

## MINUTES

### Nineteenth Meeting of Renhold Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

April 3rd 2023 at 7:30 pm

**Present** N Gribble (Acting Chair), K Herkes, I Mclver, S Mitchell-Wood, P Norris T Ploszajski, A Quince, J Roberts, D Ivins, C Dietz and K Rayner

**Apologies** P Sawford

#### **Agenda**

1. Welcome and apologies
2. No declaration of interests
3. Matters arising from last meeting

CD has been away so has not been able to liaise with NG on AECOMS

PN has circulated a Letter from Kim Wilson. The designation of the Ends needs more work to help define them. More input from Gemma at BRCC. There are several confusing aspects and Ravensden have used a different method to define the ends separating built up areas from green space. A Sub committee of TP, CD, PN, KH, AQ will meet at the Chapter House 24 Apr 7pm.

The SEA will need to be removed from the Project plan

It was suggested that a question could be asked in the parish Magazine to ask residents to confirm if they had solar panels or EV charge points.

Dave Chetwin would be asked to perform a health check on the plan so far. This could involve rewriting but will also highlight good practice.

#### 4 Amendments to Timeline

The timelines have slipped and the worst- case completion date is expected to be mid 2025.

The timeline requires amending after each meeting and the colour coding requires a key. TP

BBC need to carry out a screening report to show that the SEA is not required KR

#### 5 Dark skies policy

As there is no existing policy at present, a policy must be developed to include in the neighbourhood plan to ensure that the dark skies policy becomes a requirement.

The specific characteristics of Renhold dark skies areas must be defined and additional details of how 24 hour lighting disrupts wildlife must be included and residents must be consulted.

The policy must give evidence to show large developments with 24hour lighting are detrimental to wildlife.

A design guide must be produced to provide evidence and design guidance. To prevent these characteristics by becoming a planning requirement adopted by the parish council.

The policy would not be applied retrospectively but residents in the areas that are already lit could choose to limit the hours that the street lights operates for, if desired.

Areas could be defined by distance from presently lit areas to assess the ecological effect and BRC, RSPB and bat experts could have input.

**KR and CD** to look for examples of dark skies policies in other council's documents.

**KR** to create a policy document to go to next Parish Council Meeting on Tues 16 May to put in motion adoption of the policy.

**NG and DI** to raise at PC meeting.

6 Contact Kim Wilson & Gill Cowie for them to review our progress and recommend next steps- Sonia and Kim would review. Need to make sure that everything to date is in line. **AQ** to liaise with JR to check minutes.

7 AOB

TP has received the template for building site assessment and examples of sites assessed by Ravensden from Steve Arnold.

The template appears to be very technical requiring assessment of geographical and archaeological features of sites.

It needs to be ascertained if these have already been submitted and therefore assessed by BBC During the call for sites. Kim and Gill to be asked for assistance.

If it is necessary to use Ravensden template then our results will be consistent with theirs and valid. An independent consultant could be used to assess using Ravensden template.

It was thought that any assessment by BBC would be a desktop exercise and not by site visit. If BCC have assessed the sites, do we agree with that assessment?

KH has contacted the planning department on the subject of planning guidance for the inclusion of solar panels. There are no obligatory requirements for housing.

The refurbishment of commercial premises points to a 38 page CRDS (carbon reduction Design Standards).

It is apparent that we must be specific about what we require in this regard.

It should be included as a supplemental policy. Then it should be specified that new buildings must have sustainable and carbon neutral alternative heating systems and not rely on gas (or oil). **KH** to send out link.

**NG** has sent out details of a CPRE talk on Rooftop Renewables. It is free but a ticket must be obtained.

A Sub committee of **TP, CD, PN, KH, AQ** to discuss the defining of the ends

The timeline requires amending after each meeting and the colour coding requires a key. **TP**

BBC need to carry out a screening report to show that the SEA is not required **KR**

**KR and CD** to look for examples of dark skies policies in other council's documents.

Need to make sure that everything to date is in line. **AQ** to liaise with JR to check minutes.

**KH** to send out link on Sustainable and carbon neutral alternative heating systems.

Next meeting MON 15 MAY 19:30.