



NEWPORT (Shropshire) TOWN COUNCIL

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LJ/2015/NDP-PMG

21 August 2015

Draft notes, recommendations and actions following a meeting of the Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan Process Management Group (PMG) held in The Guildhall, The High Street on Thursday 20th August 2015

Present:

Cllr Tim Nelson – Steering Group Chairman

Cllr Lyn Fowler – Town Council

Cllr Peter Scott – Newport Town Council

Lee Jakeman - Town Clerk

Apologies:

Sheila Atkinson – Deputy Town Clerk (Holiday)

Meeting started at 8pm.

Agenda Topic	Summary	Actions/ comments/ outcomes
Introduction	Members noted the contents of the draft local plan which is currently out for consultation which made defining aspects of the NDP clearer. A number of the potential NDP items were likely to be covered to some degree in the local plan.	
Green Spaces	Members noted a consolidated list and description of the green spaces that had been assessed by members of the Steering Group, much of the work initiated by Newport 21. Members suggested that the document be presented to T&W as part of the local plan consultation in the hope that the areas mentioned would be formally identified and afforded some protection. Following the publication of the revised plan the need to include green spaces in the NDP would need to be reconsidered	Agreed to forward the document to T&W as part of the ongoing local plan consultation.

Employment	Members noted the parcel of land to the south of the A518 in the vicinity of Audley Avenue industrial estate was the only designated employment site in the Policy map of the local plan. The area of Water Lane was mentioned in the draft local plan (S4 page 45 ss 4.13) but had not been designated specifically as such in the policy map due to its (small) size. As such members felt the undeveloped areas of Water lane (backing onto St Mary St/ High St) should be designated in the NDP as fit for a variety of developments e.g. some additional parking, mixed use/ service sector activities and retail that would reinforce the primary shopping area. All of which should complement Victoria Park and the canal. Employment sites that would strengthen the expertise of HAU (e.g agri-tech) would be supported in other areas.	
Building Standards	Members noted an event being hosted by the Civic Society and Newport 21 on the subject of sustainable housing on 14 Sep. It was felt that the presentation would help to identify suitable building standards for Newport and form a piece of light touch consultation. Members were minded to identify an 'off-the shelf' building standard that focussed on being eco-friendly/sustainable. Members acknowledged that any policy would not be applicable to the large number of planning permissions (for housing) that had been approved in Newport in recent years that had either not broken ground or had not been completed.	Clerk to identify current building standards and PMG to review.
Houses Of Multiple Occupation	Members considered the issue of studentification of large areas of the town needed addressing to afford some protection to both the occupants and the long standing neighbouring residents to maintain the character and wellbeing of the town and townsfolk.	A more thorough understanding would be needed to the technicalities of the article 4 legislation to understand how registration/enforcement could be undertaken and to understand any unintended consequences.
Summary	Members of the PMG agreed that the 4 issues above were the only matters that should be progressed within the Newport NDP	

Meeting Closed at 9.00pm.

L S JAKEMAN
Town Clerk