

## **Minutes from Steering Group Meeting, 18<sup>th</sup>. September, 2017 at 17.00 in Victoria Hall foyer**

**Present:** Christopher Clark (chair), Ann Lewis, Maureen Burns-Jones, Paul Dowse, John Nowell, Nick Taylor and Michael Hinman (minutes).

1. **Apologies:** Michael Haley, David Salkeld and Peter Goodwin.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup>. August were agreed and signed.
4. **Matters Arising:**
  - (a) A letter had been sent to Sue Green thanking her for her presentation on behalf of the Housebuilders' Federation.
  - (b) Christopher Clark had sent to Colin Dunigan on behalf of the Steering Group the document which Paul Dowse had compiled registering our comments upon the local plan in the light of the neighbourhood plan survey. Paul and Ann Lewis were thanked for their considerable contributions in that matter. It was agreed that the document should go on the neighbourhood plan website. Maureen Burns-Jones would write a Press release and a letter for the local newspapers' correspondence pages, showing them to the chair and Michael Haley before despatch; Christopher would forewarn the Press of their arrival.
5. **Rutland County Council Responses:** None.
6. **Membership of Steering Group:** it was agreed unanimously that Paul Dadford from the Heritage and Open Spaces Working Group should be invited to join (proposed: John Nowell; seconded: Michael Hinman). It was thought that councillor Haley would be inviting two new councillors to consider joining the group. The need for more female members was agreed.
7. **Any Other Business:**
  - (a) Michael Haley had informed the chair that we could bid for a £9,000 grant from the Local Government Office which could be received *en bloc* or in tranches. Ann Lewis would speak to Colin Dunigan about obtaining money for a heritage assessment when he gave a talk to group members and other interested parties on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Members of the group wished that it had more immediate access to the £10,000 budget which the town council had set aside for it.
  - (b) The chair congratulated members on keeping the group intact, with several of the original volunteers still serving.
  - (c) Whilst it was agreed that the Steering Group's relationship with the Town Council needed to be to some extent at arm's length, it was thought that the council should receive more details of the group's doings than a mere schedule of its meetings. Christopher was to speak to OTC at its November meeting about what we did.
  - (d) *Consultants.* Kate Hiseman had told the chair that (if appointed) she would show the group how to prepare its submission but not write it herself, whereas we wanted the consultant to do that. Christopher would write to Kate Hiseman and Helen Metcalf noting that

they had not formally expressed an interest and to Stuart Duckworth asking if he was interested.

(e) *Addendum to 3rd. August meeting.* This recorded a presentation which Colin Dunigan and Roger Ranson had given to the Steering Group after its regular meeting that day; OTC saw it as trying to influence policy. Christopher would send Colin Dunigan a copy of the addendum for information.

(f) *Community Services.* Ann Lewis said that there was a Clinical Commissioning Group meeting on 14<sup>th</sup>. December at which the Steering Group ought to be represented; she would confirm our interest and we would send a representative.

**Date and Place of Next Meeting:** 17.00, Thursday, 12th. October at Oakham Town Council.