

MINUTES of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Committee of North Leigh Parish Council (NLPC) held on Tuesday 10th July 2023 at 7:30pm in the Turner Hall

Committee Members Present:

Robert Gunn
Steve Legg (Secretary)
David Painter
Kevin Swann (Vice Chair)
Sherard Veasey (Chair)
Judith Wardle

Others in Attendance:

(None)

NP 41. **Apologies for absence:** None.

NP 42. **Declarations of interest:** None of those present had any special interest to declare.

NP 43. **Review of the draft questionnaire.**

- KS explained that all questions in the previous, spreadsheet version of the questionnaire have been transferred into the new MSWord document, other than those we decided to drop.
- Some questions flagged as “Optional” – this is optional in the sense that we may not wish to include them in the questionnaire. The Core questions certainly should be included. These qualifiers will be removed from the final version of the questionnaire.
- The question headings are not necessarily how they will appear in the final form – e.g. “permeability” is not a widely recognised term.
- Should core question 6 say why the area has got better / worse? e.g. “Please explain your answer”.
- Can we ask about solar farms, onshore wind, etc? Various approaches to incorporating this were discussed:
 - Optional Q2 could include this.
 - Optional Q6 – phrase as “how do you feel about the following green spaces being used for Solar or wind power?”
 - Optional 7 – looking to the future?
 - Introduce a new Optional question just before Optional Q1.
 - Take Core Q7, move it under Core Q1, as “future development in the parish”, ask people if they agree that the parish has had enough development? If the answer is No, then ask what type of development should be allowed. Put solar/wind power into the industrial question.
- Should we ask people what sorts of new housing would be acceptable? Infill, brownfield, green field, developments less than 10 units, 11 or more units, etc.
- Optional Q1 – Housing ownership & affordability – move this up under the new Q2 (see above). If the response is no development at all, then can skip the next 3 questions.

- Optional Q2 – Economic, Retail, industrial – we could add solar farms and onshore wind generation to this.
- **KS will produce an updated draft** incorporating these comments.

NP 44. Obtaining quotes for printing and distributing the Questionnaire

- Discussion deferred.

NP 45. Discussion: Aims, Objectives and Vision for the Neighbourhood Plan

- Discussion deferred.
After we have got all the responses to the questionnaire back in, we will need to consider how wide a scope we want to address in the initial version of the Neighbourhood Plan. A smaller scope will result in a faster implementation.

NP 46. Review consultation strategy

- It was agreed that we should seek professional consultancy support for various aspects of the process, subject to PC approval and our grant limit of £10,000.

NP 47. Obtaining quotes for the consultancy to support the production of the Plan.

- We have requested quotes from consultants to assist with the questionnaire. Two have attended earlier meetings - Martin Lipson and Tom McCulloch. SL contacted them, and Tom McCulloch agreed to assist but could not do so until too late for our schedule. Martin Lipson could not assist but recommended Neil Homer of O'Neill-Homer, who quoted £650 for one day's work to review and comment on our draft questionnaire. It was agreed to recommend this to the Parish Council. According to Neil, we can reclaim £550 of this from Locality, meaning that the PC would need to fund only £100 of this.
- Following agreement from the PC, **SL will contact Neil** to progress the work.

NP 48. Review finance strategy for presentation to the Parish Council

- Grants will be made available for the 2023/4 financial year shortly and must be spent in the same financial year. KS has been monitoring this, but the grant applications for 2023/4 have not yet opened. **KS will continue to monitor.**

NP 49. Dates of future meetings.

- Neighbourhood Plan Committee – 7:30 pm Monday 31st July in the Turner Hall, noting that there will be no PC meeting in August.

The meeting closed at 20:59.