

Minutes of a Meeting of the NP Residents Working Group
Held at 20.00 Hours on Monday 22nd July 2024
At St Mary's C of E Primary School

Present: Mark Strutt (MS), Kerry Stedman (KS), Mick Howarth (MH), Sue Brown (SB), Alan Fisher (AF), Jonathan Diamond (JD), Gary Matthews, (GM) Nicky Joshua of the RCCE (NJ) and 12 members of the public, including Mark Ratcliff of the Hatfield Regis Local History Society

1. Actions from the Last Working Group Meeting

All of the actions from the last WG meeting will be considered in more detail under each appropriate heading.

2. Draft Vision and Objectives

A draft copy of our core objectives was read out at the meeting. Nicky pointed out that some of the objectives were unnecessary as they already had protective status. The Group would continue to work on completing this document, ready to be included in the Plan.

3. Housing Allocation

A Call for Sites invitation has been circulated in draft form to the Group for comment. Once approved this will be worked up into the correct format ready to be delivered to all households in the Parish, via the Parish Magazine, in early September.

To ensure that as many landowners as possible are aware of the Call for Sites, the following actions will also take place:

- Direct contact will be made to known landowners. (MS/AF)
- A Land Registry search has already commenced. (AF)
- Advertisements will be placed in one of the local newspapers. (AF)
- Details of the invitation will be posted on the NP Facebook page and also the Parish Council website. (KS/AF)

The invitation will be open for 2 to 3 months after which the Group will gather all relevant information, including our Landscape Assessment Survey, ready to recommend the most appropriate sites to the residents of the Parish.

The RCCE have already provided us with an Assessment Checklist Template to help us in this task.

4. Community Survey

A draft version of the Community Survey has been received from the RCCE and a sample of the results were put on display.

The Group agreed to meet as soon as possible to finalise the general narrative of the survey so that it can be issued. In the meantime, the Group has agreed to publish the actual results of the survey.

5. Landscape Character Assessment

The quotation from Wynne-Williams has been accepted and contact has been made with one of the directors, Bobby Brown. He stated that work will commence immediately on a desktop study and he will then arrange a meeting with members of the Working Group to view areas of the Parish.

6. History of the Parish

Mark Ratcliff of the Hatfield Regis Local History Society attended the meeting and was asked to elaborate on the draft history of Hatfield Broad Oak. In particular to possibly include something on Aubrey de Vere who founded the Priory and also to include some early maps and photographs. Mark was thanked for the work he has produced so far.

7. Baseline Information

Baseline information which has been collected to date includes:

- Population details
- Employment
- Car/Van ownership
- House prices
- Housing tenure
- Crime figures

Some other areas of data were suggested:

- General Practice (NHS)
- Education

8. Policies

The Group have started to list the policies they would like to see in the Plan. A rough draft has been circulated and this will be extended where necessary.

9. A O B

Adrian Birt dropped into the meeting to hand over a report and photographs of all Public Rights of Way in the Parish. Adrian was thanked for all his efforts in producing this and promised to keep us updated with any changes.

A list of some of the next steps was read out. This included:

- Locate and contact clubs and societies in the Parish. Kerry has already put out a request for members to contact us and this now needs to be expanded on. (KS)
- A survey of employers in the Parish. Alan will investigate and list as many of our employers in the Parish as Possible. (AF)
- Commence a Local Green Spaces assessment.