

Minutes of Meeting 3 to discuss Neighbourhood Plan

6.30pm Monday 20th March 2023, Hoath Village Hall

“A rural oasis between the sea and the City of Canterbury”

Present: Imogen Morizet, chair of Hoath Parish Council

Councillor Karen Johncock, Hoath Parish Council

Councillor Sandy Sinclair, Hoath Parish Council

Councillor Rachel Carnac, Canterbury City Council

Plus 9 members of the public

Councillor Morizet welcomed everyone and outlined the next steps for creating a neighbourhood plan. Cllr Morizet circulated documents from the Local Government Association about how to put together a Neighbourhood Plan.

She called for volunteers for a steering group of 9 or 10 people who would each lead on a topic they felt passionate about, forming a group to research that topic and reaching out to the wider community.

Topics suggested:

- Sustainability, population/economy/schools etc
- Energy
- Heritage
- Housing: needs and construction
- Transport:
- Biodiversity and environment
- Infrastructure
- Water
- Community Facilities

Next steps:

Councillor Morizet outlined communications plans:

Page on parish website (Clerk to PC)

Page where all minutes and agendas will be logged (Clerk to PC)

Article for Hoath and Chislet Parish Magazine (IM)

Facebook updates

A resident (PH) said she knew a lot of people who were interested in the Neighbourhood Plan but were unable to attend the meetings. She said they would appreciate all these plans to show what was going on and what progress was being made towards the Neighbourhood Plan

Rachel Carnac (CCC Councillor) said that economy/business should be a separate topic because of its importance. She said that it was currently difficult to get holiday lets or glamping sites through planning. She said it was a case of getting the balance right. Development in the Neighbourhood Plan was not just about houses, she added. It was also about economic growth. The NP could say we would accept it [development] here but not here. For example the firing range. A NP could say that that sort of business would not be acceptable in that location.

A resident [MW] asked how much holiday let accommodation Hoath already had. He suggested that this was a question the Neighbourhood Plan could try to find out.

A resident [KJ] highlighted Boughton's Neighbourhood Plan and said that Hoath faced a lot of the same issues. She said Boughton was facing development on all sides and it was a question of saying what would be acceptable and in what location, and what would not be acceptable.

A resident [KW] said that climate needed to be in the NP as a separate topic

Councillor Morizet talked about Bridge Goes Green, a scheme where the village of Bridge would be surveyed to see how much energy it used and then try to introduce measures to become energy self-sufficient. The scheme was sponsored by Canterbury Climate Action Partnership. Hoath could attempt something similar but would need to be sponsored by a Community Interest Company or Charity. Residents were asked if they knew any CICs or charities which might be interested in sponsoring such a project.

A resident [GJ] highlighted Braintree in Essex as an area where lots of Neighbourhood Plans had already been adopted. She highlighted Cressington NP as having the same priorities as Hoath.

Councillor Carnac said that socio economic information about residents could be obtained from the MOSAIC website.

A resident [MW] highlighted the NP in Exeter which talked about good design

A resident [KS] asked for a hearing loop for the village hall

Councillor Carnac advised residents to look back at the planning application for the village hall extension to see the information about the hearing loop

A resident [KW] said that keeping the village hall available for residents in the afternoons needed to be a key part of the NP

Action Points:

Councillor Morizet to set up a WhatsApp group for the steering group

Residents to decide which topic they would like to work on and research it, either locally or by reading other Neighbourhood Plans

Next meeting: 6.30pm 24th April 2023