

Felsted Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group II

Thursday 6th November 5:45 pm. URC Hall

Minutes

Present:

Roy RAMM, Richard FREEMAN, John MOORE, Hywel JONES, Marry-Ann DUNN, Nick ARMON-JONES, Mike MASTER, Brian POPE, Roy MITCHELL

Apologies: David ANDREWS

Conduct:

The Group were reminded that the meeting was confidential, and members should not discuss details and information discussed for fear of reporting inaccurate details which may lead to speculation. Minutes of meetings would be published.

Skills Audit:

Members present introduced themselves and declared their place of residence in Felsted and any skill benefitting the Group's work.

Key Appointments:

The Group unanimously agreed with the following appointments:

Chair: Roy Ramm

Deputy Chair: Richard Freeman

Treasurer: Brian Pope

Minutes: Nick Armon-Jones

(Note: In the absence of a member with appropriate IT ability, a competent person would be sought to ensure the groups work could be properly published.)

Group Membership:

It was agreed that if no further residents applied to join or existing applicants who had failed to attend (without apology) did not attend the next meeting (Tuesday 5th December'23), the current attendees (including noted apologies) would form the Steering Group.

The Group also agreed there was the option of temporarily co-opting others for consultation, as required.

The Group acknowledged that wide consultation was fundamental to the success of the group.

Process:

It was noted that the recently published Uttlesford Draft Local Plan (Reg 18) Consultation had recognised the FNP Steering Group II which will benefit our work and conclusions.

Abbey Miladinovic has agreed to continue to provide her professional support. (She was

very helpful in producing the first Felsted NP).

It was proposed we should aim to hold a village consultation meeting as soon as possible in 2024 to publicly explain the aims of the Steering Group II and invite comments and suggestions. The exact date will depend on the availability of RCCE consultant and the Group's progress over the next two months in refining how to structure the meeting.

The Group noted that a Housing Needs Survey (RCCE HNS) is urgently required, to comply with the Local Planning obligations. (**Action:** Richard Freeman)

The Group agreed that developer sponsored traffic surveys were unsatisfactory and that we would commission an independent traffic survey. (it is 10 years since the last survey).

Participation:

The Group noted the allocation by UDC for Felsted in the Draft Local Plan) of 309 new homes to be constructed by 2041. The Group noted Felsted has already met 69% (214 homes) of that allocation and discussed initial ideas on how the Parish might meet the remaining obligation of 95 new homes in the most beneficial way.

The Group noted the establishment of the independent Felsted Community Trust, formed to receive the lease income from the new Doctors Surgery and the potential for the Trust to receive and potentially manage other assets of community value.

Ideas identified for discussion, **without conclusion** included:

- Genuinely “affordable” homes, including rental homes.
- Retirement properties suitable for residents to downsize.
- Homes suitable for first time / young Buyers.
- Homes with smaller gardens, perhaps suitable for older residents.
- Preventing coalescence, by restricting ‘ribbon development.
- Identifying locations away from the major developments with access to roads away from Felsted Parish.
- Mapping housing development since 2010, so that residents can view the extent of Felsted's development.

Site Identification:

The Group briefly discussed the desirability of the NP identifying sites for development and reviewed the UDC map of the 19 sites in Felsted submitted by landowners ‘*as available for development*’ in the UDC ‘Call for Sites’.

Next Action:

It was agreed the next meeting would concentrate on reviewing of the 8 themes and 38 policies in the original FNP policy document.

Members were requested to read through the relevant pages and prepare comments for consideration.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 5th December'23 at 5.45pm UDC Hall