Horsham Blueprint Business Neighbourhood Forum *Draft No.2 - 26/07/2025*

Notes of Steering Group Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2025.

Held at the Millennium Hall, Roffey, Horsham.

The meeting started at 7.30 pm

John Steele opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

1.00 - Neighbourhood Forum discussion with Norman Kwan

1.01 - John Steele welcomed Norman Kwan via Microsoft Teams and everyone was introduced.

1.02 - Norman Kwan, HDC Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer talked of the HDC Local Plan which only has one year housing supply identified and the council needs to decide what to do for the future.

1.03 - Norman Kwan talked of the HDC public consultation for both Blueprint Forum redesignation, and the consultation for a Town Council for the unparished area of Horsham and discussion took place.

1.04 - Following discussion it was agreed that John Steele will email Norman Kwan the main questions raised from the discussion as follows :

1- If a Town Council is established would it automatically inherit the current Neighbourhood Plan or is there a process that would have to be followed and, if so, what is it and what would be the likely timescale?

2- Is there any situation in which the Neighbourhood Forum would continue to exist alongside a Town Council?

3- Would responsibility for the CIL funding for the unparished area, including the unassigned balance, be inherited by a Town Council?

4- If the Neighbourhood Forum should decide to wind itself up, is there a formal procedure to be followed?

1.05 - The discussion with Norman Kwan was concluded and he was thanked for his attendance via Microsoft Teams.

The meeting agenda was then continued -

2.00 - Attendees and Apologies

2.01 - Attendees : Blueprint Steering Group Members - John Steele, Trudie Mitchell, Diane Sumpter, Ruth Fletcher, Malcolm Gilbert, Andrew Cooke, Francis Vernon, Nigel Friswell, Colin Bush and Ron Bates.

2.02 - Apologies were received from - Blueprint Steering Group Members - John White, Ian Botting.

3.0 - Notes of the previous meeting

3.01 - John Steele asked if there are comments on the notes of the meeting on 21st May 2025.

3.02 - There were no comments and the notes of the meeting held on the 21st May 2025 were approved by all present at the meeting with no amendments.

4.0 - Treasurer's Report

4.01 - Diane Sumpter confirmed that £1,020 will be received from HDC in July 2025.

5.0 - Unparished Area Governance Review

5.01 - The governance review is progressing and the outcome of the consultation is awaited.

6.0 - A New Vision for Horsham Town Centre - HDC Consultation

6.01 - John Steele said it had been agreed that Blueprint would not provide comments..

7.0 - Distribution of CIL Funding

7.01 - John Steele said that the HDC CIL Funding Panel which includes representatives from HDC, the three Neighbourhood Councils and Blueprint have reviewed the applications received from local groups.

7.02 - The local groups are -

1- 4theYouth in Hurst Road - application approved and progressing.

2- Springboard in Hurst Road - applicant asked to divide into two schemes for further consideration.

3- Cycle Forum - not enough information yet received.

4- Holy Trinity Belltower - turned down as outside the funding regulation.

5- HTCP Riverside Walk improvements - application approved and progressing.

7.03 - The next CIL Funding meeting has yet to be arranged and the next fund bidding round is yet to be agreed..

8.0 Update on Neighbourhood Plan Non Policy Actions

8,01 - Andrew Cooke said that the non-policy action about a housing cooperative provision is still being pursued and a meeting is being sought with Andrew Smith of HDC Housing & Communities

9.0 - Blueprint website and Facebook

9.01 - John Steele said that as information becomes available it will continue to be posted.

10.0 Any Other Business

10.01 - John Steele said that as there is so much going on in the next few months the proposed date for the Blueprint Annual General Meeting originally proposed for September 2025 should be postponed until December 2025. Discussion took place and this meeting change was agreed, date to be agreed.

10.02 - John Steele agreed to contact Tony Frankland, chair of the HDC CIL Panel, to discuss a date for the next meeting with other interested groups about CIL funding.

11.0 Date of Next Meeting

11.01 - The next Blueprint Steering Group meeting will take place on Wednesday 13th August 2025 starting at 7.30pm.

11.02 - Diane Sumpter will book the Amberley Room at the Millennium Hall, Roffey.

The meeting finished at 8.50pm