



**ALCESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW STEERING GROUP MEETING
WAS HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 10.30AM
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER**

Present

Andrew Matheson (Chair), Cllr Wendy Mills (Vice Chair), Cllr Kathryn Cargill, Cllr Mike Bowe, Dave Wall, Andy Mann, Ian Greig and Town Clerk, Vanessa Lowe.

Public participation at discretion of chair

None.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Colleen Chester.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of last Meeting

Approved and signed by the Chair.

4. Garage sites in Alcester

Andy Mann presented a preliminary report on the various garage sites which had been identified and his analysis of whether they might be suitable for affordable housing.

Andy was thanked for all his hard work on the report.

There was a discussion about each site and it was agreed that the Town Clerk would share the report with Sarah Brooke-Taylor from WRCC in the first instance. It was felt that an approach should then be made to Orbit to establish their intentions regarding these sites.

It was noted that the Town Clerk was expecting to be offered a meeting with the SDC Planning Department about affordable housing more generally. She will chase this meeting.

The Town Clerk was asked to make enquiries with Great Alne Parish Council regarding their affordable housing scheme.

5. Guidance note on Neighbourhood Plans issued by Stratford on Avon DC.

It was noted that a recent SDC guidance note discouraged further progress on NDP's until the new NPPF was finalised and the SWLP was more advanced. It was agreed to follow this advice.

It was however also agreed that some work could be undertaken on the garage sites and the local list whilst the national and District policies were progressed.

Ian Greig reported that he planned to meet Ben Wallace from the Warwickshire Historic Environment Record who may be able to offer advice on the local list. The Town Clerk had also sought support from SDC on this topic but had not yet received a substantive response.

6. NDP Consultant – quotation for work

The quotation was noted. A grant application to Locality to cover such work may be submitted in the New Year.

7. Next steps

Following the advice from SDC referred to above, it was agreed to pause the meetings of the Working Group for three months.

8. Any other business

Ian Greig reported on the recent meeting of the Civic Society where the need for car parking surveys had been discussed. After a discussion, it was agreed that perhaps

a way forward, was for the NDP Working Group to seek a report on the future viability of the town centre including the need for additional car parking. It was noted that such a report might be covered by the grant from Locality. The Town Clerk will look at options and costs for such an assessment.

9. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 4 March 2025 at 10.30am at Globe House