

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL

COPTHORNE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE

Report of Meeting 6-15 pm 23rd May 2017 at The Hub, Copthorne

Present:

Cllr P Blakemore (Chairman) (PB)	Mr M Livesey (ML)
Cllr C Phillips (CP)	Mr D Hanks (notes) (DH)
Mr M Woodward (MW)	Cllr L Field (LF)
Mr C Hampson (CH)	Cllr D Curzon (DC)

Other Attendees:

Cllr J Hitchcock (JH)
Cllr I Gibson (IG)

1. Welcome and Apologies

PB welcomed the members. Apologies had been received from Cllr Lord. PB welcomed Cllr Curzon and Mr Max Woodward to the committee. Cllr G Casella has also joined the committee, but sent his apologies for this meeting. Cllr J Hitchcock was invited to attend in his capacity as Chairman of the WPC Highways and Planning Committee. It was noted that, under new WPC rules, the committee will now be known as the Copthorne Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Sub-committee (if it had remained as a WPC Sub-committee, only WPC councillors could be members).

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

None declared.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the 3rd May meeting were agreed and signed. The minutes for 13th February 2017 were also signed, having been agreed at the 3rd May meeting.

4. Possible Professional Assistance, e.g. Andrew Ashcroft

PB suggested that we should consider employing a professional consultant. Crawley Down NP committee had passed information to Andrew Ashcroft. However, that was before he had become an independent consultant, so his time would be chargeable now. He had provided a template response to Crawley Down for use when replying to Reg 14 comments. This could be made available to Copthorne NP committee. In Crawley Down's experience, replies to comments had sometimes resulted in further comments, but on the whole these had been useful. IG and JH suggested that it would be better for the committee to reply to comments received ourselves, rather than employ an outside body to do so.

Regarding use of outside consultants, IG believed that nobody knew the village better than the committee. However, for future development of the NP document, JH suggested that Andrew Ashcroft could be useful in helping to frame policies, review and general guidance. Elizabeth Lawrence should be able to provide more appropriate phraseology. She is based in Storrington and is a planning consultant and inspector. She charges about £125/hour but can be difficult to contact as she is very busy. Consider also Martin Carpenter of N-Plan, who is said to be "good value". It was agreed that we should approach both Andrew Ashcroft and Elizabeth for quotations for the respective work. JH and IG said that we should try to make our document "QC proof". Contact details for all three consultants may be obtained from JH and WPC Clerk.

PB advised that there was still a long way to go before the document is finalised.

IG suggested that we re-insert the Spatial Policy. The Housing Survey will have to be undertaken again, as it is out of date.

5. Review Table of Responses

JH handed over a copy of the Crawley Down “Summary of Key Comments and Responses”. He will follow up with an electronic version. IG/JH suggested that we look again at Policy COP05 Control of New Developments. Regarding single access developments, JH said that we should look at the cumulative effect. IG said that we should go for a maximum of 30 properties, with no more allowed for a further 5 years, during which time the effect could be assessed.

We should ask Gladman for the context of their comments.

Action: PB/Clerk

There seem to be four basic sources of comments: Statutory Authorities, Developers/Landowners, Local Authorities and private individuals. The Summary of Responses sheet was briefly examined in order to decide how we would address each comment (Accept/Embrace, Reject or Consider Further).

5. Action Plan

It was decided to set up working groups of two people to address each category. We will need to send out template responses.

Action: PB

The Working Groups will be:
ML/CP: COP01 & COP02
PB/LF/DC: COP03 & COP04

6. Housing Survey

MW will meet with CP and ML to help determine the data required.

7. Any Other Business

None

7. Dates for Next Meetings

The next meeting will be at 6-15 pm Tuesday 13th June 2017, at The Hub.

The meeting closed at 8-00 pm.

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____