



## **Minutes of Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 12 noon at the Palairet Hall**

### **Present**

#### Steering Group Members

Ian Hasell (Chair); Alice Tollworthy (Deputy Chair); George Hitchins (Secretary); Bob Chapman; Rex Eastment; Barbi Lund; Liz Mills; Gill Morgan; Ian O'Brien; Graham Tickell.

Apologies: Gordon Currie; Rupert Foster; Brenda Graham; Andy Linegar; Michael Walker

Also Present: Liz Beth (Retained Planning Consultant) and 4 further residents of NSP.

Liz Beth remarked that our timeline should be achievable provided we were focused in our aims. Reg 14 might bring forward objections which we would need to respond to. NPs were being upheld in Courts as legally sound where they were shown as promoting sustainable development. She would ensure that our proposed Policies would meet the basic conditions. Revised NPPF (not yet approved) allows NPs to make minor changes to Green Belt, eg potentially affecting employment sites.

Policies could set criteria for potential alternative energy sites; Govt Policy however is restrictive about wind energy, and if this was to happen, even a small single turbine at a farm, the NP will need to have a policy suggesting where wind would potentially be acceptable, subject to criteria which could include size, number of turbine(s), visual impact etc. Any sites, whether for housing or other purposes, must be backed by robust evidence. Impending application for one of the potential redevelopment sites in the village should not stop us from considering it. We might want to consider an allotment policy.

Mendip would provide a great deal of the evidence we require and Working Groups could research further sources; Town and Country Planning Assn, Historic England etc.

We should consider criteria for Exception Site Policies based on evidence.

Liz Beth had prepared plans of the village divided into four geographical areas; four groups of three residents were formed; each group was allocated an area to survey. Nobody surveyed the area of the village that they lived in. On completion of the 2 hour walkabout, the teams returned to the Hall and drafted their finding from notes taken. A master plan of the village was marked up. The notes and photographs taken to be passed to Liz Beth.

Post meeting note: Following discussion between Liz Beth, Deborah Allen, Rex Eastment, Ian Hasell and George Hitchins it was considered sensible to extend the VCA exercise to cover the settlements of Farleigh Hungerford and Hassage.