

PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP MINUTES
MEETING HELD via Microsoft Teams on 1st September 2023 at 3pm

PRESENT: Cllr Ms L Bevan (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs L Farrow
Cllr T Figgins
Cllr D Petche
Cllr Ms M Vincent

Also present: Cllr P Shaw, District Cllr D Podger, Mr P Bisset, Mrs E Bisset, Mr G Morgan-Owen, Mr N Hitch (Town Clerk) and Mr S Field (Projects Officer). There was 1 member of the public and a member of the Press present.

1. Chairman's comments

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and was pleased to note the Petersfield Post drawing attention to some items on today's agenda.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mrs C Cockburn and Mr C Cockburn.

3. Granting of Dispensation under section 33 of the Localism Act (2011)

There were no requests for dispensation.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Cllr D Podger arrived at 3.08

5. Approval of Minutes

There followed a long and detailed debate over some of the specific wording in the minutes following which it was:

Resolved under the Scheme of Delegation approved on 6th May 2021:

That the minutes of the Advisory Group meeting on 4th August 2023 be approved with the following amendments:

- **Item 7 Recommendation to read as follows:**
 - 1: that item 9 of the Terms of Reference be amended to read as follows:

The principal purpose of the Committee is to encourage and facilitate the delivery of the long-term vision for the town as outlined in the Petersfield Neighbourhood Plan. The Committee will propose and advocate specific projects that will enable the town to develop in line with that vision and establish and/or work with groups or bodies or in partnerships that will implement and deliver

the aspirational elements of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Committee will follow and maintain a watching brief on the development or revision of the South Downs National Park Authority's (SDNPA) Local Plan and its policies as it provides the overarching framework for Petersfield along with the revised Petersfield Neighbourhood Plan which was submitted in January 2023. The Committee will monitor the progress of the SDNPA review or approval process and also the review of the South Downs site assessment where this affects Petersfield. In addition the Committee will take steps to understand the future process for further updates as far as this is possible ahead of events.

2: that item 18 be amended to be responsible for the overarching strategy for climate change

- Item 8 – correct the spelling of Mr & Mrs Bisset's names
- Item 9 – amend resolution to read: "that the Active Travel Panel cease to exist as a Council group and that its work be transferred to Petersfield Climate Action Network.

6. **Public representation**

No requests to speak were received.

7. **Addition of footpath from Tesco Stores to The Petersfield School to the definitive map**

Members discussed this request and were supportive of the plan. It was acknowledged that investigation would need to take place and evidence of regular footpath/cycle use obtained. It was recognised that this action may also help to re-engage with Tesco in relation to the Watermeadows land transfer

RECOMMENDED to Council under the Scheme of Delegation approved on 6th May 2021:

That the proposal to include the footpath running through Tesco's store and linking to The Petersfield School be added to the County Definitive Footpath list be approved as either a footpath or bridleway as is deemed appropriate.

8. **Climate Emergency Strategy Working Group Membership**

Membership of the Working Group was discussed, along with their Terms of Reference. It was recognised that each of the Council's committee's were responsible for their own section of the Climate Action Plan and determining priorities. Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED under the Scheme of Delegation approved on 6th May 2021:

That the Terms of Reference for the Climate Emergency Strategy Working Group be:

- To revise and finalise the Climate Emergency Strategy
- Maintain a 'watching brief' over the whole Climate Action Plan
- Recommend adjustments to the Climate Action Plan, its priorities and ways of measuring progress for onward consideration by Finance & General Purposes Committee or Council as appropriate.

That Membership of the Climate Emergency Strategy Working Group be Cllrs Figgins and Petche, Mr P Bisset, Mrs C Cockburn, County Cllr Oppenheimer (if willing) supported by the Climate Officer with Mr G Morgan-Owen providing ad-hoc support on Active Travel.

9. Town Development Committee Priorities

a) Neighbourhood Plan

It was noted that when work is required for a new Neighbourhood Plan, The Petersfield Society would wish to support this work, as it did before.

The revisions to the existing Plan are still with the National Park. Following changes of personnel at the South Downs, Lewis Ford is the new contact and he is working through the changes and a final approval is hoped to be received in the near future.

b) Climate Emergency

No further update. An EHDC Task & Finish Group is due to meet shortly.

c) Active Travel

A further workshop on the Pulens Lane study will take place on 12th September.

The update on the LCWIP conducted by Hampshire County Council requested further comments during August which have been submitted.

A report on cycle parking in the town is to be posted on the PeCAN web site shortly.

Work with the Friends of Rother Valley Way continues to go on in the background.

