

Battle Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

**DRAFT Minutes of the meeting held on
31 January 2018 at The Almonry, Battle 7.30pm**

1. Attendance:

Committee Members	Present	Absent with apology	Absent No apology
Maurice Holmes Chairman & Treasurer		✓	
Matt Mitchell Secretary	✓		
Cate Sullivan Press Officer	✓		
Sue Best (SJB)	✓		
Sue Burton		✓	
Tom Gray	✓		
Emma Hale	✓		
Margaret Howell	✓		
Bev Marks	✓		
Alan Russell		✓	
Paul Whymark	✓		

Due to illness Bev Marks kindly chaired the meeting.

2. Previous Minutes:

These were approved by all members present.

3. Matters Arising:

With the very sad news of Richard Jessop's death BM suggested that we invite the new Chairman of BTC Planning and Transport Committee to join the group. All members present agreed.

Action: BM to write to BTC to invite new Chairman to join NP steering group

BM & MH have been working on cross referencing of all documents and have made a good start

It was raised that perhaps a treescape/shrubscape should be included into the visual landscape. This should be included within our Open Spaces & Tree study.

Action: BM & EH to include in Tree report if possible

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A listing of historic buildings (of which there are many) should be created. This should be included in our Historic environmental report.

Action: BM to write to Battle Historic Society for assistance.

CS & AR to write include into Historic Environmental report

It was pointed out that we should improve our communication with the residents of the parish.

Action: PW & EH to put some thought into this

MM raised that we ought to consider SAC's - Special Areas of Conservation, which has recently been raised by Wealden District Council in several recent planning applications where WDC have strongly objected due to the nitrate & nitrogen dioxide levels in the air at Ashdown Forest, as the nitrates are having a huge detrimental effect on the flora & fauna on Ashdown Forest.

Locally, both Ashdown Forest and Pevensey Levels are SAC's.

SAC's are protected under EU law and are supported by Natural England, and so should be considered.

Due to the recent objections by WDC, RDC are currently considering their options on the way forward on the planning applications in question.

4. Treasurer/Publicity Officer Report:

Publicity - all up to date

Action: CS to write information to go in the press to keep the public up to date with NP

Treasurer - Nothing to report.

6. Consultant's Report

Donna Moles was warmly welcomed to the meeting.

She has now completed her initial report.

We now have a good plan on how to move the NP forward including an initial timeline of events.

There is much work to do still but the group were very impressed and grateful with her input, there was much discussion on the work to be completed in the next couple of months.

Five sub teams were set up by BM to move things forward in that regard.

Action: MM to email Donna our logo for paperwork

7. Any other business

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Meeting Closed at 9.30pm

8. Date of next meeting:

TBC

Action: MM to book almonry

Matt Mitchell

Secretary

02.01.18

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