## DOWNHAM MARKET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STRATEGY GROUP NOTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY 04<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 10:00am

## This was held as a Zoom video telephony meeting.

	Present:	ACTION
	Strategy Group Chair Cllr E Hendry (Joined at 10:08am due to technology issues)	
	Cllr Westrop, Mrs J Davy, Mr A Davy and Mr R Warden	
	Senior Administrator Ms C Dornan	
	Consultant Mr S Vincent	
	Whilst awaiting for the Chair to join, Cllr Westrop took on role of temporary Chair from 10:04am – 10:08am. Items 1 - 3.	
1	To receive Members' apologies for absence	
	Apologies were received from Cllr Lawson and Cllr Pickering (work commitments).	
	These apologies were accepted.	
	Cllr Woodmin and Mr Loveday did not attend.	
2	To receive Members' declarations of interest	
	There was no declaration of interest.	
3	To approve the notes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st January 2021	
	Proposer Mr R Warden Seconder Cllr Westrop	
	'The notes of the meeting held on Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2021 are agreed as a true and accurate record.'	
	All in favour	
4	To receive messages from consultation telephone line – 01366 321421	
	Cllr Hendry confirmed that her new telephone message had been uploaded.	
	The Senior Administrator confirmed that there had been no message left on the telephone line to date, however the number was currently only available on the Town Council Neighbourhood Plan web page. The press release containing the number had not been published at the time of this meeting. The Senior Administrator was asked to create a spreadsheet of email addresses left by the	

	public so they can receive regular updates on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan.	Senior Admin.
	Cllr Westrop confirmed that the press release had been submitted to Your Local Paper, the Eastern Daily Press and Lynn News.	
	The Senior Administrator was asked to confirm with the Town Clerk if the local Radio Stations had been contacted.	
	Cllr Hendry agreed to forward a copy of the press release to the Senior Administrator so that a copy could be placed on the Town Council website.	Senior Admin.
	The consultant asked for all messages to be saved and held until the Neighbourhood Plan was in situ, as the examiner may wish to see evidence.	
	The Senior Administrator was asked to retain evidence of publication of the press release via an online screenshot or obtaining a copy of the physical publication.	Senior Admin.
	It was suggested that residents who have historically commented on Planning Applications be contacted and invited to comment on the Neighbourhood Plan.	
	Cllr Westrop and Cllr Hendry requested that the Senior Administrator's Facebook and poster be re-emailed so they could consider amendments.	Senior Admin.
	Cllr Hendry asked for a link to the Neighbourhood Plan web page to be placed on the front of the website. Senior Administrator to discuss with the Town Clerk.	Senior Admin.
	It was suggested that consideration be given to creating a regular newsletter for publication on the Town Council website and Parish noticeboards.	
5	To receive update on Footpath List	
	Mr Warden had completed the Footpath List and it was circulated to all members by the Senior Administrator prior to this meeting.	
	Mr Warden gave commentary on the list, where appropriate.	
	The members discussed the footpaths leading to The Willows which are currently not registered. The Senior Administrator was asked to place this on the Planning Committee Agenda so Councillors could discuss registering the footpaths. The Senior Administrator agreed to discuss the request with the Chair of the Committee.	Senior Admin.
	The members discussed the footpath complaint on Rabbit Lane which had been raised by Cllr Lawson, on behalf of the residents. It included access concerns for emergency vehicles and that the Bridleway having overgrown hedging. The Senior Administrator had knowledge of this complaint and was asked to forward the information and, if necessary, seek assistance from the Maintenance Team in taking photographs of the area. The Senior Administrator was asked to place this on the Environment Strategy Group Agenda so Councillors could discuss the	

	issues. The Senior Administrator agreed to discuss the request with the Chair of the Strategy Group.	Senior Admin.
	The consultant asked for pictures of good and bad example of existing footpaths. Mr Warden agreed to action this.	Mr Warden
	The consultant asked for the Footpath List to be forward in an editable version. Mr Warden confirmed he would provide the Senior Administrator with a word version for onwards transmission to the consultant.	Mr Warden & Senior Admin.
	It was commented that there are some emergent issues that required consultation. These were:	
	1 - Do residents want to see the footpaths actively maintained by the Town Council?	
	2 - Do residents want to see the footpaths developed into Green Corridors?	
	3 - How do residents view the connectivity between housing estates and the Town?	
	4 - If residents want the Town Council to take action, what action would they want to be taken?	
6	To review and approve responses to outstanding policy items	
	Environment & Landscape	
	Mr Warden had completed the Environment and Landscape policy items and it was circulated to all members by the Senior Administrator prior to this meeting.	
	Mr Warden gave commentary on the list, where appropriate.	
	Members asked that the consultant add a policy to protect hedgerows and trees. The consultant confirmed that this was possible.	
	The consultant asked for clarification on what is important about item 10, Distinctiveness. A discussion ensued. The consultant confirmed that a view can be protected in some circumstances. Mr Warden agreed to take pictures of the landscape for circulation to the consultant for further consideration.	Mr Warden
	Cllr Westrop stated she had completed an article on the origins of the architecture of the Town Hall. It was agreed this would be useful evidence. Cllr Westrop was asked to forward a copy to the Senior Administrator, for onwards transmission to the consultant.	Cllr Westrop & Senior Admin.
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	Design & Housing	
	Members accepted this document as presented at the last meeting, with the minor amendment, and the consultant confirmed he required no further information at present.	
	Local Economy	
	Cllr Westrop had forwarded an updated draft of this policy prior to the meeting.	
	The consultant requested an employment zone map. The Senior Administrator was asked to liaise with the Town Clerk and obtain permission for the Administrator to work with Cllr Westrop to produce this as she has the computer technology on her Council machine.	Senior Admin.
	The Senior Administrator was asked to place this item onto the Action Downham / Community Development Agenda so Councillors could discuss the content of this proposed policy. The Senior Administrator agreed to discuss the request with the Town Clerk as the Chair of the Group was due to be voted in the following week.	Senior Admin.
	Community, Culture & Society	
	Cllr Westrop had circulated a draft paper on Tourism and had received feedback from Cllr Daymond.	
	Cllr Westrop agreed to liaise with Cllr Woodmin to complete this policy section.	
	Infrastructure & Transport	Westrop & Cllr Woodmin.
	Cllr Westrop had circulated an updated draft paper prior to the meeting.	Woodmin.
	The consultant requested that this paper include information on additional infrastructure requirements. He asked for a wish list, that assumes resource is not an issue. He asked for photographic examples of existing good and bad infrastructure. He asked for evidence of constraints. He also asked for a review of electric charging points including details and photographic evidence of usage of the 4 new charging points at Tesco. Cllr Westrop agreed to action this. Mr Warden stated he had some ideas he would forward to Cllr Westrop.	Cllr Westrop & Mr Warden
7	To discuss Fenland Biosphere Conference	
	The Senior Administrator confirmed that the Town Clerk had registered the Council's interest in the Fenland Biosphere project.	
	The Senior Administrator confirmed that the Town Clerk was aware of the members' request for this to be placed for discussion on the Agendas of the Environment Strategy Group and Full Council in March 2021.	

	SIGNED DATE
	Meeting closed: 11:22am
	Thursday 18 February 2021 at 10am – The consultant will not be present. Thursday 04 March 2021 at 10am – The consultant will be present.
9	The consultant confirmed that he had no additional question and that the policy development was progressing well.  To confirm date of next zoom meeting
8	The consultant confirmed he had received the links that the Senior Administrator         had been asked to send to him at the previous meeting.         To continue drafting Neighbourhood Plan