

**PORTLAND TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7.00 PM  
IN EASTON METHODIST CHURCH HALL, EASTON**

**PRESENT:** Councillors J. Draper (Chairman), Ms J. Atwell, C. Flack, Mrs S. Reynolds, D. Thurston and R. Wild, together with Andy Matthews (Working Group)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ian Looker (Town Clerk), Leo Henley Lock (Dorset Wildlife Trust) and four members of the public

**322 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs S. Cocking, C. Gover and D. Symes.

**323 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr Matthews declared non-pecuniary interests in the MEMO project and Portland Community Partnership.

**324 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016**

The minutes were formally agreed and signed as a correct record.

**325 – MINUTE UPDATE AND MATTERS ARISING**

No items were mentioned.

**326 – NOTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING, 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017**

There was no comment.

**327 – PROJECT BUDGET**

From the chair Cllr Draper led members through the budget figures presented, pointing out that only £415 had been spent in the current financial year to date.

**328 – OPEN FORUM**

There were questions concerning the County's Living and Learning review of public-owned sites on the island. Mr Matthews said the Neighbourhood Plan could seek to influence decisions in this regard, but not dictate.

**329 – PLAN UPDATE**

Mr Matthews reported that the Heritage and Character study was due to be ready by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. The Plan Working Group was trying to bring pressure on the Borough to complete its conservation areas study. A new Local Plan was being prepared that would have fuller proposals for housing development than the old one. As far as the Island was concerned the site east of Avalanche Road had been withdrawn, leaving two others that would comprise a hundred and eighty units of housing.

Cllr Draper hoped the Management Committee would provide thoughts on

housing development as part of the Planning Committee's submission to the Local Plan consultation. The workshop in January had identified a couple of possible sites preferable to Weston Street.

It was proposed by Cllr Draper and **RESOLVED** – that Paul Weston be hired for up to four days work in March to investigate possible conflicts between the Local and Neighbourhood Plans and remaining gaps in the evidence base.

**330 – LOCAL PLAN REVIEW AND CONSULTATION**

Mr Matthews spoke to his agenda paper and the associated appendix. There was concern that the previous Local Plan had not given sufficient recognition to the availability of brownfield sites for development and housing development had not been linked to employment. These issues had now been recognised. A drop-in event for the Local Plan had been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

It was proposed by Cllr Draper and **RESOLVED** – that Mr Matthews prepare a briefing paper on the Local Plan for the Planning Committee.

**331 – HERITAGE AND CHARACTER STUDY**

Cllr Draper and Mr Matthews had met the Aecom consultants to draw attention to some matters of note and the latter had spent a further two days on the Island making assessments. The Study would form part of the overall Neighbourhood Plan evidence base.

**332 – FORMAT OF NEXT MEETING**

This would be another workshop to look at the draft Heritage and Character Study, consult with Paul Weston and assess what had been accomplished to date against the Plan objectives, possibly with a presentation by Aecom as well.

**333 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017, probably to be held in Easton Methodist Church Hall and the next Committee meeting on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April, venue not yet confirmed, both starting at 7.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
(Chairman)