

STEWKLEY PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF A

STEERING GROUP MEETING

MONDAY 23 JULY 2018 AT MANOR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Present:

Neil Dickens (ND) - Chairman
Keith Higgins (KH) - PC Chair
Gill Morgan (GM) - PC Vice Chair
Margaret Burgess (MB) - PC Councillor
Paul Smith (PS) - PC Councillor
Jenny Wodey (JW) - PC Councillor
Laraine Chappell (LC)
Steve Nicholl (SN)

Apologies:

Apologies had been received from Andrew Pryke.

Item 1. Consideration of an Appeal against the proposed Settlement Boundary at Manor Industrial Estate.

- a. This was the only item on the agenda for this extra meeting. It took place on the site so that all Steering Group members were completely familiar with the site.
- b. Originally, the Settlement Boundary had been drawn passing between the 2 western most buildings of the site. This had already been changed to allow replacement of all the site buildings, although this left an awkward square jutting west of the general line of the boundary along the bottom of Courtneidge Close and Lovett's End gardens. Nevertheless, this was the boundary considered and generally accepted in parish consultation.
- c. Alternative boundaries around the site had been proposed. However, the group focused on a single proposal as the only reasonable alternative to the boundary published in the relevant parish consultation. This was a line running from the existing line at the bottom of Lovett's End to the southwest corner of the western building already included in the boundary.
- d. Discussion: All agreed that the key issue was ensuring that the plan had a robust, defensible, Settlement Boundary. Some felt that the consultation made the existing boundary robust and most likely to get accepted at referendum. Others felt that the awkward salient meant that the existing boundary would be likely to be overturned by higher authorities, if and when challenged after referendum; in turn, that could encourage further challenge. On the other hand, the slight extension would not provide any grounds for extension west of Courtneidge Close or Lovett's End. Moreover, importantly, the change in the boundary line makes no difference to the number of homes proposed to be built on the site.
- e. Decision: By a majority it was agreed to extend the boundary as described.

SM Nicholl

25 Jul 2018