

Agenda/Meeting Minutes

1. Purpose of Meeting

Desborough Town Plan Steering Group

Date of Meeting:	Tuesday 31st January 2017 7.00pm	Location:	Desborough Town Council Office
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2. Attendance at Meeting

Name	Name	Name	Name
Phill Conaty	James Putt		
Ray Brooks	Jane Pearce		
Carry Murphy	Allan Matthews		
David Soans			
Members of Public	Kevin O'Brien	Linda Burnham	

3. Apologies

Richard Turner	Pamela Goodman		
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4. Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Apologies for absence
3. Housing Site Assessment Update
4. Green Environment
5. Town Centre and Heritage
6. Any other business
7. Date of next meeting

Meeting Notes, Decisions, Issues

1) Welcome and introductions

Jane Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Apologies

Mr Richard Turner and Mrs Pamela Goodman

3) Housing Site Assessment update

Site beyond Weavers Mead has now been designated DE/213.

Aecomm is to undertake a full assessment of specific sites suitable for a supermarket –funding for this provided by Locality which will save us approx £8000. The assessment will take 10 to 12 weeks.

Allan Matthews has investigated the current status of Green Lane – apparently it is still classified as a highway.

4) Green Environment

Phil Conaty, Jane Pearce, and Richard Turner had met a representative of the Wildlife Trust (Biodiversity Records Office). Previous public consultation feedback had indicated a clear desire to preserve and improve the local green environment. A greater emphasis should be placed on availability of green space (in all sections of the Neighbourhood Plan) and how it is incorporated into future developments. Areas we have got should be improved with the appropriate flora, which in turn will encourage more wildlife.

Jane is currently working on a map detailing all green spaces in the town.

Allan Matthews to contact Records Office for information on site next to Cedar Farm (Rushton Road), which is split between the Desborough and Rushton parish boundaries. It has been confirmed as a wildlife area by the Wildlife Trust.

David Soans raised the point that we need to work Kettering Borough Council with the design of the Grange Mark 2 development in order to incorporate green space improvements.

Jane Pearce has obtained a basic route map for the Town Perimeter Walk.

5) Town Centre and Heritage

Local Character Appraisal – Need to form a working party to discuss.

To include: Urban Design Framework, materials, building heights, architectural design, what currently exists in the town centre and surrounding area.

Working party meeting set for 10am Wednesday 7th February, liaising with Laura Alvarez.

Carry Murphy highlighted the availability of the Urban Structure Study document which may be useful.

David Soans pointed out that various grammatical errors in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan require correction

Ray Brooks asked if it was possible to get better maps.

James McKechnie advised that he will take the required list of maps (and size) and he will liaise with Kettering Borough Council to obtain copies.

Discussion point – To balance between what is desirable in the town, and what is achievable or viable. Stores may “buddy” together in order to make a venture commercially viable.

Jane and Allen met with the Northants County Council about the educational requirements of the town. A new primary school has been agreed for Phase 2 of the Grange development, construction of which will commence once 300 houses are built.

From NCC studies, there would be insufficient pupil numbers generated in the area for another secondary school, even with the proposed developments in Desborough and Rothwell.

Montsaye Academy is about to extend by one form (without needing new buildings), but also has the land available to expand further if required.

Housing growth in the area has not increased as quickly as in other parts of the Borough.

James McKechnie suggested that a good question to ask NCC is what is the dispersal of secondary children from Desborough?

Montsaye can generate additional local spaces by shrinking their catchment area.

Carry Murphy suggested looking at the School Organisation Plan, available from the Northants County Council website.

6) Any other business

Comment from Mrs Linda Burnhan: Montsaye appears to be bursting at the seams which is detrimental to the students. Attended meeting with new Headmaster and Ofsted report is due out later in the week. Their catchment area seems quite large so it may be better to shrink that to concentrate more on providing spaces for students within the Kettering area.

7) Date of next Meeting

Wednesday 8th March 2017, 7pm
Desborough Council Office

Meeting ended at 7:50pm

