

**STAMFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
TASK GROUP MEETING
MONDAY 23 MAY 2016**

PRESENT David Taylor (Chairman) – Stamford Town Council
Steve Ingram (South Kesteven District Council)
Roger Ranson (South Kesteven District Council)
Ian Campbell – St. Martins Residents
John Harvey – Former Town and District Councillor
Robert Foulkes – Lincolnshire County Council
David Brailsford – Lincolnshire County Council
David Pennell – Burghley Estates
Anthony Partington – Principal, Stamford Welland Academy
Nick Rudd-Jones – Community Representative
Patricia Stuart-Mogg – Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Paul Rose – Chamber of Commerce and Town Team, Max Sawyer (Stamford Town Council) submitted apologies

1. Presentation on feedback from ‘call for sites’ – Steve Ingram and Roger Ranson

A presentation was given on the feedback from the ‘call for sites’ consultation. It was noted that subsequent to the Core Strategy and the Local Plan, a 12% growth projection had been identified within the district. Local interest has enabled some development progression to facilitate the 17K housing allocation to be achieved. However there is a need for further sites to be identified to meet the new development levels identified by Government. This meeting provides an opportunity for the District Council to share some thoughts on identifying the difference between the requirement and identifying potential sites in Stamford. There is a strict criterion for assessing potential sites, which commences at first with informal discussions with local groups. All area parish and town councils will need to share in supporting the District in delivering the development growth. Neighbourhood Plans need to support the Local Plan and must have a ‘strategic conformity’ to the Local Plan. Following discussion it was recognised that it was essential that the infrastructure has to be considered to address the traffic issues. Councillors Brailsford and Foulkes offered to take this matter forward with Lincolnshire County Council Highways. It was suggested that a traffic model could be used to project the possible options available to improve the through-flow of traffic in anticipation of potential development.

2. Plan Area Designation

The Chairman, Councillor David Taylor, advised that meeting had been held with neighbouring Parish Councils in the hope that they would engage in the Stamford Neighbourhood Plan. But there was a reluctance to be involved in the Stamford Neighbourhood Plan. It was advised that a revised Housing Planning Bill has been passed by Government in the last week which will have an impact on the delivery of growth.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the 25 April 2016 meeting were agreed as a true representation of the meeting.

4. Project Planning update

- Topic Groups – The majority of these have been established with some having already convened. However the Topic Group for Housing still needs members and a Chairman.

- The Initial questionnaire is on the Stamford First website and a link has been installed on the Town Council website. The public is being encouraged to engage through Twitter and Facebook.
- Time scale – The ambition is still to deliver Stamford's Neighbourhood Plan by June 2017 This would be in line with SKDC's Local Plan process.

5. Topic Group Updates

- *Local Commerce* – Nicholas Rudd-Jones confirmed this group comprised eight members with a mix of professional services. Data is currently being gathered to argue the reasons for developing within Stamford. The Stamford brand is important for commerce and tourism. It is recognised that there is suspicion that the Neighbourhood Plan is a foregone conclusion which will support South Kesteven District Council. Following discussion it was emphasised that there is room for negotiation and the public can influence the process. It was recognised that the capacity for growth in Stamford is influenced by growth in business and employment.
- *Heritage and Environment* – David Pennell reported that this group comprised at present of four members but there was additional interest from other associations which will develop the dynamic. At present the case for identifying the uniqueness of Stamford is being developed
- *Education* – Anthony Partington informed the meeting that a meeting had been convened with the Endowed Schools, New College and representatives of Casterton. It is critical that we facilitate all educational establishments to work together for the benefit of Stamford's secondary education.
- *Transport* – Robert Foulkes advised that this group is still in the formation stage. The Transport Study is to be investigated with Lincolnshire County Council and it was thought that the 2008 Study may provide adequate information to inform the discussion in respect of the infrastructure requirements.
- *Housing* – David Taylor stated that this group still needs to be established.

6. Funding Update

The Chairman David Taylor advised that the application for funding from Locality had been submitted and there was confidence that this request will be positively received.

7. Training / Coaching for Topic Groups

It was noted that training is provided by SKDC in Policy writing which should be considered for the Topic Groups.

8. Observations / Feedback from events

It was confirmed that there had been a high level of attendance at recent consultation sessions and good engagement with community groups offering positive feedback. There was a strong underlying suspicion within the public that there is an alignment between the neighbourhood plan and Local Plan, this was due to the past experience with the Gateway Project in Red Lion Square. Residents considered that no matter what their response, the District Council will forge ahead with their plans regardless of any public opinion.

9. Future meetings:

At Burghley Estate Offices unless otherwise stated

20 June; 18 July; 15 August; 19 September; 17 October; 21 November; 19 December and 16 January 2017 AGM

Chairman
(The Meeting closed at 8.00pm)