

Minutes of meeting

Lamerton Parish – Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

December 10th, 2019 (6.30pm)

Present - J Edgar, J Broadbridge, G Manning, D Green, G Doble, M Jefferies, A Downing, R Geake

Chairman's update - The purpose of this meeting is to review recent events, particularly the Parish Council vote to allocate two sites, i.e., Court Barton Farm and Green Hill, the latter of which has encountered an unreasonable amount of argument from a small group of dissatisfied residents who live close to, overlook or abut the latter site.

Interestingly, their names appear on the list of those interested in joining our Steering Group (SG). Clerk has names of 10 applicants, some of which (as above) are known to be opposed to the Parish Council-approved Green Hill site.

Discussion: All members were concerned how a potential SG of 17 could hope to operate, bearing in mind the NP is not for re-writing. GM stated this would be awkward.

JB felt and stated that those who have insulted and made disparaging statements about the NP leadership should not be invited to join. All except one member agreed.

MJ did not want future meetings hijacked and disrupted and felt we should not take additional members.

GD feels some representation from Green Hill opposition might assist at Referendum time, although most agreed they were unlikely to change their views.

Chairman stated that there is actually very little new work required to complete the NP for Reg 15, certainly none requiring any new members. What is there for them to do??

Asked to quantify, Chairman stated that it was updating Appendices and completing the Consultation document, perhaps 6 to 8 days for two people only. We need professional help finishing the NP, not new faces.

Chairman confirmed it will be difficult to segregate list and only bring in a few. SG Terms of Reference (ToR) refer to no upper limit, but states 8 to be 'comfortable' which is a level favoured by the SG. ToR mentions 'extending only 'if beneficial'.

General discussion on how best to interview candidates if deemed necessary. MJ proposed we hold a mass interview i.e., all applicants together, inviting each person to describe what they feel they can 'bring to the table' and what they expect to achieve by joining the SG. Seconded JB. All voted in favour.

DG suggested that we get new members to create their own Questions and Answers summary for us to see some positive intent? Important also to see positive attitude towards Affordable housing.

To ensure future meetings are held in the same manner that all have thus far, Chairman proposed that we incorporate the Code of Conduct (as current for all Parish Councillors) to apply to all SG members, both current and any future. Seconded JB. All voted in favour.

Respectfully submitted – J Edgar, Chairman

Next meeting (provisional, to be confirmed) – Monday, January 20th.