

**STAMFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**MONDAY 25 JUNE 2018**

**PRESENT:**

David Taylor; David Pennell; Robert Foulkes; Nick Rudd-Jones; and Patricia Stuart-Mogg (Town Clerk)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Town Councillor John Dawson (observer), Luke Brown and Natalie Cockrell (L.A.B Planning Services)

**1. Election of Stamford First Officers and to review the Financial Position:**

- *Election of Chairman* – It was proposed by David Pennell, seconded by Nick Rudd-Jones that David Taylor continues in place as Chairman. There were no other nominations and was unanimously agreed.
- *Election of Vice-Chairman* – It was reported to the Planning Forum that in light of the resignation of Ian Campbell, the Town Council had suggested two potential candidates – John Dawson and Steve Carroll. Following discussion, both candidates were candidly considered by the Forum. Overall it was considered that John Dawson would be the more suitable candidate as Vice-Chairman and could also work closely with the Town Clerk in regard to the finances of Stamford First as John Dawson is Vice-Chairman of the Town Council Finance Committee. John Dawson's association with the businesses fraternity in Stamford would be very useful when conducting future consultation regarding the Neighbourhood Plan. It was proposed by Robert Foulkes, seconded by David Pennell and unanimously agreed that John Dawson is duly elected as Vice-Chairman of Stamford First.
- *Treasurer and Secretary* – It was noted that with the resignation of Max Sawyer. Following discussion, the members of the Forum agreed that it would be prudent to combine the roles of Treasurer and Secretary. It was proposed by Robert Foulkes, seconded by Nick Rudd-Jones that the Town Clerk (Patricia Stuart-Mogg) takes on the role as Treasurer and Secretary for Stamford First. There were no other nominations and was unanimously agreed.
- *Project Manager* – David Taylor informed the meeting that this position would now alter and is being assumed by L.A.B Planning who have been engaged by the Town Council to draft the Stamford Neighbourhood Plan. This will involve the scripting the document, ensuring the Policies are robust and legally sound. Both Natalie and Luke are well rehearsed in producing a Neighbourhood Plan document to the culmination of the stage of the Public Referendum. L.A.B Planning Services has successfully delivered other local Neighbourhood Plans. The Services and support of both Luke Brown and Natalie Cockrell were welcomed by the members of the Stamford First Forum.
- *Budget and Funding update* – The budget was circulated and noted. It was confirmed that the unused sum £1495.00 of the Locality Grant, received in 2017/18 Financial Year had to be returned. However, a fresh new application for further Locality Grant support for £11,210.00 had been submitted. In addition, further funds may possibly be able to be secured through the submitting an application to Awards for All. This will be investigated and progressed.

**2. Feedback from LAB Planning Services on the drafting of the Neighbourhood Plan and the key issues emerging** – All information gathered by each Topic Group during their discussions and consultations had been forwarded to L.A.B Planning Services. On reviewing the information collected there was a strong need of all endorsements to be evidence based and supported by employment data. The script within the Neighbourhood Plan requires enrichment adding more value and context to specific locations within Stamford which the District Local Plan doesn't address. It is critical that the Stamford Neighbourhood Plan is aligned to the Local Plan and National Plan. All organisations must work collaboratively to deliver an achievable Neighbourhood Plan. Within the document there needs to be a demonstration of a coherent vision for Stamford. There could be a summary of aspirations and issues raised within the initial consultation which lead to clear objectives. These objectives will develop the Policies supporting the document. At present the structure of the document is evolving as it is developed.

- i. *Policies* - A list of proposed Planning Policies to guide alterations of buildings outside the Conservation Area which is introducing more modern development designs needs to be

considered. This highlights the need for an Urban Character Assessment study to be conducted. This piece of work should examine the design styles in the various sectors outside the Conservation Area.

- ii. *Employment section* - Employment is a segment of the Neighbourhood Plan which needs to examine the Brownfield sites such as Foundry Road or Wharf Road where employment should be retained. Any recommendations of locations identified will need to be supported by evidence to demonstrate the need, viability and sustainability.
- iii. *Public Open Spaces* - It is understood that the Town Council is currently undertaking a survey of Open Spaces in Stamford. This would be a very valuable piece of work to support the infrastructure of local communities to ensure they are enhanced and connected to the Town Centre. The concept of a Green Wheel could be developed to support a sustainable transport scheme. Cycle parking and development of the existing car parking facilities could be investigated. It is recognised that this will require consultation and could enhance neighbourhoods, establishing the current open spaces with Village Green status.
- iv. *Trade / Evening Economy / Tourism* - The development of the evening economy and diversification to the town centre will need to be studied and how to use of the space above shops examined. Tourism is a sector which needs to be strengthened with the scrutiny of the Licence Classifications. Engaging with SK Invest may assist to identify where there are gaps in the business sector together with the cultural aspects such as theatres and museums. A Character Assessment should also investigate the importance of the views and vistas around the town. This will need to take into consideration the height and topography of new buildings, hedging and boundary styles. It is important to note that the Policies are not to stifle building but to make any development more in keeping with the context of the locations and appropriate for the areas.
- v. *Education Section* - The provision of educational facilities to meet the need through the provision of S106 agreements. There was recognition that the challenging element for the Neighbourhood Plan will be the highway infrastructure.

**3. Next Steps:** Following discussion, it was appreciated that that there were difficulties but there could be a section identifying the issues with aspirations of how these could be addressed. It was recognised that the three pieces of critical work which were necessary were:

- Urban Character Assessment
- Employment Land Viability Study
- Open Green Space Survey

Tasks to be undertaken:

- Funding applications to be submitted
- Photos of the Town and consultation process
- Consider content of Historic Environment Policy
- Stamford Community Profile
- Consider views and vistas
- Time-plan of activities up to the Referendum

Meeting closed at 8pm