

STEERING GROUP MEETING/OPEN FORUM

Minutes of the 24th meeting – 30th May 2018 (v3fin)

Held in The George Inn, Upstairs Meeting Room, Maulden from approx 20:30hrs.

Present:

Simon Barnes	Chairman
Russell Aston	Vice-Chairman
Cllr Philip Jackson	Chairman, Maulden Parish Council
Mark Bingham	Leader, Social, Education etc Group
Roger Ball	Leader, Environment Gp
Cllr Phil Allen	Maulden Parish Council
Cllr Paul Downing	Central Bedfordshire Councillor (part)
Alan Plom	Leader Infrastructure Gp
Ruth Plom	Social, Education, Welfare Group
Martin Wright	Observer
Cath Benneyworth	Observer
Leslee Reynolds	Observer
Patsy Aston	Observer

Apologies:

Lesley Illingworth	Minutes Sec
David Illingworth	Housing WGp
Nigel Coote	Environment WGp
Cllr John Coyle	Maulden Parish Council Cllr
Mark & Michael Hillson	Observers
Joyce Ormrod	Environment WGp

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND UPDATE

SB opened the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (25/4/18)

Last minutes agreed and signed. **Action:** Post on Website & Dropbox

3. MATTERS ARISING

(i) See separate list of outstanding actions.

(ii) In addition, re **MPC Stakeholder Group** and consultation - PJ confirmed that MNP would be involved. He advised that MPC were considering 4 options for future development in Maulden, on which he wanted views from the village:

- As per the Local Plan = 86 houses proposed, of which 40 have been agreed already.
- Use of MPC land.
- Use of CBC land.
- Engage with local landowners.

(iii) The benefit of options b), c) and d) would be the possibility of obtaining money from developers for improvements to village facilities or infrastructure.

(iv) The discussion went on to consider the role of a Neighbourhood Plan and how it can or should influence local planners. RA mentioned that Harlington use professional consultants to help them respond to planning applications and wondered whether Maulden should do similar as recent objections didn't appear to be successful.

4. VILLAGE UPDATE

4.1 Green Infrastructure Survey (GIS)

4.1(i) GST's update email was discussed briefly. Their draft GI report has been circulated to the Environment Group previously. This gives the background, summarises the results of the consultation, describes Maulden's GI in terms of landscape, biodiversity, historic environment and access, open space and recreation (with maps of each) and recommends policies for the NP. 8 'projects' suggested by the first round of consultation were ranked in order of priority by the second - as sent to last NP mtg.

4.1(ii) The Local Green Space (LGS) Assessment, the proposed GI Network and Action Plan are expected soon. The LGS is the new designation that can be made through NPs, and carry a similar level of protection as Green Belt. A list of proposed LGS sites and a map were provided. [nb. These do not include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), such as Maulden Woods and Church Meadow, as the SSSI designation already provides a stronger level of protection.]

4.1(iii) There may be other LGS sites that could be included. Some suggestions from individuals have not been included, but an agreed suggestion from the NP Steering Group would carry more weight. Not all on the list will go through as there are various criteria to be met, eg size, proximity to village, local significance, etc.

Action: SB/RB/Environment WGp to consider the report, the list of LGS sites for designation, and suggest any other sites that should be included.

4.1(iv) **Rights of Way** - Several concerns regarding footpaths registered during the consultation have been passed to CBC's RoW Officer. One concerned an unmarked path on the allotments. MPC to be sent a copy of the email. **Action:** AP/RB.

2. Maulden Parish Council

AP had received some criticism at the last PC meeting, concerning the projected end date for the NP, but had explained that we are still within our overall target of 4-5 years. PJ agreed that MPC should hold the MNP grant to save paying VAT. The Grant application and invoices would need to be in the name of MPC. Need to liaise with Alison Winskell (MPC Clerk). **Action** SB/SM.

