

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of Hoxne Parish Council Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group held on Thursday 9 January 2020 at St Edmund's Hall at 18.00 hours

Present:

Cllrs Edward O'Connor, Katherine Farthing and Iain Gibson, Gillian O'Connor, Mr Kevin Prior, Michel Henri, and Mrs Claire Whiting and the Parish Clerk. Three other parishioners arrived to observe the meeting but were informed that the meeting was a working party meeting only and they did not wish to join the working party and remain at the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr G Thornett.

2. Membership was noted as those above with the addition of Mr Graham Thornett who had sent apologies for the meeting. Residents who had previously called for the Neighbourhood Plan to be progressed had not responded to their invitation to attend the meeting.

3. It was agreed the Group would operate as a Working Group of the Parish Council reporting into the Parish Council for decision making and financial delegations. As such, Working Group members who were not Parish Councillors would not have to complete a register of interests. Members would only have voting rights in relation to recommendations being made at Working Group meetings.

4. It was confirmed that Hoxne, as per the village boundary, had been designated as an NDP area. Discussion then took place on how to progress the NDP and what it could achieve for the village. Once 'made' (adopted by referendum), the NDP would be planning policy that had been created by local people and would be a powerful tool to ensure that the community of Hoxne gets the right development in the right places. The NDP had to be in favour of development but could also designate local green spaces which would be protected from development. As part of determining what the right development was, it was noted that the Parish Council are currently facilitating a local housing needs survey. The parish would need to be consulted at all stages of NDP development.

5. Priorities for the NDP would be to establish current feeling for the village by asking what was good, what was bad and what would you like to change about Hoxne. These questions would be asked via a survey and at the Annual Parish Meeting in March.

6. It was agreed to invite consultants to provide presentations of how they could assist with progressing the NDP at the next meeting (6 February 2020). It was anticipated, that much of the consultant's fee could be covered by a grant which could be received on application to Locality (government department).

4. There were no other matters. Date of next meeting was arranged for 5.30 pm on Thursday 6 February 2020.

The meeting was closed at 19.10