

Minutes of Steering Committee No 26, Thursday 24th February 2022,

7.30pm to 8.45pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Rob Buick, Fred West, Terry Barnett, Alan Sloan, Melanie Frobisher.

- 1) **Apologies for Absence;** Debi Hallett, **Guest Apologies for Absence;** Councillor Marisa Heath and Councillor Japneet Sohi
- 2) **Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 25;** Approved
- 3) **Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** None declared
- 4) **Financial Report:** Fred circulated a financial statement prior to the meeting. All satisfactory.
- 5) **Writing the Plan- review of actions left to take**
 - a) Heritage sites- Alan reported that over 260 letters had been sent out to all proposed NDHA owners and 16 responses received, some praising and some objecting. Further letter exchanges with those 16 are proceeding, and Alan hopes that in the end he will have about 5 to 8 who firmly object to their inclusion in the NDHA list.
Congratulations to Alan for what was a massive job!
 - b) Housing Audit- Melanie has completed this except for a few minor alterations which she will complete by next weekend. Melanie also to tidy up the raw data file (the folder of all the pictures taken by the Committee which are the basis of the Housing Audit) and get it ready for publishing.
Again, well done Melanie for completing this task.
 - a) Ecology Study- Letter of notification sent to the three schools whose grounds are recommended by the Ecology report to be designated Local Green Spaces. (St Cuthberts, St Judes Junior and St Judes Infant) and an e mail including the letters sent to Planning Dept RBC to notify them regarding the proposed designation of those plus the Graveyard, which is known to be owned by RBC.
 - b) Record of communications and interaction with residents and businesses- Draft complete. Mike to incorporate Sally's comments and then publish.
 - c) Questionnaire and Business Questionnaire to be combined. Minor alterations to the Business report to be done by Terry, then Mike to combine it with the Residents Questionnaire into a single report.
 - d) Master planning, Blays Lane/Wick Road site and Kingswood Site – 1st draft received , though the details regarding Kingswood have yet to be included. Mike in touch with Jessie and responding to queries and forwarding the Committees comments.
 - e) Placemaking- Mike reported a protracted exchange with David Asquith of Locality over the past month to prepare our (hopefully) final submission applying for a £15000 grant to develop our Placemaking proposals. Because of the size of the grant, the proposal is to develop the central area proposals along St Judes Road to establish feasibility, and budget cost. A company called i- Transport , a specialist consultant in this field, has submitted a quotation to accompany our submission.

- f) Views and Vistas- This is one area where we have not yet prepared a report. Various views and vistas were put forward as important, and Mike will prepare a short draft report listing them.
- g) Mike will touch base with Sally to ensure we are on course for her to undertake writing the Neighbourhood Plan in March and to submit another invoice before close of the financial year. It is hoped that the draft Plan will be available at the next Monthly meeting.
- 6) Planning Applications (+ Fairmont).** Terry reported no applications of concern this month. However, the application by Arora to extend Oakfield even further, combined with the apparent lack of response by RBC to the apparent building of 3 buildings without planning permission gives rise to concern about possible erosion of the rules regarding development in the Green Belt and it was agreed we should write to RBC concerning these matters.
- 7) AOB-**
- 8) Next Monthly Meeting; Thursday 7th April 2022 7.30 pm**