

Minutes of a meeting between the Clavering Neighbourhood Working Party and the potential Steering Committee held on 21st January 2025 at the Clavering Christian Centre

Present

Members of the NP Working Party, potential Steering Committee members and other volunteers for NP activity.

Apologies

Volunteers who were not able to attend

1.Introductions

The Working Party and the members of the audience introduced themselves.

2.The Second Survey

The Survey prepared by the Working Party had been circulated to the 635 houses in Clavering. There had been 72 responses, which supported the need for a Neighbourhood Plan and the vision statement. Anette Mahoney was analysing the rest of the responses.

3.Funding

The Working Party is eligible to apply for a Locality Grant, potentially £18,000. The Parish Council had earmarked reserves in connection with Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The application needs to be submitted by 31st January.

4.Landscape Character Assessment

The Working Party reported that it was seeking the services of a consultant to carry out a Landscape Character Assessment (LCA), which would cover those parts of the village that would be sensitive to planning and building. Nicki Joshua (RCCE) who was involved in the LCA at Kelvedon had been advising the Working Party. Three consultants had been asked to quote for this work by 24th January. The consultant's final version of the LCA would need to be written by 31st March and the work invoiced to align with the funding process.

5.Future Housing

There was a requirement in draft Local Plan for Clavering to provide for 122 houses, this would most likely be near the centre of the village, defined by ease of access to facilities. It was noted that young families in particular would require improvements to the infrastructure such as social facilities.

6. Stephanie Gill

As the land adjacent to her house (owned by a third party) might be considered for development as it has come forward at Reg 19 Stage of the UDC Local Plan, Stephanie Gill advised that, as she is a parish councillor, she had sought advice from the UDC Monitoring Officer about her being on the Steering Committee. The UDC Monitoring Officer concurred that there would be a disclosable pecuniary interest arising. Cllr Gill therefore determined she would not be available for any role given this conflict of interests.

7. Formation of the Steering Committee

A number of people had volunteered to fill posts on the Steering Committee. These were agreed with addition of John Britten to assist with the Design Code. Di Ware drew attention to the fact that many people had mentioned the need for Affordable Housing. At this stage it was considered that it was more appropriate to refer to this as “Housing Provision” and Di Ware agreed to come onto the Committee to cover this.

There was a list of people who had volunteered to help at the first meeting, and it was hoped that these people could be called on to help at a later stage

There was the open position for the Chairperson. Rachel Tallon kindly said she was prepared to fill this role.

8. Current Housing Analysis

Nigel Wood requested support to provide a map of the village indicating the age of houses, Mike Jenkinson undertook to take on this task.

9.Public Meeting

It was necessary to hold a public meeting to vote the Steering Committee in. It was agreed that this would be publicised in the February Parish Newsletter and the meeting would be held on Tuesday 25th February at 7.30 pm.