DOWNHAM MARKET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STRATEGY GROUP NOTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY 21st JANUARY 2021 AT 10:00am

This was held as a Zoom video telephony meeting.

Ī	Present:	ACTION
	Strategy Group Chair Cllr E Hendry (Joined at 10:20am due to technology issues)	
	Cllr Pickering, Westrop, Cllr Woodmin, Mrs J Davy, Mr A Davy, Mr K Loveday and Mr R Warden	
	Senior Administrator Ms C Dornan	
-	Whilst awaiting for the Chair to join, Cllr Westrop took on role of temporary Chair.	
	Cllr Westrop gave an overview of the Fenland Biosphere Conference which herself, Cllr Hendry and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Groom, had attended.	
	The Strategy Group watched the following video is readiness for further discussion under agenda item 9:	
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HzzF2FMyy3o	
	The group asked the Senior Administrator to forward the link to this video to the consultant in order that he may view the content prior to the next meeting and add it into the meeting notes for Council to view.	Senior Admin
	Cllr Westrop explained the benefits of the Fenland Biosphere as being:	
	It draws tourists into the area. It assists in connecting residents with their community. It is based around river placement which is key to Downham Market. It connects landowners, private business' and community leaders. It works in collaboration with natural heritage, cultural heritage and land management.	
	Cllr Westrop explained that Cambridge ACRE are leading the project locally and building the partnership.	
	It was explained that Downham West is designated as the buffer zone however the members would like the Environment Strategy Group to consider adding the whole of Downham Market into the project.	Senior Admin to refer
	Cllr Westrop asked the Senior Administrator to circulate to all Councillors the details of the Conference so that they could view the sessions at their own convenience.	Senior Admin

1	To receive Members' apologies for absence	
	Apologies were received from Cllr Lawson (work commitments).	
2	To receive Members' declarations of interest	
	There were no declarations of interest.	
3	To approve the notes of the meeting held on Thursday 07th January 2021	
	Proposer Mr R Warden Seconder Cllr Woodmin	
	'The notes of the meeting held on Thursday 07th January 2021 are agreed as a true and accurate record.'	
	7 in favour	
	Cllr Pickering abstained as he was not present at the meeting on 07 Jan 2021.	
4	To review response to local paper article	
	It was noted that there were a couple of further amendments required to the article.	
	It was agreed that Cllr Westrop and Cllr Hendry would finalise the article.	
	Cllr Hendry agreed to send round on 22 January 2021 for comments by the members no later than 25 January 2021. Members were asked to respond to the email confirming whether they are in favour of the article or provide commentary if they were not.	All
5	To receive messages from consultation telephone line – 01366 321421	
	Members were advised that the line was now live with a simple message placed on by the administration team however it was noted that Cllr Hendry intended to record a personalised message in the very near future to support the release of the local paper article.	
6	To receive an update on discussions with Churches Together	
	Cllr Westrop advised that she had spoken at length with the Churches Together representative. It had been a fruitful conversation and lead to a clear understanding of the needs of users of the local Food Bank.	
	Support is needed in areas such as finance, child protection and counselling and assistance in sign posting residents.	
	It was commented that there was an absence of statutory services in the town.	
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	When completing the consultation it was felt important to provide example of potential services which may be available so that people could tick those they feel important for the community such a community bank, café, clothing shop and/ or debt management services. This would show if there was an identified need for a cooperative voluntary effort in the town.	
	Cllr Westrop agreed to speak with the Town Hall Strategy Group about the ability to house some services such as a community café / fridge within the Town Hall.	Cllr Westrop
7	To receive updated Footpath List	
	Mr Warden has completed the Footpath List however has noticed some anomalies which he will investigate and then forward to the Senior Administrator to circulate prior to the next meeting.	
	Mr Davy advised that he has some Oak Trees that are available for planting should the Council wish to accept them.	
8	To review outstanding policy items	
	Environment & Landscape – Cllr Hendry and Mr Warden continue to work on their elements in readiness for the next meeting.	
	Design & Housing – Mr & Mrs Davy - This has been completed and a minor amendment suggested by members on 'surrounding housing / historic nature of housing.' This amendment will be made.	
	Local Economy - This has been completed by Cllr Westrop who will be further updating the document prior to the next meeting. The members have received a draft of this work.	
	Community, Culture & Society – This remains outstanding and no member were able to commit to completing the assignment prior to the next meeting. This will be assigned on 04 February 2021.	
	Infrastructure & Transport - This has been completed by Cllr Westrop. The members have received a copy.	
	The group agreed to read the draft submissions and revert back at the next meeting with any suggested amendments.	
9	To receive report from Fenland Biosphere Conference	
	The Strategy Group continued their earlier discussions.	
	The members asked that the Senior Administrator confirm with the Town Clerk that Downham Market Town Council would like to be involved in the Fenland Biosphere project.	Senior Admin.

10	place the Fenland Biosphere on the March 2021 Full Council Agenda. To confirm date of next zoom meeting	Admin.
10	10 commit date of next 200m meeting	
	Thursday 04 February 2021 at 10am – The consultant will be present.	
	Fenland Biosphere Conference to be added to the next agenda.	
	Meeting closed: 11:09	
	SIGNED DATE	