## DOWNHAM MARKET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STRATEGY GROUP NOTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY 29th OCTOBER 2020 AT 14:00

This was held as a Zoom video telephony meeting.

	Present:	ACTION
	Strategy Group Chair Cllr E Hendry	
	Cllr A Pickering, J Westrop, J Woodmin, Mrs J Davy, Mr A Davy and Mr R Warden	
	Consultant – Shaun Vincent	
	Senior Administrator Ms C Dornan	
1	To receive Members' apologies for absence	
	Apologies were received from Cllr Lightfoot and Mr Loveday.	
	Cllr Lawson was not present.	
2	To receive Members' declarations of interest	
	There were no declarations of interest.	
3	To approve the notes of the meeting held on Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2020	
	Proposer Cllr Hendry Seconder Cllr Westrop	
	'The notes of the meeting held on Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2020 are agreed as a true and accurate record.'	
	5 in favour 2 abstentions as not present at the meeting	
	Cllr Hendry requested that the Final Response to the White Paper be forwarded to the members.	Sen. Admin.
4	To agree Strategy Group Membership	
	All members present stated they wished to remain a member of the Strategy Group.	
	This item is to be discussed at Full Council on Tuesday 03 November 2020 and therefore no further discussion was required until the outcome of this meeting is known.	
5	To continue with the preparations of the Neighbourhood Plan focusing on housing and design	
	It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan should create sustainable neighbourhoods and should focus on:	
	<ul> <li>Parking</li> <li>Roads</li> <li>Vandalism and theft</li> <li>Density</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>Green Space</li><li>Design</li></ul>	

## Street Lighting

Parking – Insufficient number of spaces currently provided causes untidy neighbourhoods and impassable footpaths due to on pavement parking. Preference is a minimum of 2 parking spaces for all properties up to and including 2 bedrooms and then an additional parking space for each additional bedroom up to and including the fourth. Garages should be a size which allows the average car to use it. Modern houses have little or no storage space and, therefore, garages become storage rooms, further forcing parking onto the road.

Roads – It was agreed these should be built to an adoptable standard. Unadopted roads are usually of a lower quality and are the householder's personal responsibility, causing disputes. Access is often refused by bin services causing bin storage issues on collection days.

Vandalism and theft – Courtyard parking areas should be avoided as they are used as play areas and, where vehicles are not parked near owners' properties, theft and vandalism are prevalent. Garages should be in the curtilage of the property. This would also resolve any Health and Safety risks related to charging electric vehicles.

Density – It was agreed that the minimum property size should be referenced to the Royal Institute of Architects recommendations and that the requests for 30 – 40 houses per hectare could, thereby, be avoided.

Green Space – It was acknowledged that soft landscaping on properties was a wish but any provided could easily be transformed upon the purchase of the property by another owner. It was therefore agreed that green space was important and that a ratio of housing to green space needs to be placed within the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Pickering left at 11:20am

Design – There should be a mix of flats, bungalows, semi-detached properties and detached properties to prevent mono designs. There should be a mix of local building materials including Carstone.

Street lighting – There was some discussion on the need for street lighting. Whilst it is generally thought to be safer to have lights, statistics show that this is not the case. The members' preference would be Solar Powered however the consultant advised that this is currently unenforceable. It was therefore agreed that, where possible, street lights should be sensor driven with a timer switch. It would be a wish that street lights were multifunctional i.e. being able to charge electric vehicles.

Cllr Woodmin left at 11:30am

## 6 To discuss and agree public consultation methods

Due to limited time, this item is on hold at present as it is difficult to judge what effect the second strain will have on the groups' ability to consult effectively.

## 7 To agree next meeting

Thursday 12 November 2020 at 10am. Items to discuss:
Photo Voltaic
Local Economy
Community & Culture
Infrastructure

Meeting closed: 11:58		
SIGNED	DATE	