

**Lamberhurst Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee
Tuesday 19th March 2019 The Chequers 8pm**

Steering Group Members in Attendance	
Graham White (GW) - Chair	x
Robin Musgrove-Wethey (RMW)	
David Ward (DW)	x
Andy Cotterill (AC)	x
Lynn Mercer (LM)	x
David Little (DL)	x
David Hurst-Brown (DHB)	
Sam Nicholas (SN)	x
Clive Stott (CS)	x
Marcus Deguigand (MG)	x
Others In Attendance	
John Mottershead (JM) - Secretary	x
Jim Boot (JB)	

1. Apologies for absence

DHB

2. Chairman's report

DW started by thanking everyone for contributions to date.

a. Policy writing and plan writing update

At the sub-group meeting last Thursday a way forward was agreed. There are slightly less than 42 pages of submission (without pictures or maps). Lyndsay Frost will provide us with a technical valuation of the initial draft.

b. Neighbourhood Plan draft to date

We will probably be going to print in the next four to six weeks.

c. Next steps

We need to be starting the communication process with the community; and with that in mind a presentation will be made at the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting (APM) on Tuesday 9th April.

SN will be sending out an e-mail to all concerned parties with an update on progress; and an invitation to contribute anything that may be of use.

The photo competition will be judged at the APM; with a view to using the winning photos in the plan.

d. Allocation of sites

Goudhurst planners asked the question 'Would the Neighbourhood Plan have more 'teeth' if it recommended sites?' In the end they did not recommend any sites in their plan as they did not have the expertise.

DHB, GW and Lyndsay Frost have reviewed a list of proposed sites and come to exactly the same conclusions as Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. This gives GW confidence that we have carried out due diligence in the review of sites. GW feels that when the TWBC Local Plan is published; it will be challenged by many people; and TWBC are better geared-up to deal with these challenges than we are. If our policies are strong enough; and reflect our local characteristics; we can refer to them in any debate over development.

GW asked if he would be correct in summing up the position of the Steering Group by saying, we should ensure that we have strong housing policies; but do not recommend sites in the plan. This would mean that we would go along with the recommendations that are published in the TWBC Local Plan; which are generally aligned with our own findings anyway. GW would like this to be a consensus of the Steering Group. After a discussion on the subject the Steering Group agreed that this was the correct thing to do.

3. Working Group Chair's reports
 - a. Character and Design
 - b. Business
 - c. Environment and Open Spaces
 - d. Infrastructure and Transport
 - e. Media and Communications
 - f. Housing sub-group

Nothing to report from the sub-groups.

4. Any other business
- No other business

Meeting closed at 21:10
Next meeting on 16th April