

**Minutes of the Meeting of Poringland Neighbourhood Plan Committee  
Wednesday 15th November 2017 7pm Poringland Community Centre**

**Present:** John Henson (Chairman)  
John Joyce  
Henry Gowman  
John Hodgson  
Carl Pitelen  
David Hewer  
Lorraine Matthews  
Tim Boucher  
Trevor Spruce  
Catherine Moore (Clerk)  
Stephanie Ayden (Project Officer)  
Jason Clerk (Consultant - Parker Planning Services)

**Also attended:** District Councillor John Overton and two members of the public.

**1. Attendance and Apologies or Absence**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Lisa Neal, Anne Barnes, and Marie Charles.

**2. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda and applications for dispensations**

There were no declarations of interests.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were considered and amended to show John Hodgson's attendance. With this amendment, the minutes were agreed and signed, proposed by John Henson, seconded by Trevor Spruce, all in favour.

**4. Matters arising**

The appointment of Jason Parker as Consultant for the project was confirmed by the Chairman and he was welcomed by the Committee.

It was noted that the parish boundaries of Poringland had been agreed and submitted by the Parish Council for the purposes of designating the Neighbourhood Plan area.

A member of the public requested that the Committee consider the loss of old hedgerows following development, and that the Neighbourhood Plan could stipulate their retention or reinstatement as part of future development. This was duly noted by the Committee.

**5. Outline Project Plan**

The Clerk presented the Project Plan, and drew attention to a revision to the timetable, namely the removal of the final stage of key stakeholder consultation, and that the agreement of the final Plan and associated statutory documents would be timetabled for April 2019, not May 2019. This was to ensure it coincided with the end of the current term of office of the Council.

It was confirmed that the committee meetings would continue regularly through the life of the project plan, and the Project Plan was duly noted.

**6. Arrangements for Public Involvement Event 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and ancillary events**

The Project Officer outlined the arrangements for the event, and confirmed with the Committee who had so far volunteered to attend.

Attention was drawn to activity on the Poringland community Facebook site around the rapid development of the area. It was considered that a link to the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) on the Council's website may be useful. It was **agreed** to have a link to this in the Minutes.

**7. Facilitated session.**

Jason Parker gave a short presentation to the Committee on what the Neighbourhood Plan can and cannot do, the process and the key messages. It was **agreed** to circulate his presentation to the committee members and to make them available on the Parish Council website.

A question was asked about likelihood of the Poringland Neighbourhood Plan being overturned in light of [South Norfolk Planning Policy](#). Jason Parker confirmed that if sites had been allocated within the Neighbourhood Plan, it was, in his experience, more difficult to develop other land subsequently.

A question was raised about extending the life of the Plan, and if we could use the Parish boundary as the boundaries of development.

Jason Parker then outlined the approach Yaxham had taken, with 'green gaps' included in their Plan. This could address concerns around the development of the 'green belt' between Norwich and Poringland.

A question was raised by a member of the public around the referendum, and it was confirmed that it would be an electoral referendum, organised by South Norfolk Council, and would be a simple majority vote open only to residents of Poringland.

**8. Any other Neighbourhood planning matters the committee wishes to discuss**

Clarification was sought around the voting status of residents in bordering Parishes, and would they be incentivised to participate in the consultations if they were excluded from the final vote? It was hoped that, as service users of the village amenities, people from neighbouring parishes would want to be involved in the development of the Plan. It was also confirmed that the initial invitation to participate (the leaflet in the 5+ newsletter) requested postcode details so feedback could be tracked.

A question was asked around how much control the Plan could have around tenure types, particularly affordable housing. It was felt that there should continue to be a mix of private/affordable housing, with no stylistic difference in the builds.

Other questions were raised around whether the Plan could stipulate land set aside for self build, and could it define the type of builds inside an estate (ie, not on the perimeter).

It was felt that whilst the answer to many of these questions would be positive, there still needed to be a balanced message given out to the public – that whilst having a Plan in place was a positive move for Poringland, it could not stop development nor developers potentially appealing against some of the Plan's stipulations.

It was **agreed** to involve our local police constable as the Plan takes shape – to ensure among other things that security considerations are taken into account.

It was **agreed** to publish the Chairman's 'mind map' of Poringland to the Parish Council's website, and to print and display it at the December 4<sup>th</sup> event.

**9. Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 20th December 2017, 7pm, Poringland Village Hall

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:15pm.

**CHAIRMAN**