



Loxwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Parish Council on the Consultation of the Draft Revised CDC Local Plan

held at 8.15pm on Monday 20th February 2023 in the main hall at North Hall

1. Attendance: Parish Councillors: Rick Kelsey (RK) (Chair); Tony Colling (TC) (Planning Chair); James Hume; Roger Newman; Charles Todhunter; Hannah Carey; Annette Gardner and Simon Bates. Jane Bromley Clerk. Approximately 100 residents.

Apologies: Parish Councillor Jamie Lynch.

The Chair introduced the Parish Councillors and the Clerk and welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Presentation on the Draft Revised CDC Local Plan Consultation allocation of Housing Numbers for Loxwood.

Tony Colling the Planning Chair talked through his presentation on the housing allocation for Loxwood of 220 homes. He explained to the public meeting the implications.

3. Meeting open to the public for discussion and questions. See the points raised above during the presentation.

The Parish given the facts were asked if they agreed it was worth creating a new Revised Neighbourhood Plan (NP)?

A resident asked given TC had the most experience did he consider it worth creating a new Neighbourhood Plan?

TC advised to keep up to date a revision to any NP would be required every five years. However, TC advised he was pro Neighbourhood Planning.

RK advised the West Sussex Association of Local Council considered that Neighbourhood Planning had not been that effective so far.

A resident asked what should the Parish do that was effective if the NP was not revised.

TC explained grants were available for consultancy help towards creating a Neighbourhood Plan however community input was still required and still a lot of work. TC recognised it was a dilemma.

A resident queried whether the Levelling Up Bill would have an impact and also whether the CDC Plan included the National Park (SDNP) and if not should the Parish look to become part of the National Park?

TC advised LPC had been advised it would be a difficult task to become accepted as part of the SDNP. TC advised he was not familiar with the contents of the Levelling Up Bill but did think planning law seems to change regularly.

A resident asked if there was to be no new development for 5 years, due to water neutrality, then a New NP would then be out of date anyway by the time development commenced in 5 years' time.

A resident felt there was no alternative but to produce a new NP. He felt this could be carried out by a planning consultant using a grant and local funding. He mentioned the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) due to come out shortly, which would be more community minded and the 5 year housing supply was to disappear.

A resident mentioned that once there was a template for a legal agreement re offset and water neutrality then the mitigation for development would become



Loxwood Parish Council

easier. The resident encouraged the Parish to see the benefits of more houses enable a masterplan for the community and infrastructure funding.

TC advised a Local Forum could be set up to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. The public were asked if there was anyone who might be prepared to Chair a Steering Group to create a Revised NP?

A resident suggested employing a project manager to create a NP and paid for with crowd funding.

A resident asked if the Parish Council could use past CIL to fund a revised NP.

TC replied that CIL had to be used on infrastructure.

TC advised Parish Councillor elections were in May and anyone so inclined and would like to be involved and Chair NP Group stand for election.

TC asked the residents for a show of hands to create a new NP and the majority of residents were in favour.

TC asked if anyone would consider Chairing a Steering Group and there were no takers currently and no firm decision on whether to undertake a further revision to the NP would be made at this time.

4. Closing remarks by the Parish Council.

TC confirmed the PC would object on the basis of the 220 homes being unsound for Loxwood.

TC thanked all for their comments and advised LPCs comments on the revisions to the Local Plan will be published on the website along with the presentation slides.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm