

**Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Ewelme Neighbourhood Plan Working Party 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 8pm at the Watercress Beds**

**Chair:** Geoff Watts

**Secretary:** Shirley Meyer

**Present:** Sarah Maine, Ellie Clements, Andy Evans, Chris Jenkins, David Solomon, Andy Green, Gemma Benoliel, Mary Taylor-Lane, Jordan Watts

**Apologies:** Roger Moore, Neil Blake, Sue and David Cooper, Sam Gillman

**NB.** For the sake of brevity, participants will be referred to by their initials in these minutes.

**Further abbreviations:**

- NP (SG) Neighbourhood Plan (Steering Group)
- EPC Ewelme Parish Council
- SODC South Oxfordshire District Council
- SC Steering Committee
- SOHA South Oxfordshire Housing Association

**1. GW welcomed those present:** no new introductions were necessary.

**2. Conflict of interest:** none were declared.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.**

**4. Treasurer's Report:**

- NB had sent a short report to GW but there was nothing new to report.

**5. Minute taking:** it was agreed that the minutes should be decided after viewing the Power Point Presentation, as lighting would be low and note taking difficult.

**6. Questionnaire Presentation:**

**A vote of thanks was given to GW and EC for all the hard work they have put in entering the data and providing us with a statistical and narrative report to analyse.**

The response to the survey had been good with the percentage of total respondents over the age of 16 being 55%. We do not know how many households taking part. We had been advised that 45% is the norm, so were pleased with this result. Responses had been pretty evenly split between online and paper replies.

GW presented all committee members present with a number of printed sheets and Jordan assisted with the PPP. We looked at all the results and agreed to read and digest them more fully before the next meeting, as there is a lot of information to assimilate.

Our next steps are to analyse the data from the Questionnaire and draw out some main, significant strands for discussion. We will then be in a position to start working on our Draft Plan, and begin the process of drafting policies.

**7. Rumour of developments:** these have been numerous recently but so far no actual planning applications have been received by SODC.

- The application on Benson Road has been withdrawn.
- The application off Cat Lane has gone to appeal with the Secretary of State.

It was suggested that policies should include noise issues (RAF Benson) and the need for updating the old sewage system that is already insufficient for village needs.

#### **Specific Developments :**

- CJ reported that the planning system appears to have failed the Eyres Close residents and the building land there is now officially designated as a scrapyard. DS thought there had possibly been some maladministration and this should be investigated. However, this is outside the remit of the NP Committee.
- The survey had shown that people considered affordable housing important and it was suggested that discussions should follow with SOHA.
- SM raised the subject of the Rectory Land, following the news that Rev. Jonathan and Shirley Meyer will be leaving in the New Year. SMe will ask Rev. J. to speak to the Diocesan officer regarding this.

The Committee added to a list of questions to ask RR about planning issues.

**AOB:** none

**Date of the next meeting: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November at the Watercress Centre at 8pm.**

**SMe to book hall**

#### **Homework:**

- **All to look through the survey results and draw out significant strands around which we could begin to write a draft policy.**