

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OAKHAM AND BARLEYTHORPE
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP
held on 20th. December, 2018 at the King Centre, Barleythorpe from 3.00 p.m..

Present: Christopher Clark (CC) (chair), John Nowell (JN), Janet Hughes (JH), Paul Dowse (PD), Nick Taylor (NT), Michael Hinman (MH) (minutes), Chris Marsland (CM) and David Salkeld (DS).

Apologies: Paul Buxton (PB).

In Attendance: Simon Landucci (SL) from Openplan.

Minutes of the Meeting of 21st. November

These were approved and signed (proposed: PD; seconded: JH).

Matters Arising

CC explained that the draft Plan needed to be placed before Oakham Town Council for discussion at its 30th. January, 2019 meeting, therefore it had to be finalised to that stage by 15th. January in order to give councillors time to examine it.

Revision of Vision and Objectives

PD had pre-circulated revisions which he wished to make so that the Vision would include a reference to Rutland Water as a nearby asset, although it did not come within the area which the Plan covered, which was agreed to. The Vision was also altered so as to read "... in an environment where people can live, work and play" instead of "... in an environment where people can live, work and flourish."

In the Objectives, members decided that that for Housing should refer to "on-" as well as "off-" street parking. In the Town Centre section the word "primarily" was removed from in front of "pedestrians".

CC asked members to send PD any further comments over their areas of concern.

Draft Plan (as of 18th. December, 2018)

CC said that he wanted to ascertain from Openplan exactly what the Group's members still had to do. The list of group members shown should be amended to include all present contributors and those who had made a significant contribution in the past. SL said that the group should explain in 100 words why Oakham and Barleythorpe needed a Plan. Members should read through the sections which related to the area's Past and Present. SL would summarise the Key Issues and invite members to comment on what he had written. The Vision and Objectives were as yet in draft form.

CC undertook to provide the introductory 100 words. As regards the Policies, Openplan had done the compliance sections and were in contact with Rutland County Council about illustrative maps. CC asked members to read through the initial sections and the Policies and send any comments to MH for collation. The Delivering Good Design Policy (5.2) should include material from the neighbourhood profiles. MH agreed to furnish explanations of why Important Views (5.8) were significant, both distant vistas of the town and streetscapes. SL explained that Local Green Spaces enjoyed the same level of protection as green belt, but that they had to be actual areas, not linear footpaths or belts of trees, which however might be covered as part of the Green Infrastructure (5.10). We needed to state why a site was important. RCC already protected some spaces, but others, especially within housing estates, would not be covered by the local authority. CM said that RCC was not adopting the green spaces within the new Barleythorpe development but that the developers Larkfleet were supposed to consign them to the Oakham Heights Management Company. Openplan would compile information about green spaces' but their sensitivity and importance ought to be prioritised through local knowledge. SL would forward to CC details of green spaces as they appeared on maps so that they might be circulated to the group. DS and PD agreed to walk round the Oakham estates to gain firsthand knowledge of the spaces and walkways; AL would join them if he had the time available. CC asked that everything be done by 6th. January so that the group might review it at a meeting between then and the 15th..

Next Meeting

The date for this would be agreed via Doodle; it might be held in the Town Council chamber at the Victoria Hall in case discussion had to continue beyond 5.00 pm..