

Bromham Village Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BVNPSG)

Meeting held on

Tuesday 23rd February, 7:30pm, via Zoom conference

Present

Jim Butler, Peter Davey, Bryn Read, Catherine Read, Mel Rhys, John Schofield, Greg Wilkinson

Agenda

1. Election / Appointment of new Chairperson

The group thanked Catherine for the hard work that she has undertaken in the role of Chairperson and acknowledged that she felt it was time for someone else to take on the position.

The Parish Council will appoint the new Chairperson at their next meeting. As vice chair Greg chaired this meeting.

2. Minutes of meeting on 2nd February

One slight amendment is to be made, otherwise they were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

3. Review of actions

Owner	Action	Progress
Everyone	Review Green Infrastructure	Working to get detail regarding Spye Park
Jim	Scan & send to John copies of the three letters from people looking for housing here	Two letter have been sent, there now may be more
Jim	Find out contact addresses for the remaining landowners	One remaining. Needs to be emailed to John
Catherine	Advertise for new members	Will put on Facebook to tie in with The Hoot
John	Obtain copy of PC minutes with decision on Local Green Spaces	Done
Catherine	Hamlet assessment	Done
Catherine & Bryn	Heritage Owner letter preparation	
Jim	Details of cobbles for short list heritage nominations	Picture of the original building sent, but need some words to go with it.
John	Send amended Hamlets map to Place Studio	Done
John	Sen Catherine the results of the LGS survey	Done

Bromham Village Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BVNPSG)

Jim	Email Bryn information about the management of Roundway Down	In progress
John	Contact the owner of Spye Park to see if we can get information about the management of the park for the report.	Done
Catherine	Pagets & Collins for information to help with the local food production section of the Green & Blue Infrastructure report.	Jim to action
John	Write article for The Hoot & run past Catherine before submission. Then put this article on the website	Done
John	Take down the LGS survey from the website	Checked after the meeting and have now stopped the survey.

4. Matters arising from meeting with Parish Council on 22/2/21

Following the briefing from the PC the steering group understand that the PC wish to reconsider a site that was deemed unsuitable in the AECOM site assessment. The criteria for non-inclusion of the site was its distance from the settlement boundary. The PC view the essential nature of Bromham as a parish containing five separate hamlets and therefore that it should be appropriate to allocate sites in the hamlets as well as in or near the main settlement. To ensure that this site can remain under consideration a modified site assessment methodology may be needed.

The Parish Council have decided that they wish to appoint a new planning consultant, with specific instructions to review the site assessment methodology to fit better with Bromham being a parish made up of 5 hamlets, whilst still meeting the planning regulations.

The outgoing chair emphasised the excellent working relationship that we have with Place Studio and that we are very happy with their performance in guiding us through the evidence gathering and plan drafting process to date.

It was explained by the parish councillors present that the PC would like a planning consultant with more local knowledge who will review sites distant from the main settlement boundary. The Parish Council have also expressed concern about the remaining costs indicated by Place Studio in order to complete an NDP including sites, and hence the need for further grant funding. However Jim acknowledged that this was indicated in the original quotation from Place Studio and so should not have come as a surprise.

Greg: Ask the PC whether the new consultant will just be doing some interim work on the site assessment or will be taking us to the end of the NDP process

Bromham Village Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BVNPSG)

Peter and John recommended that in the first instance the PC ask consultants to examine the specific question of whether there could be a way of allocating sites distant from the settlement boundary. The reasoning being that if that is not possible, then the additional cost and the time taken to complete the NDP would then be minimised by continuing with Place Studio.

It is not clear to the group whether Locality will fund a second round of site assessment. This is for the PC to ascertain.

Greg: Take back to the PC that they need to provide a brief for the new consultant and ask how this will be funded.

The PC would like an additional site, which was not part of the AECOM assessment, to be included. For this to be assessed the consultant will need a map and description of the site and the availability of this site will need to be known. The PC will need to provide this information. This also raised the question of how we handle further sites that are suggested whilst the NP process is ongoing this was left unresolved.

The PC specifically asked about community facilities – we already have a policy in the draft NDP relating to this. This policy should be reviewed and if necessary extended by the PC.

The timescales for the PC finding and engaging with a new consultant are not known at this point, although all in the meeting feel a sense of urgency due to the risk of predatory development applications whilst Bromham does not have the additional protection of a recognised NDP.

5. Next steps for consultation over potential site allocation(s)

On hold until the PC have engaged with a consultant to determine whether the site assessment methodology can be modified.

6. Update on Base Evidence and Draft Reports Completion

Draft NDP is now in a shared drive so that we can all view and edit – Bryn has added some introductory text.

7. Time and date of next meeting

Planned for 16th March

8. Any Other Business

Jim said that the PC plan to respond to the Wiltshire Council Local Plan consultation and asked the steering group for input. The group suggest supporting the increase from 30% to

Bromham Village Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BVNPSG)

40% for the share of affordable housing on developments of 5 or more dwellings. Regarding the proposal to set an allocation of 80 new houses (67 after those in progress are counted) the evidence we have so far shows a need for at least 14 affordable houses so suggests a figure in the region of 45-50 market value houses as a minimum.

Mel has some time when she could take some photos for the evidence gathering documents – this is probably better done in the spring when the leaves are on the trees, so for the time being there is no immediate need.

Someone contacted us about a GWR bench near the tennis court. This could be a potential heritage asset, but we need background information to be able to take this forward.