Ickleford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Committee meeting minutes

Monday 20th February 2023, 8pm at St Katharine's Church New Room

Committee member attendees: Ruth Bryer, Louise Peace, Bob Overett, James Tizzard, and Mike Willoughby

Apologies: Sam Zalin-Miller and Mike Jones

Other attendees: Four members of the public and Sally Chapman, planning consultant

Minutes of the meeting of 17th November 2022 approved

Public participation session

- Background to the project was shared and questions were invited. Three residents from Duncots Close attended. They were interested in potential development that could impact them. Current problems with sewage were among the issues highlighted.
- We explained the role of the Neighbourhood Plan as a tool in assessing planning applications. We advised that they liaise with the Parish Council and engage with the planning process to express their views on future planning applications.

Review of Neighbourhood Plan changes and responses to consultation

- Sally Chapman has made changes to the plan and updated the feedback table with our responses. We discussed areas requiring further attention, including:
 - Whether to include a map of the sites allocated in the Local Plan. It was agreed this would be helpful, but that it was important to make clear it was not something the Neighbourhood Plan had any control over.
 - Use of masterplans in the design codes document. In response to consultation feedback and following discussions with AECOM, it was agreed to remove these from the design codes document and place these in a separate advisory report. The report can be used by the Parish Council to help review future planning applications (as examples of how the design codes could be interpreted).
 - Changes to policy C3 about a possible new the school. These had included removal of duplication with the Local Plan. However, it was agreed to add some of this detail back into the text of the Neighbourhood Plan for those readers without easy access to the Local Plan.
 - Local Heritage Assets. It was agreed to remove the Green Space of the Conservation Area as this was already protected.
 - C1 Community Facilities policy. Discussed suggestions from NHDC, most of which will be incorporated.
 - Housing mix. The preferred ratio of 1-2, 3 and 4+ bedroom houses on small developments was discussed, comparing data from NHDC, the AECOM housing needs assessment and the household questionnaire.

Next steps

- Sally to amend Plan and response table, and Ruth to liaise with AECOM over changes the Design Codes document. The aim is for the submission versions to be ready for sign off at the next Parish Council meeting on Thursday 2nd March.
- The consultation statement will also need to be updated but does not need to be signed off by the Parish Council.

Finance

- No expenses since last meeting. Sally will submit an invoice for her work before 2nd March. It does look like a final grant will be required.
- NPSG would like the thank the warden and trustees of the church for providing use of the St Katharine's Church New Room free of charge.

Date of next meeting: to be confirmed