voluntary sector, Liaison with the business community, agricultural liaison, Liaison with leisure activities, Funding co-ordinator and someone with legal knowledge would be an asset.

There has to be a member of the PC on the advisory group. Both Sarah and Roy would fulfil that role.

**9. Volunteers to lead posts**

- a) Anne Fullagar said she would take minutes initially. Need to find someone else who might help.
- b) Funding is required. Until we are ratified as a neighbourhood development plan advisory group we can't apply for funding. The PC has given £1,000. In the interim the Thomas Barton charity has been approached to assist with funding the post cards giving details of this meeting, which were deemed a successful way of contacting people in the village.

**10. Priorities for the next meeting**

- a) Elect chair/vice chair
- b) Agree Plan area
- c) Expand and diversifying the advisory committee
- d) Logo
- e) Preparing roles

**11. Frequency and time of meetings**

The plan is for the advisory committee to meet monthly in the second week to fit in with PC meetings. Subgroups can meet as and when required. They might want to be open and meet in venues larger than someone's house. Hall hire needs to be paid, though on this occasion St. Margaret's School had let us have the hall free of charge. Helen Shipton to write a letter of thanks to the Headteacher.

**12. Date, time and venue of next meeting**

Probably Monday 12th October at 7-00pm. Venue to be confirmed.

**13. AOB- some points from the final discussion**

- Jim reminded us that the PC is the legal body that ratifies the decisions of the village. They will be asked to ratify the decisions of the advisory committee. They will present our neighbourhood plan to the Borough Council.
- It will take 2 years for the neighbourhood plan to be put into place. It can't influence any planning until it is fully approved (in about two years time)
- Neighbourhood plans don't stop housing development, but they can influence how it is implemented.
- They can show the PC where funding should be directed. They can influence the Borough Council's core strategy.
- A neighbourhood plan is not just about housing, but you have to limit what is in it by what you can cope with

Beryl Riddington, who was born and raised in the village and has lived her married life here, made an emotional plea that our village be kept as a village and that the advisory committee can work together successfully.