

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Blewbury Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group  
held in the Melland Room on Monday 13 October 2014**

**Present:** Ian Bacon (IB), Richard Farrell (RF), Vanessa Fox (VF), Angela Hoy (AH), Jo Lakeland(JL), Mike Marshall (MM), Dermot Mathias (Chair) (DM), Pat Mattimore (PM), Anne Millman (AM), Anton Nath (AN), John Ogden (JO)

**Apologies:** Nick Chancellor (NC), Eric Eisenhandler (EE), Joe Goyder (JG), Andrew Maxted (AMx), Alex Musson (AMus), Kally Peigne (KP), Gwyn Rees (GR)

1. Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

2. **Woodway Road.** It was agreed at the outset of the meeting that the proposed application to develop 120 houses off Woodway Road should be discussed before the main agenda items.

DM reminded those present that the role of the steering group is to reflect the views of the village and at this stage we must not presume what those views might be..

The housing needs survey was discussed and it was agreed that we should continue with its delivery even though it may coincide with a leaflet from the Woodway Rd developers. It was also agreed that the survey would provide villagers with an opportunity to comment on the development. AM will email further instructions to those delivering the survey.

**AM**

Similarly it was agreed that we should continue with the landscape survey because it would provide an objective assessment of the site. DM then explained that he had had a meeting with Andrew Maxted of VOWH who, unaware of this proposed development, said that the sites allocated in Part 1 of the Local Plan should fulfil almost all of the Vale's housing requirement until 2031. He explained that the shortfall would be 56 houses to be taken up by the whole of the South-East Vale sub-area in Part 2 of the Plan. As a result the Plan will have negligible or no requirements for new houses in Blewbury.

There followed a general discussion. It was agreed that if people feel strongly they should respond in the survey and/or by posting a comment on the BNDP website. AN said we should contact Kler Group and make ourselves and our plan known to them. DM was asked to do this.

**DM**

It was also suggested that we should use the Stop Press to inform the village on any further matters in relation to this. and AM will email further instructions to the volunteers.

The Landscape Assessment is quite central to this. DM has been in touch with Brian Duckett.

4. **Housing Needs Survey.** AM brought along bundles of questionnaires etc, with crib sheets, record sheets, stickers, posters (6 per volunteer)

and instructions.

Thanks were expressed by all to Anne, Nick and Kally for putting all this together.

5. **Landscape Appraisal** – commissioned (£3275). Brain Duckett to be invited to the next meeting.
6. **Living in the Village.** There has been a meeting; AM will put some spreadsheets together, on demographics etc, to present at the February meeting.
7. **Sustainability.** IB and GR have met to divide up the workload. There is overlap with Living in the Village to be sorted out. Target date mid-November.
8. **Engagement.** The next event is 28 February. The Village Hall is booked.  
A piece will be put in the Bulletin from the Parish Council, about the Woodway Road development, and asking people to respond. (Deadline 22 October). **RF, DM**
9. **Update on relationship with VOWH and ORCC.** Anton is working for ORCC as a freelance, and can be contacted on [anton.oxcom@gmail.com](mailto:anton.oxcom@gmail.com). Caroline O'Donnell's contribution was recognised and appreciated. Andrew Maxted will become the Vale's representative on our steering group.
10. As explained at an earlier meeting DM has become a non executive director of Rectory Homes. DM withdrew from the room to give people the chance to discuss whether they felt he was conflicted from staying on the steering committee. This was not thought to be a problem. RF advised that DM should draw Rectory's attention to the BNDP. DM subsequently confirmed that he had already done so.  
As a point of governance, members must declare a conflict of interest to the committee.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 10 November**