

Houghton Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) working group

Minutes of meeting held Thursday 4 January 2018

1. Present
Alan Young (AY)
Bob Marshall (BM)
Llyn Adams (LA)
Sue Otten (SO)
2. Apologies
Bev Barker (BB)
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed
4. Matters arising:
 - a. Housing survey: planned for Feb/March with a report due in May 2018
 - b. Traffic survey: Mr Gibson is again pursuing the relevant personnel to establish a date / final costings. AY will approach him at the next PCC meeting for an update on progress.
 - c. Specialist input: BM feedback to the group following visits to Charlton and ?? and he gave feedback from those villages who are further through the process than Houghton. They felt it was important to impress on all villagers that this survey and the associated report is extremely important and relates to planning and development, and where this will be permitted, in the village. They reported that one of the biggest hurdles was one of apathy and we were advised to keep timescales tight to keep momentum going.
BM gave an overview of planning / green belts and the political and financial housing position nationally.
BM reported that there are currently 2 options for access to specialist help. i) a lady who works in Farringdon, lives in Newbury – a visit to see her is planned for next week. ii) South Downs National Park authority – a visit is planned to see them on 09.01.18.
Both these options are currently involved, and have experience of helping, other villages developing NDPs.
Whoever is 'employed' by Houghton NDP group, will guide us through the processes, advise on planning law, procedures required following analysis of the survey. BM and AY have assured those present that a detailed proposal / list of responsibilities will be submitted by whoever is chosen for the role.

There was then some discussion around the best / most appropriate method of analysing the survey results and how much statistical support will be required.

5. Surveys will be put round the village over the next week and will be collected / returned by 19 January.
6. LA will arrange for a box to be placed in The Boot for returns and SO will put a box in the Church porch.
7. BM is not available for any tasks from 17 Jan for 2 days.
8. Date and time of next meeting: Mon 29 January 2018, 4.00pm at AY.