

Minutes of the meeting of Hungerford 2036 project team held on Thursday 1st October 2020
virtually on Zoom at 7.00pm

Present – Chris Scorey, Tony Drewer-Trump, Cllr John Downe, Steve Bickell, Richard Hudson, Chris Bowden, Clerk

1. **Note apologies** - None
2. **Review actions from minutes of 19th August 2020, update on actions from last meeting, not included in the agenda**
Transport modelling – TDT has info on entry and exit to the town but not on movement within the town, e.g. for dropping off at schools, working within the town or visiting local shops. RH advised we have census journey to work data. Is it worth putting in some monitors? We have volumes on key links which includes noise and air quality. A previous report said the Bear roundabout was nearly at saturation point. It was agreed we have basic data and we will revisit if needed.
Declaration of interest – **ACTION:** Steve Bickell will sort this asap
Employment land - Info is still outstanding from WBC. **ACTION:** JD to chase
3. **Update on “HELAA” data for additional sites** – Natural England has responded and have given some useful comments. We are still waiting to hear from WBC Highways, AONB and BBOWT. AONB is the most critical as the impact on the AONB is a main issue. Henry Oliver of AONB has acknowledged receipt of the letter and Rebecca Davies is dealing with it. Responses have been chased up today. **ACTION:** Forward AONB’s response when received to CB. TDT received a reply from WBC last week re agreeing how to review our assessments on these additional sites so that all sites are treated equally.
4. **Site assessments – review of draft from Chris Bowden** – CB has put in more appropriate wordings and allocated individual criteria assessments. The project team were invited to consider each assessment and make any comments. The colour code was identified as follows: dark green (significantly positive), light green (positive), amber (uncertain), clear (neutral), pink (negative), dark red (significantly negative). This falls in line with the colour coding used by WBC for their SHLAA. We wish to avoid having a points system. Once we have the extra HELAA comments CB will apply the same overall assessment to the 3 later sites. ~~process~~. It is important to retain the integrity of the process and any amendments must be justified. There is a need to ensure each assessment is applied consistently. Various comments were put forward and noted. **ACTION:** JD to tweak colours and merge column F into column D.
These assessments will go out to public consultation once complete.
5. **Process for site promoter feedback and Public consultation on Sites & Assessments in the Autumn** – National guidelines say it is fine to use online tools only for a public consultation during Covid19. CB hasn’t yet seen anyone do a site assessment process on-line. Options include running some Zoom meetings with public invite or producing a You Tube video explaining what the exercise is and how public can respond. For those that can’t access information on-line we could print off documents and display them on panels in the Corn Exchange or library. Appointments slots to view would be made available along with comment forms to take away and complete. Once produced a video can be reused many times. The process for feedback would consist of a factual check of the assessments with the site promoters over a brief time period and any amendments, followed by public consultation. WBC are still anticipating getting some housing numbers before the end of the year. The numbers will attract public interest and it was thought best to launch the public consultation once house numbers are known.
ACTION: JD to ask WBC when WBC will have a number.

WBC will publish their draft plan late this year for the whole district. The office for national statistics produces projected housing numbers and these are changing. The number of houses allocated for within the AONB will affect the number of houses allocated for Hungerford. The number received last time was high and we didn't challenge this soon enough. If the numbers in the local plan are too high, we would query where the sites are to support it.

ACTION: Approach AONB to ask if they have a number yet for houses within the AONB. If we receive this, we could apply the formula and see how many houses it brings out for Hungerford. Under the planning white paper there will be different formula for deciding the number of houses. (CB left the meeting 8.55pm)

6. **Additional Project Team Members** – TDT and JD met with Cllr Ellie Yakar-Wells who wishes to join the team. She has a unique knowledge as an estate agent and a good insight into the current market. Her addition would help keep the quorum of two Councillors at each meeting and help with the demographic of members. A declaration of interest would ensure no conflict of interest with developers.

ACTION: Invite her to the next meeting and inform her of the team's progress so far. Do H2036 wish to play any role in HTC's consultation response to the white paper for planning? No, but they would like to see HTC's response. JD advised the consultation is open until 29th October and HTC will start with WBC's response and work from there. WBC do not like the paper for many reasons one being that it takes away local democracy.

7. **Next Meeting Date** – Once the spreadsheet is completed, we will hold another meeting hopefully before the end of October.

Meeting closed 9.08pm