

## Welland Neighbourhood Plan Forum (“the Forum”)

### Minutes of Meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at The Royalist, Western Avenue, MH

1. Attendees: Susan Garon (SG) **Chair**, Linda Pentland (LP) **Secretary**, Alan Good (AG), David Notter (DN), Martin King (MK), Bruce Durham (BD), Ann Morris (AM), Tracey Foster (TF), Carole Clementson (CW), Catherine Holder (CH), Simon Hobbs (SH), Julian Webber (JW), Quentin Bell (QB), Kerry Ward (KW)
2. **Apologies:** Bob Bellm, Roy Saint, Lesley Morgan, Darren Woodiwiss, Garry Davies, Jerry Horsfall, Julie Simpson, Matt Bills, Nicola Webber

3. **Minutes** of last meeting were agreed.

#### 4. **Matters Arising**

**SH** updated regarding the communications issue raised. He has looked into the possibility of a Royal Mail leaflet drop, which could cost around £500 plus the costs of the leaflet. HDC may be able to do some printing for us, **SG** suggested 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of A4 size leaflet. HDC also to be approached to get a defined list of postcodes for the ward which will enable closer costing.

Harborough Town Hub (**HTH**) are meeting with a website provider/designer tomorrow (Friday 12<sup>th</sup>) to cost a website which is intended to be used as a communication tool across all of the Neighbourhood Forums.

#### 5. **Overview of NP process**

**SG** talked through the document that LP had prepared. **SH** explained that Neighbourhood Priorities statements are a proposed new part of the process being piloted at the moment. These can be as simple as an A4 sheet stating the priorities of the area which, when presented by a body like the Forum will have to be taken into consideration by HDC when making planning decisions. They are quicker to put together and they can then feed into the Neighbourhood Plan.

#### 6. **Updates from sub groups**

**Environment** – **BD** updated. The group has put together a list of priorities including street trees, dog poo, wildfire risks/fly tipping and flood risk. They are researching best practice for dealing with these issues and putting together a prioritized plan of action.

**Transport** – **AG** updated. The group have decided to focus on Active Travel - walking and cycling e.g encouraging a cycleway which covers the whole town. Not however being anti-car. They have split into groups to survey the whole ward and aim to have some defined priorities by the end of June.

**Social and Community** – **LP** updated. There are presently only 2 members of this group so work hasn't yet started in earnest, though LP has begun researching the provisions already in the ward. To set up the WhatsApp group and agree actions before next meeting.

**SG** asked for accessible facilities for young people to be considered under this heading.

**AM** also raised the HDC allotments as an issue here.

**Built Environment** – there have been no members of this group so far. However, **MK** and **DN** are currently dealing with issues which fall under this heading so **SG** suggested they form this group as a beginning.

7. **AOB – CW** asked whether anyone knew who to contact about removing the concrete corners on Burton Street as they are a hazard for traffic. **SG/AG** explained that they won't be moved until after the building works are complete but suggested contacting Avant with any issues in the meantime.

**Harborough Town Hub** will be hosting a stall at the carnival on 10<sup>th</sup> June at Symington Rec to promote the work that the Forums are doing. Volunteers for the stall are very welcome!

**Friendly Communities** is an LCC initiative looking to promote community action – like the work that we are already doing here. They are interested in putting together short podcasts talking to each NF about the work we are doing, which would be another useful publicity tool. **SH** is connecting with the person running the project.

**TF** asked whether the Transport Group will be considering the main roads as well, the congestion and busyness of the roads in particular. **SH** noted that there appears to already be a traffic survey underway across the town and will try to find out more about what that is for. **SG** suggested that in future should any housing developments be under consideration all of the NF's commission an independent unbiased traffic survey.

The role of HTH in bringing together responses to cross-town issues was discussed. **SG** again suggested the possibility of template Neighbourhood Plans – creating one basic plan which covers all of the cross-town issues and then is tailored to each NF area as necessary.

8. **Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 5.30 – 7 at The Royalist.

#### **Useful information/actions/requests for info from the meeting:**

**BD** asked for photographic evidence of any flooding issues in the ward. There are funds available to help deal with these but hard evidence is needed.

Fly tipping should be reported to HDC, including fly tipping of garden waste. They will pay FCC to take the rubbish away because it is often a wildfire risk.

LoveCleanStreets is a free app for mobile phones which enables you to report environmental issues, such as potholes, trees etc quickly and directly to your local authority by simply taking a picture. Your location is automatically detected by the app. **SH** has already used it and it does work though not always immediately.