3. Planning Applications

PA updated the meeting on the current status of:

- **CB/18/00435/OUT & CB/17/00305 - Old Farm Clophill Rd for 49 dwellings.**
Awaiting decision on new application submitted February 2018. Appeal hearing for previous application CB/17/00305/OUT will take place on 23 August for 1 day at CBC Offices.
- **CB/17/00981/OUT – Land North of Clophill Road for 21 dwellings & CB/17/04583/OUT – Land adj 129A and 131 Clophill Road for 25 dwellings**
Both these applications have now received approval.
- **CB/17/01156/OUT – Land East of 13 Clophill Road for 14 dwellings.**
Following decision of CBC Development Committee Meeting on 31/01/18 to "Minded to Refuse", now awaiting news on date of appeal.
- **CB/17/03546/OUT – Land at Clophill Road for 50 dwellings.**
Application refused in October 2017. Appeal lodged on 27/3/18. Appeal hearing on 16 October.
- **CB/17/03937/OUT – Land South of Limbersey Lane for 14 dwellings.**
Application refused in May 2018.
- **CB/18/01385/OUT – Land adj to Sandbourne, 24 Clophill Road for 42 dwellings.**
Application awaiting decision.
- **CB/17/04032/FULL – Land at corner of Clophill Road and Green End, Maulden for 5 detached dwellings**
This land has been purchased by GPS Estates Ltd for £1.7m.

5. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

5.1 - **Membership of Working Groups** – As SB explained in the AGM he wants to think about how the work of the NP could be streamlined. His initial thoughts were that a core group of 6 people could take things forward, but he is open to ideas. **Action** SB.

5.2 - **Action Plan** - AP to review list of outstanding actions from all previous meetings and produce update list for next meeting, **Action** AP

5.3 - **Future Working Group/Village Consultation meetings** – Village Hall already booked for 10th September. All agreed this should be the target date for the next consultation - possibly merging different topics in one meeting.

5.4 - **Finalising 'As Is' statements & survey questions** - RA queried what this was – it is the evidence building part of the plan. To be followed up when SB decides on the way forward.

5.5 - **Communications** (articles, website, social media) – PA thought that more effective communication with the village, as many still do not know what the MNP is - despite the leaflet delivered to the majority of houses and articles, stands at event, etc. Also, the website is being updated by RB, AP is writing an article for the next Parish Magazine and he will publicise MNP (using the banner and leaflets) during the Open Gardens event on 3 June. GST have been asked to prepare a summary of the GIS project and display of related environmental project work by children at the Village School, for the Village Show on 23 June, but this will cost approx. £250. PJ agreed to the PC underwriting this until the MNP obtains funding. Help is also needed to man the stand at the Show on 23rd. **Action** AP/PJ.

5.6 - **Regulation** - AP's draft 'Privacy Policy statement' had been posted on the website by 25 May, to comply with GDPR (the new 'Data Protection' Regulations). RB had discovered further guidance and will be incorporating this in the version on the website. **Action** RB. [See separate list of actions.]

6. PROJECT PLAN & FUNDING

6.1 **Projects 2018-19** - Deferred pending SB's decision on the way forward.

6.2 **Application for Funding 2018-19** - As discussed and agreed at the AGM (and 4.2 above), the MPC will retain the MNP's Grant - which will have to be requested in MPC's name, in liaison with MPC's Clerk (Alison Winskell).. **Action** SB/SM/PJ.

6.3 **Updating the Project Plan** - Action: RA offered to take this forward. **Action:** AP to send v1 to RA.

7. WHAT NEXT?

See separate list of actions, attached.

8. AOB

The eventual referendum was mentioned. A majority of those voting is used as the minimum to approve a NP. PJ suggested we should aim for a 50% response for the referendum, although it is accepted this is an aspirational target. The final Plan has to be approved by an Inspector.

9. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 27th June at 8pm, Upstairs in The George, as usual. Anyone with an interest in development and planning in Maulden are welcome to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at approx 22.00.