

Minutes of the Meeting of the **SWANAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 3rd MARCH 2025** at 2.15 p.m.

Present: Councillor Bonfield – Chair

Councillor Foster
Councillor Moreton
Councillor Tomes (until 3.35pm)
Councillor Vile

Ms J Owens
Mr G Richardson
Mrs J Sutcliffe

Also in attendance: Dr M Ayres – Town Clerk
Miss N Clark – Planning and Community Engagement Manager
Mrs K Delahay – The Purbeck Society
Mrs E Evans – Democratic Services Officer
Ms E Snow – Dorset Coast Forum

One member of the public attended the meeting remotely.

Public Participation Time

There were no matters raised.

1) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillor Monkhouse, Mr A Lerner, Mr L Luke, and Mr A Thompson.

2) Declarations of Interest

Sub-committee Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of Dispensations (Councillor Members in accordance with Section 9 and Appendix B of the Council’s Code of Conduct).

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

3) Membership – to appoint members to the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

It was proposed by Mr G Richardson, seconded by Councillor Tomes and agreed that Mr L Luke and Ms J Owens be appointed to the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan Sub-committee.

4) To approve as a correct record Minutes of the Meeting of the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan (SNP) Steering Group held on 3rd February 2025

It was proposed that these were a true record by Mrs J Sutcliffe, seconded by Councillor Moreton and agreed.

5) Matters arising from Minutes of the Meeting of the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (SNP) held on 3rd February 2025

There were no matters raised.

6) **Dorset Coast Forum - consideration of draft informal community engagement proposal**

Further to Minute No. 5) of the SNP Steering Group Meeting held on 3rd February 2025, a representative of Dorset Coast Forum (DCF) provided a revised presentation on potential arrangements for informal community engagement on the SNP, which included an updated timeline.

During the ensuing discussion it was reported that Locality had accepted the SNP's application for a sites assessment technical support package, and AECOM had been engaged to provide this assistance. A meeting had been held with an AECOM planning consultant, who outlined the process for assessing potential development sites, and had recommended ongoing liaison with Dorset Council (DC) to ensure that the SNP helped to inform the emerging draft Dorset Local Plan (DLP), which was anticipated to be adopted in the latter part of 2027. Furthermore, engagement with DC would help ensure that the SNP aligned with the strategic policies set out in the draft DLP.

A discussion was held regarding the potential development sites and the timeframe for receipt of AECOM's site assessments in relation to the schedule for public engagement. Consideration was also given to how community engagement which was due to be undertaken on other projects in the town, as well as upcoming events, might impact this process.

It was agreed that the revised timeline provided by DCF should be followed, with the draft plan expected to be presented to the Town Council in autumn 2025.

Councillor Tomes left the Meeting at 3.35 p.m.

7) **ONeill Homer (ONH) Planning Consultants**

a) **To approve revised Project Plan**

An updated Project Plan had been provided by the consultants dated 26th February 2025; however, it was noted that this would now need to be revised in light of the presentation and update given by DCF.

b) **To note Dorset Council's Local Development Scheme Update – 25th February**

Mr Neil Homer shared details of Dorset Council's Local Development Scheme Update with Group Members. It was noted that Dorset Council was required to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS) that specified the development plan documents it intended to prepare for the Dorset area, which included the DC Local Plan, the DC Minerals Plan, and the DC Waste Plan. The update was required in response to the request from the Deputy Prime Minister for all local planning authorities to update their LDS within twelve weeks of the publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework (by 6th March 2025).

8) **Items of information and matters for forthcoming agendas**

No items of information or matters for forthcoming agenda were raised.

9) **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 7th April 2025 at 2.15 p.m.

The Meeting was closed at 3.40 p.m.