

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Notes from a meeting held at the Axminster Conservative Club on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015

Present were the chairman, secretary and representatives from Upper Marshwood Vale and Hawkchurch Neighbourhood Plan Steering Groups plus Mark Van der Weyer, and Jo Widcombe, a NP consultant

Jo Widcombe was interviewed about her experience, asked to outline how she saw the NP process proceeding and invited to provide the group with an offer for her services.

The scope and content of a first public consultation meeting was discussed and agreed in outline with a follow-up meeting agreed for the New Year to discuss detail. A two-day event was agreed for a date in late Feb. 2016 at Blackdown village hall, this to be well advertised beforehand in the parish magazine, Beneath The Vale, as well as through postal invitations to be sent out to all UMV residents.

Charles Somers explained an alternative approach (a single 3-hour focused session) used recently at a NP public consultation meeting at Broadwindsor. It was agreed to use the already planned 2-day format and see response.

Agreed to seek support funding, to join CPRE and to order 'Guide to NP' books. Agreed also to establish main theme groups – housing, business, etc.

Main themes for the public meeting were agreed as:

- Housing need (land availability, barn/farm building use, WDDC housing register);
- Sewerage systems (joint use and/or Wessex Water);
- Children play area;
- Bus shelter;
- Orchard;
- School facilities
- Hedgerows and woods – sustainable fuel supply
- Solar/wind power

Mark Van der Weyer volunteered to provide a piece on local pubs and other matters which might be useful to the NP process.

Charles Somers agreed to take over as chairman when Mike Robinson was ready in 2016.

Next meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at the Axminster Conservative Club 7.30pm