10. Spine Project & Dangerous Roads Update

The Town Clerk gave a summary of how the work on this topic had developed and progressed over time. In summary:

- It originated from the Petersfield Neighbourhood Plan with its aspirational policies

- Since then, it has been taken on and developed by EHDC through the Placemaking work that representatives from this committee and the town council are part of
- Significant public consultation has taken place and the priorities have been set as Pulens Lane crossroads, Hylton Road/Dragon Street/The Causeway/Sussex Road crossroads and railway station forecourt
- The town spine from the railway station through to the War Memorial remains important and in need of attention
- Other junctions also in need of focus are The Forge/Swan Street, Station Road, Bell Hill/Winchester Road
- Studies already completed show the majority of traffic utilising the High Street use it as a through route rather than as a destination. Reducing this traffic will enable the town centre to be less vehicle focused and more pedestrian/cycle friendly
- Achieving reduced traffic in the town centre means greater traffic volumes will be seen on the roads around the town and this has its difficulties bearing in mind the capacity of some of those roads.
- It is recognised that there is insufficient monies held in developers Contributions to enable all of this to be funded so difficult decisions on priorities have to be taken
- Reports continue to come back to this committee on progress with the Placemaking project and the representatives on the Placemaking group need to be made aware of this committee's views to take them back to that group.

Members agreed that decisions made need to be evidence based and recognising the constraints that exist.

11. Planning Applications

No fresh applications have been considered since the last meeting. There had been a meeting between the Placemaking Strategy Group and developers at Harrier Way. This had been an update meeting with the group being advised on changes made by the developers in recent months.

The Town Clerk reported that the main focus of attention had been on the inadequacy of the Active Travel requirements for the site. Path provision around the site was not good and there was no thought given to how residents may engage with the Rother Valley Way that is planned to enter the town in the vicinity of the site. The mass of the main building had been reduced, extra trees were proposed and parking was being reduced. The application is due to hit the South Downs National Park Authority site soon.

Cllr T Figgins left the meeting at 4.37p.m.

12. Petersfield Climate Action Network (PeCAN)

A verbal report was received from Petersfield Climate Action Network (PeCAN). Significant public engagement had taken place recently including at the South Downs Show, the Town Council's Carr Boot Sales, Petersfield

Festivals and the eco café. A schools engagement programme would be starting shortly.

A Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report for East Hampshire has been published based on Government statistics that expresses concern at the current level of activity in reducing carbon emissions. Based on this report, targets will not be met until 2042.

13. Climate Officer Report

The Climate Officers Report was received and noted (*see Appendix A*) and it was noted that the final Carr Boot Sale of the year would take place on 24th September with a proposed 'teenager table' in the pavilion itself ~~ona~~ on a trial basis to gauge interest. Public feedback from the previous event was very favourable, commenting on how well organised it was and what good value it offered.

The meeting finished at 4.55 p.m.



Climate Officers Report

August 2023

- The grant policy for the Climate Action Plan item T10 has been drafted and has been checked by the volunteer deputy clerk. **It is attached to this report for review and recommendation to adopt as part of the council's grants policy.**
- The Climate Emergency Strategy Working group meeting has not yet been rescheduled. The final item on the terms of reference is being undertaken - the review of the Climate Emergency Strategy and once this has been completed the working group would have completed all three tasks.
- The second & third CARR Boot sales were held on Sunday the 16th of July and Sunday the 20th of August. These were great successes with 41 cars and vans and in attendance in July and 70 in August. July sale -PeCAN were not in attendance as they were at the Alton ECO fair. The Petersfield WI were also not available to attend. August Sale - The Petersfield WI did attend the August Car Boot Sale.
These are held at the Avenue Playing fields and the town council are working with PeCAN to promote the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle message.
These Car boot sales have been so successful that Cllr Lesley Farrow has offered to run one last one on the 24th of September. The Climate Officer will not be in attendance. This has been approved under delegated powers.
- The Climate Officer was to arrange the Eco Fair working group meeting (as per the April minutes) to discuss the organisation of Eco Fair but was informed of another proposal so this has been put on hold.
- The Climate Officer had a meeting with Pennie Brown the Strategy Manager at EHDC on the 9th of August. EHDC will be working with us to contribute to the Eco Fair in July 2024 and working closer with the town council and other organisations to tackle Climate change in the town. EHDC has recently reduced their net zero target date to 2030.
- The Before the flood DVD is available for Councillors and staff to watch. Please contact Michelle to arrange this.

Any questions regarding the above please contact Michelle directly.