

## Meeting of NDO Steering Committee on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

By Zoom

Present

Giles Baxter (GB)  
Simon Russell (SR)  
Christopher Purvis (CP)  
Rob Hollin (RH)  
Chris Neil (CN)  
Penny Hill (PH)  
Chris Brotherton (CB)  
Charles Campion (CC)

Apologies

Irene Steinbrecher (IS)  
Estelle James (EJ)

- 1) Minutes of meeting 25 September. Agreed.
- 2) Settlement Meeting. CP, CN and SR explained that the settlement meeting had been concluded, with an outcome upon which all parties were agreed. The village would be receiving everything it asked for, and more, and this would be reflected in the consultation video and in the Implementation section of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was also agreed that actual figures for grants to the school etc, and the some paid to the Gibbs Estate would not be published at this stage because they will be impacted by the scheme which is still only at the initial proposal stage, and the forecast of house prices at the time. The meeting agreed with the outcome and that it represented a great settlement for the village. The community members acknowledged the generosity of the Gibbs Estate in arriving at such a settlement.
- 3) Consultation
  - a. The SG agreed that the consultation materials, namely flyer, video, poster, draft NP and development proposals were ready to go. The SG also agreed that A0 boards should be placed at locations around the Parish. An article would be prepared for the December edition of the Bridge Magazine.
  - b. The date for opening the consultation was agreed as 20 November 2020. It was agreed that the closing date should be extended over the weekend of 5-6 December, to Wednesday 9 December.
  - c. The meeting noted that CB had consulted the SODC Public Engagement Team to conform it was 'COVID-19' compliant, and that SODC had confirmed it was.
  - d. It was agreed the those immediately contiguous to the site should receive hand delivered copies of the documents on 18th November. PH would deliver to contiguous properties to the Allotments site, and GB to those contiguous to the Paddock Site. Where a resident was in, PH and GB would take a few minutes to explain what was in the documents. It was also agreed that there should be no special 'reaching out' to those who had

been asking about when the proposals might be available, other than the arrangements above.

- e. It was agreed that GB would inform our OCC and SODC councillors about the consultation, and our MP.
- 4) There was a discussion about press interest. It was agreed that we would not issue a press statement. The SG noted that there may be some press interest. GB would act as spokesperson.
- 5) The SG considered to top risks to the project:
  - a. Community support. To be re-assessed after the consultation.
  - b. Surgery. The ongoing commitment of the partners to the COVID-19 response and their lack of capacity to attend meetings was acknowledged by SG members. The SG agreed that GB and CB should approach Sara Ward, a consultant with extensive experience of working with the NHS in Oxfordshire who came recommended by a partner in a Didcot practice that have recently undergone the development of and move to a new surgery building, to see if she would consider supporting the surgery partners. [Afternote. SW was interviewed by CB and GB on 13/10/20, and introduced to IS/EJ thereafter. She has been since appointed by them]. It was agreed that the risk to the project of lack of time to engage by the partners far outweighed the cost of an initial support package, and therefore SW's initial costs would be met from the NDO grant fund.
  - c. SODC. Following the consultation, further pre-application advice would be sought from SODC, which would include Counsel's opinion on the principles of development and VSCs.
  - d. The Settlement. Now agreed.
- 6) Timescales. CB estimated timescales as:
  - a. NDO referendum in Q3 of 2021
  - b. State date 6-9 months thereafter.
- 7) CN informed the committee that Mick Mildenhall (who owns Site H) had approached the PC making a case that there were VSCs to consider his site for development. It was agreed that, due to the potential conflict of interest as the development on the site could have a detrimental impact on GB, he should not take part in any discussion with MM, and that MM would be invited to a PC meeting to make his case.
- 8) There was a brief discussion about allocation rights for Social Housing. CB opined that SODC have it in their gift to grant allocation rights in whole or part to the PC, and he would argue for this to be included in the S106 agreement.
- 9) DONM: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 13.00 by Zoom.