

**Minutes of Little Hallingbury Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 7.30pm.**

Present: Cara Fitzgerald, Jane Fitzgerald, Donna Johnson, Val McKirdy, Sue Meyer, Robert Wingard. Nicky Joshus RCCE. Apologies: Brenda Layton, Keith Summerford.

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

**Government Revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):** Details of the recent changes to the NPPF which took effect in Dec 2024 and how these could relate to our Parish were outlined.

As well as new housing targets and 'Grey Belt' land, alongside new 'golden rules' for building on Green Belt land, which supports the provision of affordable housing, have been introduced.

Under the revised NPPF, Green Belt land can be considered for development once all other options have been exhausted. Only 6% of Uttlesford is Green Belt land and the 'call for sites' for the new Local Plan resulted in more than sufficient sites to meet the housing need, which were not in Green Belt. A fact which meant that no Green Belt sites were included.

We will now contact UDC to ascertain what impact the revised NPPF might have on the UDC new Local Plan, which has finished the Reg 19 consultation process and was submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination in Dec 2024.

**Planning Consultant:** Following information provided by Nicky Joshua of RCCE, it was agreed to contact UDC to request that we be provided with an appraisal of our draft plans, advice on the quality and appropriateness of our evidence, any gaps and how to go about remedying this, from Modicum Planning. VM to contact Demetria at UDC.

**Further Evidence Gathering:**

**Business Survey:** The revised survey and list of contacts were agreed. RW will now contact the businesses in the Village to obtain their responses. A request for Businesses to take part will be made on the LHNP FB page.

**Important views:** It was agreed that the Landscape Assessment Survey which includes the identification of Key Views, should form the basis for our Key Views audit. We need to compile a methodology and carry out the audit. Each view will need to be described including the key components, its exact location, view cone and a photo to record this. The comments received from residents about the various views and their importance should be included where possible.

**Community Facilities Survey:** The draft survey was discussed and agreed. This will now be used to ascertain where the LHNP can assist Community Facilities. VM/CF to make contact with those concerned.

**Rural Diversity:** The Rural Diversity policy for the Local Plan was compared with the proposed LHNP policy to ensure these are in tandem. Additional aspects to include in the LHNP policy were agreed. RW to investigate renewable energy and report back. Landowners will be contacted and asked what the LHNP could do for them.

**Biodiversity:** We are looking to contact those responsible for the Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy in our area, a further email has been sent to obtain the relevant contact details.

**Date of next meeting Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm Little Hallingbury Village Hall.**