

RUSHTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ENVIRONMENT THEME GROUP MEETING MINUTES 6th NOVEMBER 2022

Present: John Martin (Your Locale), Nancy Jefferis, Anthony Shemilt, Paul Wass (Chairman), Kevin O’Brien (minutes), Carolyn Church, Hugh Ross, Sandy Cruickshank, Kevin Abraham.

Apologies-Norman Carter, Beth Milne, Jackie Hands, Maralyn Marlow.

51.22	Declarations of Interest. No declarations of interest (at this stage).
52.22	Matters Arising. PW asked if all had read the minutes. All confirmed. No matters arising.
53.22	<p>Review of Environmental Framework (presented by John Martin (Your Locale).</p> <p>JM shared the Parish Map and existing designations. The Framework is to designate who will do what around the group.</p> <p>JM said that the Group must produce a document that is accessible to all before it is sent for inspection. It is essential that everyone understands the importance of the environmental policy within the Neighbourhood Plan. The Group must look at having a balanced, sustainable approach.</p> <p>JM said he will draft the first draft of the opening policies sharing what the Group consider to be important against the characteristics that need protecting. JM showed a topographical map and said the group needs to understand the importance of local views when it is carrying out the significant sites review.</p> <p>NJ said the recycling tip is not restored land from the quarries. PW asked if the tip can be built on. JM said he thought it would be more sensible to restore to a wildlife site. KOB said he believed that Mick George have an obligation to return the site to being covered by trees etc for a 15 year period after they stop work on the site.</p> <p>AS raised concern about the Corby expansion spreading towards the Parish. AS said he also believed there to be a roman quarry off Oakley Road.</p> <p>JM said the Group must consider the impact risk zones as marked specifically near the SSSI site at Rawhaw Wood. It can be argued that having major development near SSSI sites would be detrimental to those sites, equally a small development in Rushton would not.</p> <p>CC and HR mentioned the ‘Rockingham Forest Vision’ which contains an area within the Parish designation. CC said she would find out more information as it is embryonic currently.</p> <p>JM said that from today the Group need to have understanding on how to score the inventory of local green space, open space and other environmentally significant sites (with handout).</p> <p>JM said that the important open spaces is integral to the Neighbourhood Plan. It is worth note that local greenspace policy should include the point that the local green space could not be replicated somewhere else so protection includes where it is and not only what is on it. Any developer would be required to provide alternative or better facilities that would be acceptable.</p> <p>Within the Inventory, some sites are already recorded by JM.</p> <p>JM advised that the Parish Council should write to Northants County Council relating to the Neighbourhood Plan asking for a comprehensive list and a map of all open spaces within the Parish (JM to email KOB with the email address).</p> <p>AS reminded that Pipewell is classed as ‘open countryside’ unlike Rushton village which has a settlement boundary. PW said this would also apply to Glendon.</p> <p>JM said he would like to find out who owns the parcels of land and who manages them with information on any land covenants.</p>

	<p>JM said the Group does not need to review designated sites for protection. The stars on the map are Northants County Council wildlife designations but no reasons are currently known on why they are designated.</p> <p>JM recommended contacting Northamptonshire Biological Records (online) to gain the data for a well-supported NP. There is a cost for gaining this information. JM would then analyse the data-the cost is likely to be around £350. AS suggested if the Parish Council don't have the funds then an application to the Wind Farm may be needed.</p> <p>SC suggested that the Parish Council could challenge why this is a paid for service when other councils do not pay and asked JM for the wording.SC will forward this information at the next Rushton Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>AS spoke about farm buildings where sympathetic development could be made. JM said they could be protected in the NP as being of local historical significance.</p> <p>JM has a draft biodiversity policy that aims to protect habitats and species that have not been identified as significant and will address this in future.</p> <p>JM said to add the Group's local work including completing the inventory before piecing this policy together.</p> <p>JM mentioned using Parish Online (Mapping) to identify historic environmental records. A discussion took place about historical local sites including the site of a windmill, ridge and furrow which will need confirmation if a policy is to be made. KA said that there is visible patches of ridge and furrow at Glendon.</p> <p>JM shared a list of statutorily listed and protected buildings and no policy is need for these although any allocations would be required to consider these locations and any impact on views to and from them.</p> <p>JM said the 'Northamptonshire Historical Environment Records' has listed many sites already.</p> <p>JM said that the Group needs to concentrate on the Inventory and policies for the next two months. It is important to include policy to include the importance of views.</p> <p>JM will do policies on footpaths and bridleways which should be straightforward.</p> <p>KOB said the Group need to be aware of the Local Plan policy to create a footpath from Desborough to Rushton.</p> <p>SC said the proposed West Corby development needs addressing in the footpaths policy as these may be impacted.</p> <p>JM said another policy to be included would consider climate change and some of the flooding issues within the Parish, looking at the different zones. JM recommended leaving the Policy as it is written as it has passed previous examinations.</p> <p>JM spoke about a renewables policy that will prove challenging to gain consensus particularly as the Parish already has wind turbines.</p> <p>JM to send KOB Susan Heindrick's email address and for the Northants Biological Group.</p>
54.22	<p>Adding Local Details</p> <p>The Parish map has been numbered to match the 'Inventory of Local Green Space, Open Space and other Environmentally Significant Sites'.</p> <p>The Group then went on a tour of local sites to learn how to score against the criteria for the assessment visiting the Churchyard, Recreation Park, Cricket Club field and the Pocket Park.</p>
55.22	<p>Role of LPA in Neighbourhood Planning</p> <p>HMG's Planning Practice Guidance para 021-022 says:</p> <p>What role should the local planning authority play in neighbourhood planning?</p> <p>A local planning authority must:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take decisions at key stages in the neighbourhood planning process within the time limits that apply. • provide advice or assistance to a parish council, neighbourhood forum or community organisation that is producing a neighbourhood plan or Order as required by paragraph 3 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/schedule/10/enacted). <p>Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 41-021-20140306</p> <p>How should a local planning authority carry out its neighbourhood planning functions?</p> <p>A local planning authority should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be proactive in providing information to communities about neighbourhood planning. • fulfil its duties and take decisions as soon as possible, and within statutory time periods where these apply. • set out a clear and transparent decision making timetable and share this with those wishing to prepare a neighbourhood plan or an Order. • constructively engage with the community throughout the process including when considering the recommendations of the independent examiner of a neighbourhood development plan or Order proposal. <p>Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 41-022-20150209</p>
	<p>Next Meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting will be informal to allocate parcels of land across the Parish to complete the Inventory of local green spaces.</p>

Date of Next Meeting- Thursday 17th November 2022- Rushton Village Hall 7.30pm (informal meeting to discuss allocation of locations to investigate relating to Parish Map sites.

Thursday 15th December- Rushton Village Hall- 7.30pm.