

Northam Town Council – Minutes of the Northam Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group Meeting held by Zoom on Thursday 1ST April 2021

Present: Cllrs Chalmers (Chairman), Hames, Laws, Newman-McKie and Shelley
Non-Councillor Members: Ms Bartleman and Ms J Smart

In attendance: Mrs Jane Mills – Town Clerk
Mr G Langton – Deputy Town Clerk
Mr G Townsend – Planning Consultant
Cllr Leather
1 member of the public

2104/1352 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Hodson and Mr G Allen

2104/1353 Chairman's announcements

There were none.

2104/1354 Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that all interests should be declared prior to the item being discussed.

2104/1355 To agree the agenda as published

It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published.

Proposed: Cllr Laws, Seconded: Cllr Shelley (all in favour)

2104/1356 To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held 4th March 2021

It was **resolved** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held 4th March 2021

They will be signed at a later date.

Proposed: Cllr Laws, Seconded: Cllr Shelley (majority in favour, 1 abstention Member not present at the meeting)

2104/1357 Public Participation

Members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. The period of time which is designated for public participation in accordance with standing orders shall not exceed 15 minutes.

The member of the public did not wish to speak.

2104/1358 To receive action points

Action Points were noted and a table will be incorporated in the affordable housing policy and items (b) (c) and (d) will be retained in the size of dwellings policy.

2104/1359 To receive evidence for policies (Mr Townsend)

Mr Townsend spoke about the justification for the primary residence policy. Most available evidence is anecdotal. There is no large-scale analysis, really only opinions. It may be important to consider looking at a survey. Mr Townsend will look further and report back. He was thanked for his help.

2104/1360 To consider Affordable Housing Figures (2017 Housing Needs Survey circulated by e-mail)

Members had been supplied with the Housing Needs Survey which had been instigated by Northam Town Council. Cllr Mrs Hodson was concerned that this survey was from 2017 and does not represent the current demographic. Post pandemic trends need to be looked at.

At this juncture Mr Townsend gave his apologies and left the meeting after advising Members to send him any questions.

2104/1361 To consider Cycling Issues

It was **resolved** to amend the cycle parking policy to read:

(e) all housing developments should incorporate secure and accessible cycle parking, preferably covered from the weather, and providing one space per bedroom for each dwelling and one space per five dwellings for visitor bicycles.
Proposed: Cllr Hames, Seconded: Cllr Laws (all in favour)

2104/1362 To consider finalising policies 14-16 (sent previously)

It was **resolved** to defer finalising policy 14 until the outcome of the parking group meeting and to accept policy 15 with the amendments to the size of dwellings.

Proposed: Cllr Laws, Seconded: Cllr Shelley (all in favour)

The Town Clerk was asked to place on the next agenda the following items for consideration:

- A report on parking.
- Moving forward with policies 14, 17 and 18 and
- The website

Actin Point – Place items on next agenda.

The date for the next meeting was set for 21st April 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.45 pm

Signed

Dated.....