

Blandford+ Monitoring Group Meeting Notes
Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 10:00am in the Council Chamber

In Attendance

Cllr Carter – Chairman, BFTC
Cllr Cross, BFTC
Cllr Stocks, BSMPC

Cllr Tompsett, BPC
Cllr Albery, BSMPC
Sybille Maddock, BFTC Assistant Town Clerk

1. Welcome

Cllr Carter welcomed all

2. Apologies

Haydn White

3. Notes of the last meeting and matters arising

The Minutes were approved by show of hands.

4. Statement of Chairman

Cllr Carter spoke about the group and how proud he is of the achievement.

5. Future of the group

Need to see what the future holds regarding government legislation and if it is worth perusing with a NP. Cllr Carter reported that he had advised BFTC that it would be prudent to delay a decision on the future of the NP until after the new 'Levelling Up Bill' due sometime next year. There is a need for information and clarity on the future powers of NP's.

Cllr Carter also felt that whatever the decisions the three councils make about future of Neighbourhood Planning there is great value in monitoring and implementing the policies of the current plan so that all would be aware of policies that worked well, those that didn't and those that would need amendment.

6. Updates on Government legislation, local legislation and relevant issues affecting B+ NP policies

Cllr Carter gave an update on the meeting with Wyatt Homes and the allotment holders on 7th December and the proposed changes. The update was posted on the draft monitoring sheet.

The Monitoring Chart was discussed, and it was agreed to add an Action Owner/ Action Council and a timescale to the chart. It was agreed that the chart is still WIP and might need altering or adding to.

It was also suggested by the group that a further (perhaps annual or twice yearly) sheet be drawn up to note changes or shortfalls in the NP, using information from the 'master' monitoring sheet. Cllr Carter will draft this and present to the group for further discussion/amendment.

It was agreed for the ATC to email all local architects to inform of the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was agreed for the Chairman of the T&GP Committee to speak to the Blandford Business Support Group and to request for them to help promote available employment sites within the town and the industrial states.

7. B+ NP policies update (progress towards achievement) Policy B2, B3, B5, B6, B7, B8 + Notifications from the group on matters affecting the progress of other policies.

Cllr Carter gave an update on planning applications that make reference to the B+NP policies B2 and B3.

Cllr Tompsett gave an update on the Bryanston Club which will be rebranded as the Power House. Some rooms have been refurbished over the winter and further fund raising is taking place to refurbish another room.

Cllr Albery reported that the planning application for the village hall is now with DC and is awaiting a decision. BSMPC is dealing with the solicitors for transfer of the land.

Cllr Tompsett reported that she has no update on B7 as her contact retired. She will work on establishing a new contact and arrange a meeting with the new practice manager.

Cllr Carter gave an update on B8 and the town centre paving and that no further works will happen until the New Year. He also spoke about the Market Area Enhancement WG and that a trial of a pedestrianised Market Place will hopefully take place next year.

No update on B9, B10.

Cllr Carter reported that policy B11 is being applied to the majority of applications in the conservation area.

It was mentioned that trees are not protected in the NP outside the conservation area, and this is an issue that needs addressing.

No update on B12.

Cllr Tompsett would like to revisit some of the wording in B13 as some of it needs tidying up.

No update on B14.

Cllr Carter spoke about B15 and the new plans for the TIC.

8. Planning applications compliance or otherwise with the NP since the plan was 'made'
This was discussed in agenda item No. 7.

9. To arrange an online meeting with Jon Dowty from ONH to help the B+ NP Group prepare for the Plan's renewal in 2023

Cllr Carter to email Cllr Potheary (Chair of Gillingham planning committee) to enquire the 'route' taken to renew Gillingham's NP.

ATC to find out what protection the NP has after two years.

10. Date of the next meeting

Doodle Poll for March

The meeting closed at 12:05pm.