

Slinfold Neighbourhood Plan v2 Working Group

Minutes of Meeting No.7 on 8th April 2025

Present

Ed Skeates, Julia Waples, Vince Pyle, Nigel Smith, Liz Cox, Stuart Webb, Tony Hall, Martyn Haines, Keith Feltham, Paula Smith and Angela Scott.

Apologies

Adrian Roberts.

Matters Arising from previous Minutes

Tony Hall confirmed that he had stood down from Lead on the Design Statement.

Nothing much to report since last meeting as there had been little response from HDC following the pausing of the Draft Local Plan by the planning Inspector. No reasons have yet been given but it is assumed it is because of water neutrality and insufficient housing numbers.

There were no other matters arising.

Sustainability and Strategic Environmental Assessment

Key documents will need to come forward in parallel with our assessments. Demographic data (what is our need for the Parish). Input from natural England, and Historic England. Would be left vulnerable if we don't include.

All previous documents uploaded, please read/refresh memories before next meeting.

Possibly may need to bring in a professional to assist.

Ecology, Environmental and Economy all need to be included.

Aware some work has already begun on the above.

Consultation Event

This would take place during the Slinfold Parish AGM on 21st May. The aim is to keep it brief but to outline where we are going with the Plan and will effectively be the first public consultation for Neighbourhood Plan 2. Informative with some Q&A at the end.

Items to be covered Local Government, HDC update on their Plan, Impact on Parish since last Plan in 2018 in respect of sites that have been developed and those yet to be started.

The effect of an aging population and the local demographics.

The village has no need for any further sites to come forward as the 133 at LBBH is sufficient to cover our allocation.

Village does not understand the need for an update and have a very laissez-faire attitude to what is going on.

HDC aware we need to update our plan.

Need to talk to Gleeson/Taylor Wimpey to find out their timescale to start building.

Taylor Wimpey was hoping for 52 houses on the East of Hayes Lane, but this has never come before Planners and should revert to original 15.

Holmbush Manor Farm has permission (2021) to develop two dilapidated farm buildings, again what is the timescale here?

Drafting

Any drafting should be kept to minor changes to keep the existing NP usable. The Committee wished to avoid having to go to a referendum which will happen if we make material or substantial changes. Horsham DC will be responsible for agreeing to changes.

5 possible development sites need to be removed from the existing plan as these were not allocated and the 133 houses on LBBH Farm need to be included as they are within the Parish Boundary. Also, the drop in number of houses allocated on Hayes Lane back to 15.

It was suggested that sections of the old Plan would be allocated to various Committee members to work on between meetings.

Ed will go through the plan and mark up what can be taken out and do the allocation.

Ed will also update what has happened since the previous plan was introduced,

Shared Data Room

This is now up and running, kindly set up by Mike Simpson (Clerk)

HDC Assets (Slinfold Scout Hut)

The land the village scout hut is sited upon belongs to HDC, there was some discussion as to whether the Council would divest assets to parishes should the merger of the Sussex Local Authorities all merge.

Perhaps a list of projects could be drawn up for CIL money allocation.

Traffic Management

Awaiting feedback following the removal of the traffic tubes which count traffic volume and measure traffic flow for short-term studies, planning, and research, helping to understand traffic patterns and roadway capacity.

Traffic Management should be included in Design Statement with the public encouraged to come forward with ideas as to what they wish to see included.

AOB

Biodiversity, Stuart Webb has been working on this section and asked for help in contacting local farmers for him to talk to. Julia agreed to provide contact numbers for Neil Harrison and Neil Morris.

Close

8.15 pm

Next Meeting

6-5-25 – 7pm Slinfold Parish Room

Signed

Date