

Appendix A – To Minutes of Barkway Parish Council Meeting

Monday 13th May 2019

Barkway and Nuthampstead Neighbourhood Plan Committee

5th Meeting - Wednesday 24th April 2019 - 7.30pm

Community Room, Barkway Sports Pavilion

1. Attendance

Ruth Fleetwood **RF** (Govresources), Catharine Toms **CT** (Clerk/RFO Barkway PC), Bill Dennis **WD** (Cllr. Barkway PC), Peter Baker **PB** (Cllr. Barkway PC), Mike Chapman **MC** (Cllr. Nuthampstead PM), Julia Magill **JM** (resident) and Elena Sapsford **ES** (resident)

2. Apologies

Jackie Connolly (Cllr. Barkway PC)

3. Agreement on policies required by each topic group (referencing Govresources draft document provided before last meeting), which will enable Govresources to go ahead and write the draft policies

GovResources had, since the last meeting, produced a revised draft Neighbourhood Plan (v.7) which included all the policies decided on at the March meeting. This latest version had a much clearer framework for the topic groups to work with. This document had previously been forwarded to the Committee who had been asked to review the new document prior to the meeting. Some minor changes were agreed - changing negatively worded items, removing references to the shop and adding an extra objective; also including 'creation' as well as 'preserving' for some items.

(See item 9 for the updated version of the vision and objectives agreed)

Other points discussed:

- Re the community hub, everyone liked the idea. An example of a good one in another village is at Gamlingay - see link <http://www.gamlingayecohub.org.uk/>. JM is still awaiting feedback on queries but suspects this could be because of the council purdah leading up to elections so will only chase after the purdah period in May.
- Re housing, it was agreed that we wanted new development to include an eclectic mix of housing, preferably in an informal layout i.e. not laid out like an estate. Also, not in favour of having a communal area within a new housing area as there are very good facilities in the rest of the village & it would discourage integration. Not sure about having 40% affordable homes as this hasn't worked in nearby Reed where cheaper housing for rental has stood empty (this type of housing is more suited to towns where there is better public transport). However, it would be good if some housing could be designated to younger people or those from the village if this is possible. Want new housing to be as sustainable as possible with grey water recycling, electric points for cars (solar powered) etc. - much easier/cheaper to build these in at the start than to retro-fit them
- Re local green spaces & views, work will continue to identify these and preferably photos will be taken when sites/views include spring flowers. For heritage, it doesn't look as though Barkway has a conservation area appraisal which would detail existing listed buildings - but there is a list at <https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/england/barkway-north-hertfordshire-hertfordshire#.XMFmUfZFyP8>

It might be worth finding out if there is a plan to produce a conservation area appraisal for Barkway in the near future (but suspect it won't be in time for your NP). For non-listed buildings, look to see if there is anything not currently listed that you would like to include - this could be something like a phone box or bus shelter (doesn't have to be a house) - but would need to be justified. **CT to check with NHDC regarding conservation appraisal.**

- A question for Jacqueline - there are references in the NP to the fact that Barkway is a linear village - is this something that we should be seeking to protect (i.e. prevent development to the sides of the main street) or is this at odds with avoiding ribbon development?

4. Topic group membership (who we have at the moment & what is needed)

A leaflet drop had taken place to try and recruit additional help. Elena Sapsford had kindly volunteered to lead the 'Housing and Transport' topic group.

5. Topic group estimates to provide the supporting material (plus any extra help required from Govresources)

The topic groups had already held some meetings and work had begun, the aim being to be able to pull together evidence to support the policies by mid-May, in readiness for a Vision & Objectives Open Day, coinciding with the Barkway Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Weds 29th May.

6. Update on completion of current grant

The current grant period ended on 31st March. CT to submit a grant completion form as soon as possible and return any unspent money. **Action: CT**

7. Planning for next grant

An application for a second grant for the period 1st Apr 2019 to 31st Mar 2020 could then be submitted once the grant window had been opened. Currently this had been delayed by Locality until middle of May. **Action: CT**

8. Update on progress with CDA regarding Housing Needs Survey

The Housing Needs Survey had been sent out by NHDC to all households, the closing date had been 19th April.

9. To plan for 'Vision and Objectives' presentation on Weds 29th May

OUR VISION

- 2.1 **Our vision for these two villages is that they should continue to thrive and to meet the housing needs of all sectors of our community. This should be done by respecting and, where at all possible, preserving the six centuries of history embedded in our buildings, landscape and environment.**

Our vision is to preserve and enhance our neighbourhood's character.

OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES

- 2.2 Our principal aim was to develop a shared vision for the neighbourhood, choosing if and where new homes, business premises and other amenities should be built and to influence their outward appearance. This shared vision would include the balance of 'affordable', family and retirement housing as well as identifying and protecting important green spaces.

PLANNING OBJECTIVES

- 2.3 (Proposed)

Objective 1: To ensure that new development, including infill development, within or adjacent to and outside site allocations, is well designed and sympathetic to its surrounding in terms of style, layout and design and benefits the community.

Objective 2: To preserve the character, appearance and settings of all heritage assets, listed and non-listed buildings, in Barkway and Nuthampstead, including those within and outside the boundaries of the conservation area.

Objective 3: To promote biodiversity and support ecosystem services.

Objective 4: To increase opportunities to foster a sense of community through the development, preservation and maintenance of all community facilities

Objective 5: To promote access to nature through preserving footpaths, cycle paths and bridleways leading to the countryside, and their settings.

Objective 6: To have a sustainable local economy through the preservation and creation of local employment opportunities

Objective 7: To improve road safety throughout the Parish and especially at several potentially dangerous road junctions, and to develop safer routes between settlements

Objective 8: To support local educational institutions

Objective 9: To promote the health, wellbeing and sustainability of the villages and their community

- Next steering group meeting to finalise the details of the public meeting will be on Wednesday 15th May.
- Teams will also continue to work on content for their topics. The public meeting on 29th May will include a presentation & feedback form for vision & objectives; it will also include a request for informal feedback on some other areas including local green spaces & views (all topic groups to think about what they'd like extra feedback on)

10. Schedule review

See item 5.

11. Any other business

None

12. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15th May at 7.30pm Barkway Pavilion. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10