

Staplehurst Parish Council

Committee, Group or Sub Group

Rural Settlement Group (RSG) - Minutes

Meeting Date & Venue

18th June 2014 – 8 pm at Village Centre

Report Author - **John Kelly**

1. Introductions

Attending were – Catherine Abbott (CA) David Staunton Lambert (DSL), Joan Buller (JB), John Kelly (JK), Robin Kenworthy (RK), Robin Oakley (RO) and Steve Lenham (SL).

JK informed the meeting that Margaret Ashby (MA2) had stepped down from the RSG.

Adelle Sharp (AS) entered meeting at 8.20 pm.

John Perry (JP) entered meeting at 8.30 pm.

This meeting was in place of the original meeting planned for the 11th June 2014 which coincided with the NP Consultation Event.

2. Apologies - received from John Perry (JP), Colin Love (CL) AND Margaret Arger (MA1).

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Actions arising:-

List of Assets - *ongoing*.

Engagement with Parade Owners – *ongoing*.

JK to place explanatory note on the RSG website page to cover the nature of the RSG and its working structure – *ongoing*.

JK to clarify Sainsbury Section 106 position with Parish Council – it was still not clear as to the position with regard to the Section 106 agreement with Sainsbury. The RSG expressed concern that the matter had not been clarified. JK to pursue matter with Clerk - *ongoing*.

JK to approach Richard Eastham, Feria Urbanism on Wednesday 21st May 2014 to seek advice on the matter of meeting with developers - JK had spoken with Richard Eastham, Feria Urbanism but was conscious of the Regulation 14 draft consultation and would seek further advice re timing of such meetings - *ongoing*

JK to recommend to the Clerk that RSG are copied into key emails where appropriate - agreed that RSG members would be copied in where appropriate. *Completed*.

JP to raise the matter of crossings (footbridge or road), car parks and station fabric with Network Rail at the next meeting – this would take place at meeting with Network Rail on the 7th July 2014 – *ongoing*.

JK to notify all concerned and arrange with Clerk re changes to room booking for Wednesday 18th June 2014 – *completed*.

Recommendation to SPC that direct contact is made with Scarab and others in order to establish their future location plans – *ongoing*.

A long discussion took place regarding various matters emanating from the above actions.

RO asked about when the current Land Call would finish. It was not clear when MBC would call a halt and past experience shows that MBC would look at 'new land' coming forward as and when.

DSL and JK updated the Group regarding the Marden NP meeting. DSL stated there was a need for Marden and Headcorn to take their fair share of parking at railway stations thereby spreading the load.

DSL stated that the land allocation HO 160/260 was still indicated on any MBC map.

Action – JK to pursue this via Clerk.

DSL commented that there was need to cross reference the Staplehurst NP with the draft MBC Local Plan and vice versa.

Action – JP stated he would look into this at MBC.

DSL asked as to who we could liaise with re rail ticket clustering ...JK stated this would be raised at the meeting with Network Rail on the 7th July 2014.

SL raised the matter of direct contact with Scarab emanating from the last meeting. It appeared that SPC had yet to consider the matter.

Action – JK to pursue this matter via the Clerk.

RK expressed concern about wording in the last minutes in relation to Gypsy and Traveller Policy and pointed out the NP needed to address all groups regardless. RK suggested that Stonewall was approached for further guidance.

Action – JK to pursue this matter with Richard Eastham, Fera Urbanism and Clerk.

Minutes from the 14th May 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

4. Membership of Group

Margaret Ashby had stepped down front the Group. JK thanked MA for all her hard work to date.

5. MBC Draft Local Plan – consultation response

JP stated that everything ‘was up for grabs’ regarding the draft Local Plan and the proposed housing figures of 19,600 (Staplehurst – 905) was under review.

6. Staplehurst Neighbourhood Plan

Reg.14 Consultation - debrief of recent event and current draft

SL thought that nothing had changed much from the previous consultation event. We had missed an opportunity to focus people’s minds on specifics such as the station area and Lodge Road, inter-connectivity on the eastern development and general access.

Leadership was required and SL wondered at what point this would take place?

DSL agreed with SL and stated there was a need to focus on the known issues.

DSL also pointed out that the event Q and A sessions had proved very useful and there had been a number of unfamiliar faces.

Both JB and SL asked whether we were running out of Consultation time?

RO stated the seating layout in the event halls had been totally wrong. Following his advice the room layout was changed for the better.

RO stated there could be problems with the on line survey with regards to viewing the screen.

RK stated that road traffic noise had been a problem until the doors were closed. He also said there had been very useful inputs regarding the need for Infrastructure before house building took place.

RK wondered whether smaller presentations followed by Q and A would be more effective rather than one long presentation?

JK stated he would liaise with Richard Eastham on this matter.

JB stated that the event had been vibrant with a number of new faces turning up. JB asked as to when the 'trigger points' for development would be included in the plan?

SL stated there was a need for some 'certainty' within the plan. Maybe it was time for a meeting between the Parish Council and the RSG as to what direction to take?

Action – JK to liaise with the Clerk regarding this matter.

7. Staplehurst Carnival and Fete - support for NP stand

DSL had agreed to support the stand at 1230 hours and CA at 1330 hours.

Other members would contact the Clerk as to their availability.

8. Supermarket Update:-

- DK Holdings/Sainsbury's Development.
- Tesco Planning Application.

There was no further update on either.

9. RSG Social Event - June or July 2014?

JK stated he had decided to postpone any such event until September 2014 after the busy Summer period had passed.

10. Any other business

CA informed the Group that the Principal of Hadlow College would be happy to talk with anyone who wanted to set up a free school/academy.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 10.15 pm.

Staplehurst Rural Settlement Group
Meeting – 8pm on Wednesday 18th June 2014
Committee Room, Village Centre, Staplehurst

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the last meeting
4. Membership of Group
5. MBC Draft Local Plan - update
6. Staplehurst Neighbourhood Plan:-
 - Reg.14 Consultation - debrief of recent event and current draft.
 - Land Call - Update.
 - Employment - encouraging inward investment.
7. Staplehurst Carnival and Fete - support for NP stand
8. Supermarket Update:-
 - DK Holdings/Sainsbury's Development.
 - Tesco Planning Application.
9. RSG Social Event - July 2014?
10. Any other business

Meetings are normally held on a monthly basis, between Parish Council Meetings

Meetings start at 8pm at the Village Centre, unless otherwise informed.

Additional meetings may be arranged pending activity re Neighbourhood Plan.

Existing members as at 18th June 2014 – in alphabetical order on surname:

- Catherine Abbott - Resident
- Margaret Arger – Resident
- Tom Burnham - Councillor
- Joan Buller - Councillor
- John Kelly – Resident (Chair)
- Robin Kenworthy – Resident
- Steve Lenham - Resident
- Colin Love - Resident
- Robin Oakley – Resident
- John Perry – Councillor
- Adele Sharp - Councillor
- David Staunton Lambert – Resident
- Graham Sturdy - Resident

Emails to be copied to Councillor Simon Green and Resident Mike Pounds-Longhurst.

Dates for 2014

Wednesday 15th January 2014

Wednesday 12th February 2014

Wednesday 12th March 2014

Wednesday 16th April 2014

Wednesday 14TH May 2014 – pending Annual Parish Meeting on 12th May 2014.

Wednesday 11TH June 2014 – **changed to 18th June 2014.**

Wednesday 16TH July 2014

Wednesday 13th August 2014

Wednesday 10TH September 2014 – possible Social Event ?

Wednesday 15TH October 2014

Wednesday 12TH November 2014

Wednesday 10TH December 2014