

DATCHET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP – Wednesday 18th October 2017

Venue	Datchet Parish Office
Time	7.30 pm
Attendees	Fiona Cryle (FC - Chair) Marjorie Clasper (MC) Alison Crampin (AC) Jo Stickland (JSt) Sandra Needham (Secretary) Ewan Larcombe (EL) Nick Goddard (NG)

Agenda Item		Ac
1	Apologies from Jane Simpson. James Lawrence tendered his resignation as could not commit the necessary time	
2	Minutes of the 16 th August were agreed. Minutes of 20 th September were agreed, but EL queried the reference to the Traveller Community Specific Policy and explained that the regulations had changed again. No Matters Arising from 16 th August . but reported that John Slater’s visit had been informative, with note taken of his recommendation that DNP could restrict its plan to very specific topics.	
3	The Link: Next article would be the third, placed in The Link at no cost to Steering Group. AC sought agreement of contents for the forthcoming article. Agreed to include a note that the survey was now closed. NP Vision to be explained, with reminder of the things NPs cannot consider. Also to request volunteers for Topic Groups. FC commented that although we must be clear what we cannot do, we must emphasize what we can achieve. FC to send the consultation documents on changes to trains to JSt. The Post Office is always an issue. EL explained that Royal Mail are considering a temporary Post Office that can accept post for a few hours each week to begin with – to DPC for action.	AC FC
4	Vision/Objectives: The overriding vision agreed as “Our vision is to retain Datchet’s character as a village”. It was agreed that Objectives should become Principles, as on the attached sheet; this continues as a work in progress document. Comments passed during discussions referred to the need for anyone building more than five houses should provide a report on the effect on traffic flow, and the fact that Datchet is not wheelchair friendly either in access to shops or on the pavements widths and steps up and down.	
5	Evidence Update: Janet Kennish is to speak with Robert Lloyd Sweet to discuss as CA and what can be achieved for the NP. Reference was made to Staff changes at RBWM where Derek Wilson has been replaced by David Coppinger. MC explained the two pieces of evidence she had put together as a starter for Topic Groups. Regarding the CA she confirmed that Janet Kennish’s character assessment would be shared on the Dropbox once it was completed. MC’s second piece of evidence concerned the Green Environment, and this has been circulated with comments from FC and AC. EL has provided photographs of the shops and agreed to take some of the green spaces and CA. MC will email EL with the requirements for this. NG confirmed he had received all the necessary documentation concerning businesses.	MC EL
6	Conservation Area and RBWM: MC had received an email from Garrick Davis concerning the Old Council Offices where changes are progressing without use of the correct materials. Rendering had been removed with modern cement mortar used instead of the necessary lime based mortar. Olivia Mayer is in place as Conservation Officer – she is not able to visit Datchet but would like to see photographs.	

<p>7</p>	<p>Topic Groups: FC suggested starting with two – Leisure and Green Environment, and CA and village centre. General agreement that one member of the Steering Group should be on each Topic Group. Suggested FC for Leisure, MC for Green Environment and AC & JK for Conservation Area.</p> <p>FC queried definition of leisure. Mention made in the survey results of a splash pool, green gym, teenage equipment etc. Should uniformed organisations (such as cubs and brownies) be included in this category? General agreement that the Topic Groups will determine what is involved once they get working.</p> <p>EL introduced a document produced for RK Leisure with the intention to present to Wraysbury Parish Council. This company has purchased a gravel pit and plan to build 50 new houses. Wraysbury PC did not receive the presentation, but the document was shared with the group – note being taken of RK Leisure’s commitment to reflect the Wraysbury NP.</p> <p>AC suggested contacting the various utility companies to discover what land they own in the area, as several pieces of land have been sold without any clear advertising of its availability. Also sensible to discover if there are regulations limiting the size of land that can be protected.</p> <p>The Link advert will mention the initial topic groups. Contact will also be made with those listed on the database.</p> <p>During discussion about trees in Datchet EL mentioned the entry to the village over the Jubilee River which is full of litter. The hedgerows were also considered, and it was agreed there should be an attempt to protect these.</p> <p>MC mentioned the East West village divide, with the assessment in progress with JK. Village walkabouts were planned, maybe with a leaflet drop a couple of days beforehand, to garner information and with the hope of persuading people to join a Topic Group.</p> <p>EL mentioned worries of some residents along the Horton Road who wished to keep their names private. All agreed they should be able to remain anonymous but that the attitudes are something to be tackled. Ditton Road appeared to be a good starting point – maybe contact Mr Steve Buckeraige of the Gospel Chapel. The topic would be leisure to start with – PlaceCheck has a document suggesting how to do such a walk.</p> <p>Topic Groups guidelines should be drawn up by January. Decision made not to have a presence at the Christmas on the Green activities, but to try to get the three groups going (Leisure, Green spaces, CA) as soon as the guidelines are available. Maybe have a Drop-In day for anyone interested.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Recent Presentations/Meetings:</p> <p>FC reported on the Village Centre meeting, with little of note to be reported. The Pink Shop was discussed and the draft guidelines paper produced by Kate Fitzgerald for the group to present to DPC. All agreed the document was not enforceable so should not be circulated. FC asked to request Kate to withhold it until after NP meet with Historic England.</p> <p>MC reported on a meeting with the new Housing Minister (Alok Shama) who was very supporting of NPs. He pointed out that they have to be upgraded and reviewed every time a Borough Plan is reviewed. He said that there was no change to the Green Belt regulations and that local authorities will need to justify very specific circumstances to use Green Belt land. In the first instance local authority land should be used. He is very keen to see affordable housing, concentrating on ownership and first time buyers. Social housing not on the list – Slough has challenged this approach as it believes RBWM is guilty of social engineering through this. Stamp</p>	

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	<p>duty has depressed the rental market (presumably because of buy-to-let housing) and should be reduced, especially to aid the elderly to downsize.</p> <p>FC mentioned a BBC radio programme with Evan Davis which asks What is Affordable Housing?</p> <p>FC reported on her presentation to DPC, who listened but had no comments or questions. Agreement that in future a written report would be sent to DPC unless otherwise requested</p>	
9	<p>Dropbox: AC assured the group that Dropbox was secure. Final documents should be put into PDF format and no one should change these unless specifically requested.</p> <p>Remove Denny, JS husband and James Lawrence and put NG on the list.</p> <p>Topic Groups will have their own files.</p> <p>A photo library should be set up on Google Drive.</p> <p>Data files will become “No access” to comply with data protection regulations.</p>	
10	<p>Project Planner: AC – two official versions on Dropbox plus one rogue version, to be removed. The next planner revision should be FC 3, so the number always reflects the latest version while the initials are just whoever took responsibility for the planner on that occasion. To be updated for each monthly meeting.</p>	
11	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>EL mentioned the River Thames Scheme: £12 million had been put forward without much publicity. EL had booked a slot at the consultation meeting and spoke. He said the project may come to a halt if the rest of the money cannot be found. The next step in the scheme is Surrey, a council that is broke and would be destined to put up £103 billion. Very uncertain what will happen here, but a lot of people have made and spent a lot of money, but the original plan may fail and there appears to be no Plan B.</p> <p>EL mentioned the Boundaries Commission and changes within the borough representation. It has been suggested that the wards of Horton & Wraysbury are joined with Datchet with three councillors instead of the present four. EL is on both Parish Councils.</p> <p>AC asked if the survey tables should be put on the website – agreed.</p>	
12	<p>Date of next meeting – Wednesday 15th November 2017</p>	