



WARE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Steering Group

Tuesday 14th December 2021 via Zoom at 7.00pm

Minutes

Cllr Mark Pope – Ware Town Council
Cllr Stephen Reed – Ware Town Council
Cllr Ian Kemp – East Herts District Council
Keith Batchelor - Town Watch, Raynet
Julian Bond – Save Ware’s Greenbelt
Joy Cotterell – Ware Society
Jan Stock (Chair) – Wodson Park
John Wing (Ware Museum)
Alasdair Reid

Not present:

Cllr Alex Curtis – Ware Town Council

Apologies

Mark Montgomery, Herts Police
Terry Philpott, Town Clerk
Peter Radley

ATTENDING

Alison Eardley, Consultant

NPSG050. To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Forum on 16th November 2021 to note any actions not included on the agenda:

The minutes were approved as an accurate record

NPSG042: To discuss the masterplan for the development in NE Ware following the presentations at The Priory

Unfortunately, despite the offers of support to help host an additional event made to Charles Champion at our last meeting, JTP’s public consultation did not include a weekend, effectively

excluded a large number of Ware residents (i.e. those who work shifts or have family weekday commitments). Consequently, JTP have only received a limited number of responses and the on-line public consultation period has been extended until 4th January.

There was considerable concern that the plans presented by JTP at the 30th November/1st December 2021 event did not provide much more detailed information than the previous public consultations. It was particularly disappointing that issues such as flood risk and the impact on the road network have not progressed. There also didn't appear to be any cognisance of local resident's previous feedback, the impact of climate change or local geography.

The EHDC DP and Ware Masterplan states there will be "at least 1,000 homes" and "In the event that suitable mitigation measures to identified constraints on both the local and wider strategic road networks can be identified and agreed by Hertfordshire County Council as Transport Authority, a further 500 dwellings will also be delivered in this location."

WNPSG expects the outline/hybrid planning to propose 1500 homes, not 1000, and therefore we need to understand

- What mitigation measures are planned?
- What criteria will HCC Highways use to validate them?
- How DP Policy WARE2.II is enforced and not simply rubber stamped.

WNPSG members to encourage residents to provide JTP with feedback.

NPSG043: To review the current status and agree the next steps

The draft document has been circulated. ***WNPSG members to provide final comments to Alison Friday 7th January 2022.***

Ian to provide Alison with a map of the most frequently used pedestrian routes for the movement section of the plan.

Ian's comments on community infrastructure and non-policy issues to be included in the draft plan. Any other suggestions to be forward to Alison by 7th January.

Alison to complete the evidence collated section and change the location from the Town Council website to the NP website.

It was agreed that an extra meeting of the Town Council would be required to 'sign' off the draft Plan. Ideally this would be mid-February, with papers available at least 7 days beforehand.

The draft SEA /HRA screening statement has been sent by EHDC to the three statutory bodies. Assuming the screening determination statement recommends that an SEA / HRA is not required, we would look to commence the Pre-Submission Regulation 14 consultation in March 2022

NPSG048: Website update and Communications (AR)

Verbal update was provided on the website and facebook page. Traffic to the site remains comparatively low but the draft plan is on the website for review.

NPSG049. Any other business and date of next meeting.

Next meeting 18th January 2022 via zoom.